Minutes of the Bonneville County Democratic Party Central Committee, Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Miranda Marquit, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance:
Miranda Marquit, Chair
John Conquergood, Treasurer
Pat Tucker, Secretary
MaCay Frerichs, State Committeewoman
Jim Delmore
Jackie Stephens
George Morrison
Leslie Smith
Chad Mahoney
Shannon Arrington
Kaycee Byron
Ruth Byron

Pat Tucker passed around a get-well card for Jim Beck, a long-time candidate supporter who had a heart attack at Apple Athletics. Ms. Tucker noted the importance of knowing CPR and being willing to act. Mr. Beck was saved by a physical therapist bystander performing CPR.

The October 2018 minutes were reviewed. Ms. Marquit noted that text indicating an incorrect term length of Executive Committee members should be deleted, and Ruth Byron said that her name should be added as attending the October meeting. Kathryn Welsh DeVries moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, Ms. Tucker seconded, and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

1. John Conquergood presented the Report of the Treasurer. The beginning balance was $3021.14, and the ending balance was $3,875.54.
2. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair, Ms. Marquit reported the following:
   • Ms. Marquit reported that John Kennedy has resigned as State Committeeman because of moving back to Missouri. Andy Frerichs expressed interest in the position, and Ms. Welsh DeVries said that Todd DeVries may also be interested in the position. It was agreed to postpone electing a replacement until the January 2019 meeting to give more people an opportunity to fill the position.
   • A signup sheet for the holiday party on Dec. 15 at the home of Jim Delmore and Jackie Stephens was passed around. A white elephant gift exchange with a $15 limit will be held.
   • The November 10 Pizza and Politics was on housing charities and very informative. Speakers included Tyler Perkins, Rich Johnson, and Karen Lansing from Habitat for Humanity. It was noted that 42% of the Bonneville County residents make less than a living wage. Ms. Marquit said a link to the United Way Asset Limited, Income-Constrained, Employed (ALICE) Report would be posted on the website.
• An election debrief will be the topic for the December Pizza and Politics at noon on Sat., Dec. 1, in Room 545, Building 5, at CEI. Candidates and the IDP will meet at 10 a.m. to discuss candidate lessons learned.
• The Executive Committee meetings will be changed from noon to 2 p.m. on the first Friday of the month beginning in January 2019.
• Ms. Marquit noted that she will be seeking approval in January 2019 from the Rules and Bylaws Committee to change the standing committees to Rules and Bylaws, Fundraising, Events, Budget, and Communications, which will be the new name of the Strategic Messaging Committee. She will work with the Rules and Bylaws Committee to proceed with changing the bylaws from requiring a Growth Committee and Technology Committee because they haven’t existed for some time. A vote on the change will be held at a subsequent Central Committee meeting. Volunteers are needed to chair and support particularly the Fundraising and Events committees and for additional precinct chairs and vice chairs.
• An organization chart was shared and discussed.

3. Annette Harker provided the following liaison reports:

Idaho Falls Progressives
• The first bimonthly meeting in December will be the annual meeting, holiday party, and election of officers at Ms. Marquit’s house at 6:30 p.m. on December 5.
• The last meeting was held at the public library. The Central Labor Council will no longer allow meetings in the council building because of concern about council bylaws requirements. Future meetings will be held at the Bonneville Youth Development Council Office on Placer Avenue.

Medicaid Expansion
• A forum will be held with Senate Pro Tempore Brent Hill at the Rexburg courthouse on November 27 to discuss Medicaid expansion implementation. Robert Nielsen noted that Sen. Hill has expressed interest in respecting the will of the people in overwhelmingly passing the Medicaid expansion initiative. Leslie Smith encouraged people to attend and particularly to alert people living in Rexburg to express support for not changing the Medicaid expansion language from that stated on the ballot.
• Christmas cards will be written to thank Medicaid expansion supporters and encourage support for Medicaid expansion as written on the ballot in the 2019 legislative session.

4. MaCay Frerichs provided the Strategic Messaging Committee report:
• Facebook Live was very effective during the campaign season. Hustle texting also was used effectively for the Pat Tucker campaign with a 90% open rate, which is excellent relative to other platforms. Discussion included the merits of the county party purchasing the Hustle subscription list from the Tucker campaign at cost, $308.17. Ms. Tucker agreed to sell the list to the county party. It was discussed that texting would be an effective tool for future event notifications. Ron Hampton moved to purchase the Hustle list from the Tucker campaign, Ms. Frerichs seconded, and the motion carried by voice vote.
• Ms. Frerichs noted that additional volunteers are needed for the committee. Shannon Arrington volunteered to do photography and Ms. Byron volunteered to help with the website. Jackie Stephens also volunteered, and Ms. Welsh DeVries said that Todd DeVries would likely volunteer.
• Work will be done to schedule editorials based on the Pizza and Politics topics. Ms. Frerichs said she would like to produce and post video interviews on the monthly Pizza and Politics topic the Thursday before the monthly lunches.

5. Campaign Committee report.
• Ms. Marquit noted that Karen Bauer is interested in becoming the Campaign Committee chair, and invited others interested in the position to be nominated. A vote will be held at the January 2019 meeting.
• Ms. Marquit has ordered maps showing county, precinct, CEI board of trustee, and school district maps. She will provide a list of elected municipal and county positions that will be open during 2019 and 2020. Ms. Marquit noted that Tom Hally is expected to step down as City Council chair. She also noted that moderates in the Republican county party are looking for candidates to run for
county state legislature seats. She also said that she has been attending meetings of the Bonneville County Republican Women’s club. The meetings have involved infighting between moderate and far right factions. Lisa Burtenshaw, former District 91 school board trustee, was elected president of the organization.

- Ms. Byron noted that IFEA board member positions are open. The board meets every third Monday of the month with the next meeting at Edgemont Elementary at 4:15 p.m. George Morrison noted that significant progress was made by District 33 candidates increasing their voting percentages significantly and encouraged people to run for office.

- Mr. Nielsen stated that he intends to run again for the District 34 senate seat against Brent Hill. He reported that 24% of the students had voted when BYU-Idaho was Ricks College, but that students at the school now are being strongly encouraged to vote only in their hometowns. The current percentage of students voting is only 0.04%. Mr. Nielsen noted the number of registered Democrat voters tripled in the district during his campaign. Discussion included the effectiveness of Mr. Nielsen’s campaign free bottled water with his campaign labels.

6. IDP information
   - The IDP weekly call included discussion of the 2019 budget. This will be discussed further at the election debrief.

7. New Business
   - Ms. Marquit noted that the 2019 Women’s March will be Sat., Jan. 19th. Speakers will include Keisha Peterson and Ms. Pérez. Suggestions for speakers should be provided to Ms. Marquit.

Ms. Marquit adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.