

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2016 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1st St.

Attendance: Chair Roger Fight, Carlyn Syvanen, Julie Johnson, Steve Vause, Marcia Farrell, LeRoy Martin, Kris Grier, Bill Dole, Jr., Barbara Jepson, Paula Doherty, Bob Hosek, Ron Richards, Virginia Shogren, Recording Secretary Catherine Harper.

Chair Roger Fight called the meeting to order at 11:42.

Ms. Virginia Shogren is with the Bernie Sanders campaign.

- Additions to the Agenda

1. LeRoy Martin wishes to add the June Food Bank Drive (place under Membership).
2. LeRoy Martin wishes to add the Annual Dinner discussion (place under Fundraising).

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended, Marcia Farrell; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

- Approval of Minutes of March Executive Board Meeting

Motion to approve the Minutes, LeRoy Martin; Julie Johnson seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

- Treasurer's Report: This is deferred until Kris Grier arrives.

- Report of the Chair

Roger Fight began by stating that the County Convention needs to be transparent, clear, and neutral; the purpose is to help both campaigns put together their Delegates.

Suspicion abounds, not without some justification. There has been confusion regarding the caucus/convention process; Roger received an e-mail from someone who is angry and confused, and this was passed to Bob Hosek (Sanders campaign) to deal with. Roger reiterated that our job is to make this process easier for people, neutral and transparent.

PCO Recruitment – We will hold off on this effort until after the General Membership Meeting on April 23rd, where we will have a table. After the meeting, we must work hard. We need someone to oversee this effort, a point of contact for the PCOs. It will be an ongoing role. Virginia Shogren volunteered to do this. Julie Johnson had heard that many people do not know when and how to file. Should we have signs? Announcements? Virginia will address the signage, and Paula Doherty can send out e-mails and put the information on our website.

Candidates/Endorsement Process – Roger says that we should set a date for an endorsement meeting and announce it in advance. It should probably be at the at the next General Membership Meeting after April 23.

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Do we want to have an Endorsement Meeting prior to the August primary? We don't usually do this, but we can.

Carlyn said that this came up at the State Meeting; the feeling is that prior endorsement in general is not a good idea. The party often ends up supporting the losing candidate, which undermines future credibility.

Bill Dole Jr. said that he feels OK making an endorsement even if two Democrats are running.

Should be done after the filing date. Roger Fight agreed.

Ron Richards stated that he hasn't been in favor of doing this previously, but now that he is running it looks a little different to him. He feels that the Democrat should be endorsed, especially if there are two Republicans in the race.

Bill Dole pointed out that we can only contribute money to a campaign after we have endorsed the candidate.

Ron Richards also stated that it is "less democratic" if we have made an endorsement, and mentioned that there was some ill-will within the Ozias campaign due to this. But Ron reiterated that we must publicly support the Democrat if there are two Republicans running. Should we announce an endorsement before the primary, or after?

Paula Doherty moves that we schedule a meeting after the primary; Bob Hosek seconds.

Steve Vause likes Ron's idea; without one democrat we may endorse, before the primary but after the filing date.

Ron: So the option is open, to be decided after the next Executive Board meeting.

Julie Johnson stated that the more flexible we are, the better. We can decide if a two-Republican situation arises.

Motion to schedule endorsement meeting after the primary (motion on floor, further discussion is necessary).

Marcia Farrell stated that we do need to meet the candidates before the primary, particularly if there are two Democrats in the race. We won't necessarily endorse at this meeting.

Bob Hosek restated this: If we have one Democrat in the race, we can endorse him/her after the primary; if there are two Democrats, we should make our endorsement before the primary. It was noted that the filing date is May 16-20.

Roger Fight reported that we have already had a request for endorsement from Bob Ferguson and from a candidate for another statewide office. They would be included in a scheduled endorsement meeting, but we would not have a separate meeting for them.

The motion to schedule an endorsement meeting after the primary is withdrawn.

Steve Vause recommended we reword the motion so it doesn't preclude making an endorsement before the primary.

