

Missoula County Democrats

Central Committee Meeting Notes 06/09/09

Lee's resolution concerning health care will be added to the agenda at end of meeting.

Introductions: Roy, Angela and Auralea, Lee, Stan, Kelly, Teresa, Dustin, Francis, Meg, Shannon and Carter, Shanon, Starla, Bryce, Maggie, Tom, Dana, Diane Sands, Tim, Jim Elliot, Jim Parker, Caroline, John, Jim Dayton, Jason, Emily

Minutes from March, April and May approved

Agenda Approved-amended to include time for Lee Gordon's motion on health care

Treasurer will be later because not here

E-board Report

Next two years ...

- We will be meeting fourth Thursday of each month, downstairs of union hall. Meeting open to anyone.
- Board compact. Attendance standards-to hold each other accountable
- E-board Vacancies

Secretary: Rachel Lopez resigned for reasons relating to last month's election. Contact Jason for more discussion. Now have open position for a new recording secretary. Contact E-board if interested. *Emily Brock is taking notes today.

Volunteer Coordinator: Carol Kinney resigned but would like to remain involved. Volunteer Coordinator Position now available. Contact E-board if interested. * Shannon O'Brian will be interim coordinator through the summer.

Future programming

- July 14th Central Committee Meeting City Council Forum

Send questions to Angela Goodhope at agoodhope@hotmail.com

Formats will be questions written in advance and possibly open questioning, if time remains.

Last year there were 10 questions written before hand and asked, but also open forum

Some like it open and some like it closed

*Reminder from Sally that people need to stand up and speak loudly

Angela strongly suggested that people send questions to her.

- Summer Picnic on July 15th at Kiwanis at 6:00pm (day after CC meeting).
Yes, there is alcohol allowed. But 200 deposit so don't trash.

Yes, there is kickball allowed.

Yes, there are boom boxes allowed.

Sign up sheet going around!

- Aug 11-16th Western Montana Fair booth

Will have a cotton candy machine.

Great outreach opportunity fun.

Sign up sheet going around!

If you can't volunteer for fair but are willing to make phone calls about fair contact Shannon.

Volunteer Opportunities-Shannon O'Brian and Meg

- June 27th organizing for America National Day of Service for Health Care.

Goal: Getting stories to send to congress. Open up dialogue about the issues. Want to continue to reach out to folk. Collecting medical supplies for Partnership Health Center as well as Band-Aids, diapers for Poverello.

Bryce will be working with us on it for National Healthcare Reform Collaboration along with Forward Montana

Shifts are 8-10 and 10-12

Food afterwards

Meet at union Hall

You will be well trained and well supplied just show up!

Check out OFA website-spin off of obama campaign.

Sign up sheet going around!

Again are you available to make phone calls please contact Shannon.

****East Missoula big community yard sale. Same day!

- Meg from Partnership speaks about ongoing collaboration

Partnership Health Center is federally qualified sliding fee bases underinsured

Volunteer needs!

Long term volunteer needed 4 to 8 hours/month

Going live with electronic files will need to scan everything into files.

Needs people once to transfer/scan into electronic medical record.

Sign-up sheet going around!

*Question/comment. This is a historic time (health care) has anyone through about organizing a march on Washington?

Answer: Obama is asking us to tell him what the next step is.

Noon at union hall going to be conversation about health care. Shannon will tell Obama about march on Washington idea.

Treasures report Dave Kendal

- 2,900.00\$ after issues caucus and may elections material

Emily and Jason working on drafts for a fundraising letter

*Diane Sands-back to health care Aug and Sept conference committee between?????? About health care on a more local level. Will tell Jason when have more information.

Question? What is our goal for fundraising strategic plan. What do we want to accomplish. What resources do we have. For SP.

Answer: E-Board is looking at that right now.

Nominations

- Angela Goodhope is a democrat! Precinct 94 committee woman.

Nomination. Seconded. Elected.

Any others interested in CC? No.

Jim Elliot former senator from Trout Creek seeks to be chair of state democrats.

Carol Williams asked him to run.

Difficult position that entails a lot of work with finesse.

Works is timber industry, sustainable yield. 8 years in hours 8 years in senate. Chaired state taxation committee.

