

## **Union County Democratic Central Committee**

**Meeting Minutes:** 

Meeting Called to Order: 5:03

**Present:** Glen Scheele, Carole Halvorson, Mary Calder, Jamie Gustafson, Fred Gustafson, Sharon Evoy, Jerry Sebestyen, Bill Whitaker, Rebecca Tilley,

Introductions: Introductions were made.

Treasurer's Report and Minutes Approval: no report given

**Item:** Brief discussion of meeting venue, perhaps new White House, place with coffee available would be nice

Item: Adopt a Highway, next clean up date April 20, 9:00am meet @ 204 Spring

**Item:** Discussions of: church – state separation rights of individuals, Voter suppression issues

**Item:** State Central Committee report by Glen: attended VAN (voter file) workshop, VAN is a software company that developed the voter file,

Statewide assistant to county? Candidates? VAN training will be open to candidates, central committee can provide access to VAN, cutting turf – precinct by precinct basis - how to cover door to door canvassing, Dems state platform – working out with national, State platform convention coming up April 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Anyone interested, let Glen know Note: candidates are not beholden to platform, improvements in messaging would be helpful, platform tends to be unwieldy document, like a mission statement, discussion of national convention DPO website delegate process, Sept 3-6 in Charlotte NC, state convention in June delegates selected – 47 to represent Oregon Anyone interested in being a delegate to state convention, must file on DPO website Good discussion with rural caucus meeting, but not much action



**Item:** Precinct committee person – some vacancies noted in 4 precincts, PCP can work in adjacent precincts

**Item:** Oregon Single Payer effort, -Bill Whitaker works as secretary of the coalition for Oregon Health Care campaign, initial goal is to put to legislation: health care is human right, with larger goal of single payer system, single payer not considered at national level with health care reform act, some states working on single payer, Vermont likely to be one of the first as other see how it works/saves money idea of single payer will spread, local involvement includes a photo petition white board "Health care is a human right" Oregon Rural Action is supporting this effort, photos picture are a visual representation to present to legislature,

Get together @ Bill & Cheryl's house tomorrow 3/8, 7:30 1108 G Ave., (6<sup>th</sup> & G) then later meeting @ Center for Human Development Tuesday, March 13, 7:00-9, Speaker: Dr. Frank Erickson (from Pendleton) Plan is to follow Vermont process, won't put pressure on candidates as of yet, but will be asked to respond in forums, process is in developmental stage,

Q &A: Is this about cost? Everyone will pay but should be reasonable, health care model that breaks from insurance companies, ACA passage props up private insurance companies, allow to compete & cost control is getting whittled away, pharmacy companies are significant lobbying efforts, Veteran's care can negotiate prices, but Medicare can't, for example. ACA was better than what we had, but long way from single payer system

What role can Union County Dems help out with? Photo petition campaign, collecting health care stories, questions for all candidates, first step Glen will put out to Dems email list with information from Bill/ORA, regarding Health Care Reform in Oregon, trainings, etc, would like to visit civic clubs, churches, coming in with relevant knowledge,

UCD County committee passed the corporative personhood, working a constitutional amendment to reverse this Supreme Court decision. Many Occupy groups have taken a stand on this issue, meeting here @ Sacs Annex tomorrow @ 6:30, also coming up a new campaign along lines to move to amend, trying to get as many local governing model calling for a amendment dealing with Citizen's United, might appropriate for Union County Dems and other bodies to take on, successful in passing, other towns have passed, a few states, Would L.G. city council consider this? Council looks at local issues & city management, other issues can be looked at as partisan and council may steer away from it. Can be brought up and considered may take some education and initiative process may be a way to before council would look at it. Special election & general election issues of cost maybe be considered. Would be there be interest in UCD in taking



this process/issue on? May be more effective to look at county commission and have a county wide initiative. Consider civic groups for education about these issues such as Rotary.

Suggestion: Put these ideas out to UCD mail list and solicit interest in these issues.

**Item;** Good for the order: candidate for Oregon congressional district: Heidi Van Schoohoven (sp?)

## Next meeting: April 4<sup>th</sup> probably @ Sacs Annex,

Adjourned: 6:03

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Evoy, Secretary