The amended motion reads: We shall schedule an endorsement meeting after the primary; however, this meeting does not preclude an endorsement meeting for a single Democratic candidate running for a race prior to the primary.

Using the original proposal by Paula Doherty and the second by Bob Hosek, voice vote was taken; it passed with one "nay" vote.

- Treasurer's Report (deferred)

Kris Grier gave a brief report; will have a full report at the next meeting. We are in very good shape, with over \$5,000 in our Unlimited account and over \$7,000 in our Limited (candidates) account. He noted that the Carter Foundation has not yet cashed our check, but that the City of Flint, MI has cashed our check and sent a thank you letter.

Kris was asked about membership, and stated that we have 210 members. We will work on getting prior members to rejoin.

Roger Fight asked if we can use VoteBuilder to find these possible members. Kris said that we will be able to when the data entry is finished (Jenny Peterson is working on this). Until then, it is easier to sort Kris's current spreadsheet. Kris hopes that Jenny can finish the data entry after the Convention.

Kris Grier also noted that we have secured the venue for the Convention.

Carlyn Syvanen stated that we will need to tour the venue, get a feel for the layout, plan signage, etc. Kris Grier knows the head custodian and will reach out to him. Kris thinks 1-2 pm any day would be a good time for the tour.

Julie Johnson asked who will be allowed to vote on May 1st? Carlyn replied that Delegates can vote for Delegates and Alternates; any registered Democrat can vote on resolutions.

It was suggested that we buy a copy of "The Democratic Process" – offers a good explanation of the

process.

- Report of the Chair (continued)

We need a Program Chair. We may not have many programs during the summer. If a volunteer pops up at the New Member Orientation, let's grab them.

We also need a Volunteer Coordinator, as we are doing much more as the election approaches. There are committees to be formed, etc. We might find this person at the April 23rd meeting. Virginia Shogren said that she will get the word out, but will need a job description.

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Roger stated that we generally have a program every month, Wednesday evening. We need to line up speakers, topics. The next two Program meetings are scheduled already (the Port regarding composites, and Steve Tharinger/Kevin Van de Wege; their scheduling to be determined). The next program meeting will be Wednesday, May 11th. Virginia will spread the word among Bernie supporters, and will have a possible volunteer contact Roger.

Roger suggests a "Candidate Forum" as a program meeting topic.

Carlyn stated that the job description includes going through the Membership forms where members state their volunteering preferences. A spreadsheet should be created with people's interests. We will have a big need for volunteers for the County Convention, and in the long term for staffing Headquarters mornings and afternoons. Carlyn will write up a formal job description.

LeRoy feels that this should come under Membership (recruiting, training, retention), and that we should take an innovative approach to getting people involved. He estimates that 60% of our 210 members have stated their interest in volunteering.

Roger agreed that the Volunteer Coordinator should be someone within the Membership Committee.

Bill Dole stated that he has a list started of people are willing to help staff the office.

Paula Doherty asked if this information can be put into VoteBuilder. Roger said yes, under "My Campaign" and that one can search for volunteers by category. VoteBuilder provides direct access to this information.

Marcia Farrell stressed the need for outreach, including contacting people who write Letters to the Editor, etc. Roger agreed, stating that we will do this "one chunk at a time". The Ozias letter is what we are working with now, but there will be other places to look too. Membership is a year-round job, and it is hoped that LeRoy can recruit two people to work year-round.

Julie Johnson noted that some groups like ours have "Women's Group" and others, and that this approach might work here as we are a very diverse community. Carlyn agreed, stating that there will be more opportunities as our membership grows.

County Convention – Carlyn reported that Paula Doherty has sent notice to Delegates and Alternates. Some were done by regular mail, and one will need to be contacted by phone. We are following State suggestion regarding notice.

Volunteers are needed before the County Convention, including **Greeters** (candidates preferred; Mike Chapman enthusiastically agreed); **Hospitality** (Marcia will have a coffee/snacks table. Barbara and Honeybee are also involved); **Signage** (finding locations at venue – Delegates need to be seated by precinct); **Information Desk** (membership, PCO recruitment); **Nomination** (people hoping to be nominated as Delegates/Alternates); **Credentials** (check delegates in, Alternates as needed); **Rules** (John Marrs is working on this, but could use help. The more people understand the rules, the better. After they're finalized, they'll be put on website).

