



Union County Democratic Central Committee

Meeting Minutes: 2/2/11

Meeting Called to Order: shortly after 5:00pm

Present: Carole, Jerry, Kathleen, Jeffry, Cindy Hickey, Marilyn Ewing, Sharon, Glen

Introductions: Introductions were made.

Treasurer's Report and Minutes Approval: Read and approved

Item: Old business:

Research on 2nd congressional district committee

What does the committee do? 2nd largest in nation, Glen lists all the counties included, Walden has represented it since 1998, DPO chair for district meets, but not often. Glen reviews by-law regarding DPO. Has been largely a “dormant arm”. Joyce Segers has applied for the chair of district committee. Those familiar with Joyce share information from her candidacy. We don’t have to have candidates/delegates to the district committee. Any PCP may have a voice at the district meetings. Glen feels that it’s not crucial to have representatives, which isn’t unusual for rural areas.

Item: Our web presence

Gray McGuire is our webmaster; he has met with Glen & Kathleen. Discussed and implemented changes and coordination with Facebook and with state website. Emails and notes posted. We’ll continue to work with Gray, we are open to suggestions or ideas to post on website. Let Glen know. Blogging capability can be expanded. Maybe add a note on the Facebook page. Carole notes she needs to become a friend, Kathleen will invite her. Anything you think should be added or other ideas/input would be helpful, contact Glen.

Item: PCP recruitment

Jerry reports – ways to get a hold of folks, Jerry researches on voter file, gets names & precincts and got names of progressives (85 names), Kathleen & Jerry question how the label is generated. What methodology do we use to contact these folks? Do we want to send a letter or phone first (Jerry has script) and then send letter of info. Marilyn’s wonders about our volunteer list – we also have that list to refer to. What is more effective? Personal contact, Marilyn suggests with maybe a follow up of coffee to chat. Jeffry suggests that personal face to face contact. Maybe cull list down to 25, maybe this could be done by phone. Cindy asks about area covered? Union County, suggests she would ask around and contact this way. We may look over list and see which folks we each know.

Issue is what is expected of the PCP role? Glen suggests PCPs are information dispersers. Glen and Jerry explain the state of PCP in the various precincts and the numbers that we have and could have. Why a shortage? Glen shares that we are few (Dems) we need to work on building up. We could have as many as 64 PCP.



How can we get word out? What might the Observer do for this e.g. an article or paid ad? Maybe they would write or allow an editorial about Glen as a new chair.

Starting point - get with Jerry, go through list, and give them a call, if they're interested great. Come to meetings, talk to neighbors. When we have some folks on board, do a training session, document from Arizona Dems lays out roles and could serve as a model.

We need to think about the 2012 election and an office downtown. Marilyn brings info regarding vote-Obama got more % vote than Dems traditionally get. Cindy suggests recruiting in vicinity of programs that are government funded. Sometimes we do have tables set up on Adams at city events or across from farmers' market. Cindy sees as untapped voters who don't vote – letting know how important it to vote and that their vote counts and affects their personal lives. Glen – identified list of savvy Dems, voted regularly we want to do outreach and invite them to meetings. Jerry looking for folks to help in the recruiting efforts.

Adopt a highway – plenty of volunteers, will train and start in March.

Item: New business

Reactions to Pres. Obama's State of the Union Address

Glen passes out a summary from DPO about speech and key points. Carole watched it – how would she grade it? For what was in it, it was a great speech but there's lots of territory. Kathleen adds comments about stopping earmarks. Rs have won the word war on that one. Kathleen enlightens about some of our local earmarks Hatfield Marine Center, for one.

Letter to Editor?

Maybe a comment on Governor's budget. Faced with 4 bil shortfall.

DPO Education Caucus

Glen shares call from Susan Stenson provisional chair to initiate an Education caucus Support Dems goal of enhancing education in Oregon, look to website for details. Actively seeking folks to join.

Rep Greg Smith/Baker Co. Economic Development Post?

Jerry shares our house district rep. in Salem, elected 4 or 5 terms, has a voting record that is relatively moderate for east of the mountains, opposed by Tea Party who supported Colleen McCloud in last primary. Greg has beaten all those who run against him. Has signed a contract with Baker County to develop their economic development plan. Maybe it's time to look for someone to run, it could be our best chance with new candidates. Jensen for example was a Democrat and switched to run. Moderate Dems may have a chance in an open race. And thinking about other open races. Social events may have opportunities to invite someone to run, such as what occurred when Tonia ran. Will Jean Falbo run again? So start thinking about candidates and who might be willing to run?

Glen – do we have a list of races? Kathleen – county clerk's office, Kathleen went through its manually and gleaned from their list. List of offices open for 2012 would be helpful. Glen will contact Robin Church and get a list of offices and terms. Could have candidates in non partisan positions “stealth Dems”



Kitzhaber has ideas about strategies and putting high risk kids into special programs and schools. L.G. School board may have two open seats this year...

Draft Strategic Plan/Calendar

Glen gives out handout thinking about how to get Dems active and ways to build our visibility and ranks. Continue with letters to editors, more outreach in local events, local parades, and charitable events. Show that we're "good citizens". Bring back ideas to next meeting! May divide meetings into general and business.

Announcements/Good & Welfare

Walk for Warmth Feb. 12 10:00 Riveria School join the Dems team, contact Byrnnne Morningstar
Books You Should Have Read in H.S. Feb. 17 at White House, 5:00-7:00

Marilyn stated that Sherry Mendoza is trying to resurrect the Great Decisions meetings, needs info about book costs and location. When would folks like to meet?

Carole shares the Nation magazine what Dems need to do, centrists who voted for Obama are not ideology consistent.

Marilyn - conservatives when asked general questions answer negative, but if you ask local or personal issues programs and services of government the response is more positive. Get the society you pay for. - it takes resources. Jeffrey - Corporate tax still low in Oregon. Raised \$1 to \$10 and businesses whining about. How do we maintain center, it keeps getting dragged to the right. e.g. extending unemployment was a huge windfall to wealthy and protecting their tax breaks. Why is their no budget for programs? New Deal freed up old workers to afford to retire and open up job market for younger workers. Carole people hold contradictory stances, but don't think they should pay taxes e.g. tainted food, BP oil spill clean up but don't regulate.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 2, .2011, 5pm, White House Coffee

Adjourned: 6:21

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Evoy, Secretary