Goal is to elect a dem. majority in house and senate. Reelect John Tester in 2012. Also, every state wide seat up for election except Baucus.

Will communicate better to general public than in past.

Remind people why they should vote democrat! Come up with a simple message from the grassroots up.

Knows issues, campaigns, recruit in rural areas critical. We can win where we haven't in the past.

Communication between state and local central committees. Because after all, locals do the leg work.

Montana Conservation Voters candidate.

Q: Would you do anything about latest rule change about state and local all raising their own money. Caused a lot of confusions.

A: Not versed will look into it.

Q: Mike appreciates all that Jim have done. Reelection Jon Tester. Is it appropriate to take a position when there could be other candidates.?

A: There is no other candidate tester is the candidate but point taken.

Q: Talbot Top-down politics not popular but the governor seems to be doing it. Would you be willing to buck the system if it becomes a problem?

A: Yes. I have a reputation for doing that. I am comfortable disagreeing with people.

Q: Bryce. Missoula gives a lot of votes, volunteers, and money but we always get pushed aside in state wide efforts. Thoughts?

A: Was Missoula county legislator. Knows what you are talking about. Leg need to have respect for the views of others which gives respect for group as whole. Without Missoula we would never have majority or Jon Tester. Environment and health care are viewed differently in other parts of the state. Would like to create workshops for people to get to know one another and understand why people have their beliefs. We all have same values but dif. way of getting to them.

Idea: Legislators go to rural areas to speak with people in those areas to have discussion.

Q: Shannon. Education at state level is responsible. Nobody knows the solution so other issues get our attention. Ed. doesn't get the attention it deserves because it is tough to tackle. Will you help find candidates that will prioritize education?

A: Sure.

Q: Election?

A: Bozeman on 29th of August. Sitting democratic officials who hold state office. Chair, vice chair, state comm. Men and women. 2 other candidates.

Tim says in election of officers we do not fill all our roles alternates. We should fill those seats 30 days before the convention so they can vote.

Chair's address

- Thank you. I appreciate this opportunity.
- Elect democrats and candidates in nonparty races that are endorsed by dem party.
- Set the tone.
- Communications problem. We can do a better job by setting the tone of the debate in the media. Coordinated letter writing campaign to Missoulian. Messages that we want to get to officers.

E Board goals

- Strategic plan...attaching numbers to goals then raising funds.
- Board compact
- Leadership development. ...

Precinct committee men and women.

Workshops about tracking the activities of the legislature. Educate one another.

Angela emphasizes that we are county not city democrats. Make concerted effort to get meeting in CC to Frenchtown and Sealy Lake...

NO August CC meeting.

Issues Caucus Resolution.

- Analytical work to tease out what the issues were. We hope that you have look at it.
- Theme of stewardship.
We talk about taking care of our natural and human resources.
Taking care of the next generation.
- We blended it together because there was so much overlap.
- 2 proposals for amendment.

John Salmonson-saying something about corrections but it got deluded down. **Education shouldn't be diminished by excessive spending on corrections.** \$ comes from some place. Competition for education dollars. Simplify sentencing guidelines. 1995 Got rid of goodtime." Carrot-stick. ---truth in

sentencing----fed guidelines are about half of what our state guide lines----1995 effectively doubled sentencing. Takes a while to accumulate. We are paying the price now.

- Motion to amend to include **Education funding should not be diminished by excessive corrections funding**- failed
- Motion to amend to include **While protecting public safety, Montana should focus correction on the rehabilitation of criminals**-passed.
- Motion to amend to include **Single payer** -failed
- Motion to amend to include **Dental and vision**-passed

- What should we do to get issues caucus in front of people? E-board will brainstorm.

Motion by Lee

- MCD's endorse single payer health plan and demand that elected members of congress put single payer on the table of consideration and give it a fair hearing.
- Could we discuss it next month? Educational opportunity for those who do not understand the difference next month.
- Roy moves to **table the motion to be discussed next month under old business**-passes
- Roll out for bills is this month. Sept is a really good time to have a debate. Should we educate people about it in August?
- We will finish the discussion next month.
- John-we have to focus on city council next month. We cannot slight that by talking about healthcare.
- E-Board will make a recommendation for July meeting.

Adjourned