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Platform Committee (Bill Dole is Chair; volunteers needed. Resolutions include TPP, the Navy pier); **Resolutions** (Steve Vause is working on this; Ed Grier and Nina Richards are involved); **Affirmative Action** (Chair will be needed to turn in a report to the State showing that our Convention reflected our diversity and demographics).

Convention officers have been appointed. They will need to vote in a Presiding Chair.

Two Tally Committees will be needed, one for Sanders and one for Clionton. Bob Hosek is the Chair. Will need 3 volunteers for each. Campaign caucus can pick tally people.

Virginia Shogren suggested some candidates: Jennifer Nouri, Honeybee Burns for Hospitality; Virginia Shogren and Leslie Springrice for Credentials; Carol Woods for Resolutions.

The Chair appoints temporary positions, then the body at large will vote and elect them as permanent positions with an opportunity for others to be nominated (for the day of the Convention).

Roger Fight stated that our primary interest is in appointing people who have the experience and expertise plus a willingness to be appointed "permanently" (i.e., for the whole day of the Convention). Be careful to nominate people who will not need training, as there will be no time for that.

Chanda Masta, a volunteer at Greywolf, would like to do the Food Bank collection for the County. Jessica Hernandez could take responsibility for distributing donations to ALL County Food Banks. Will add this to the Notice.

LeRoy asked if there will be candidate tables at the Convention. Roger says this would be easy to do, there is plenty of space. The information can go on the Information table; flyers, etc. There will be a table set up for anything they want to leave.

The Nomination table workers will take names, also print ballots. The State party will provide sample ballots. Cards will be prepared for officers and delegate positions; they can have their own table if desired. Julie Johnson volunteered to check in Delegates (at "Credentials" table), but because she is a Delegate herself she can't fill that role.

Bob Hosek pointed out that ballots can't be printed until after the elections, so how do we handle that? Carlynn said that a laptop computer and printer will be brought with us. Roger pointed out that having to write the names in by hand would make them a nightmare to count. So after the Delegates have announced, we should make a list and copy off ballots -- easier to count. We will prepare these for each campaign, one for Delegates and one for Alternates.

Bob Hosek said that Jenny Peterson can build a spreadsheet. Marcia Farrell said that Marlin Bialy and Lorraine Martin were both mentioned as possible volunteers; LeRoy said that Lorraine has said no.

Roger said that we need someone who understands the process and can answer questions.

Julie Johnson volunteered to be a Greeter. It should be made clear in any informational pieces that Delegates cannot be on the Credentials Committee.

Virginia Shogren said she will do PCO recruiting.

Carlyn Syvanen: Let me know if any Delegate or Alternate says they have not been notified. Roger suggested that they e-mail us, and then we'll have their e-mail address, which makes for easier communication.

Volunteers, suggestions will be handled at the end of the meeting.

LeRoy Martin discussed the special "Member Orientation Meeting" to be held after the Membership Meeting on April 23rd. The Membership Meeting is starting at 9:30, half an hour early, and should conclude by 11:00 for the special meeting. LeRoy says he has volunteers for PCO recruiting, and that an important aspect is for us to mentor future Treasurers, Chairs, etc. We need volunteers for Finance Budget Committee, and Events, such as the Annual Dinner, auction, parades, fundraisers, etc. We could probably use 10 volunteers. We want to get 50 new members at the Convention. We need to develop volunteers for all these areas.

The real key is the PCO candidates; we need to begin Get Out the Vote strategies. Virginia Shogren will help.

Funds will be needed too, to cover food, signage, etc. LeRoy requests a budget of \$150 to cover the event.

Roger asked if we need a special announcement targeting new members. LeRoy said yes, and suggested that Paula could send out the notice.

Carlyn suggested adding to the Agenda that we are having this special orientation after the Membership Meeting. Meeting agenda will go out this weekend.

LeRoy said that the room will be set up the night before, with tables, so that people can mingle.

Fundraisers - Marcia Farrell reported that there are plans for a possible picnic in mid-June, pre-parade, and we'll need volunteers. Joe McGimpsey has a golf event in June with Derek Kilmer, to be held at 7 Cedars at Dungeness. The proposed date for the Annual Dinner is September 16; we are trying to get Jay Inslee as Keynote Speaker, and hope we can arrange some other activities for him on that day, perhaps involving the tribes.

Julie Johnson pointed out that September 16 will not work, as the State meeting is that weekend. Marcia agreed that we will have to go back to the drawing board, and find another date, perhaps in October. We will still need volunteers for the dinner.

Julie Johnson is considering a separate event, which could be added to Jay Inslee's schedule the day he is here for the dinner. He needs exposure, needs to be re-elected. It was also mentioned that the Crab Fest is around that time, but shouldn't impact attendance at the Dinner.

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- State Committeewoman – Julie Johnson

Next State meeting will be in Tacoma, at the Hotel Munro. Meetings will be on Saturday, and election of Delegates on Sunday. Endorsements will be needed here too.

In 2008, 5 Native American members registered; so far this year we have 92.

It was noted that a total of 16 Delegates and 8 Alternates will be chosen for the County. The exact breakdown will be determined at the Convention, but it looks like approximately 12 Delegates for Bernie Sanders and 4 for Hillary Clinton.

Julie announced that a Native candidate, Joe Pakoutas, is running against a strong Republican woman. Julie will do a fundraiser for him in mid-June. We need to show Native support for

candidates. They are working on the Native Caucus Platform, and had a listening session in Bellingham. There are 11 tribes in the 6th District; they donate to candidates, but they also need to get involved with committees, developing the platform. Julie noted that the Native Caucus will support candidates, and some have not supported Native programs – and this will make a difference, with a Senate seat up for grabs.

- State Committeeman – Joe McGimpsey

Joe McGimpsey is not present; there is no report.

Roger Fight questioned whether we get evening walk-in traffic; we will ask Bob Hosek if people do come in late.

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Marcia Farrell noted that we need more merchandise. Possibly T-shirts, hats; certainly buttons and bumper stickers. Roger Fight cautioned against purchasing too much inventory; 100 T-shirts can cost \$1,000. Marcia will look into this. Roger also noted that the Fair is coming up, and we can sell some things there. Lisa Unger suggested a "Blue No Matter Who" hat, but Roger noted that that would only be saleable this year. Marcia will look into this as well.

- New Business

LeRoy Martin moved that \$150 be allocated for the April 23rd New Member Orientation meeting; Paula Doherty seconded. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Virginia Shogren asked if we can put up some more presidential candidate signs in the office front window. Carlyn explained that the only signs we had were for Bernie Sanders, and people thought we had endorsed him. We would need to have both candidates represented. Virginia

has a Hillary sign, and we can now post that and a Bernie sign. Marcia Farrell asked if anyone is working on getting Hillary Clinton campaign materials. Roger said we have been leaving it up to the campaigns, and Marsha volunteered to contact Roger Briggs for more materials.

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Roger stated that the general guideline is to keep displays fair to both candidates.

LeRoy Martin noted that the Food Bank Drive will be in June, and he would like this on the agenda for the Membership Meeting on the 23rd, as this will be the last Membership meeting before the Drive. We need volunteers for this campaign. Jessica Hernandez has tentatively planned a "kickoff party" at Headquarters. Terry Ward from the PDN is on the committee.

- Unfinished Business

None.

Good of the Order

Next E-Board meeting: May 20th.

Next CCD (General Membership) Meeting: June 25th (tentative -- exact date TBD).

Julie Johnson noted that June is a crowded month, so we need to be careful with scheduling so as not to interfere with Graduations, etc. It was decided to try for June 25th.

Motion to Adjourn, Barbara Jepson, Steve Vause seconds. Voice voice, motion carries unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35.

