

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

March 13, 2015 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1st St.

Attendance: Julie Johnson, Andy Pascua, Roger Fight, Kris Grier, Marcia Farrell, LeRoy Martin, Paula Doherty, Bill Dole Jr., Steve Vause, Carlyn Syvanen, Ric Mahurin, guests Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ellis, Catherine Harper

Chair Roger Fight called the meeting to order at 11:30.

- Four items are added to the Agenda under New Business: First, Mr. Bill Ellis's idea for a Fundraiser; second, LeRoy Martin's idea for a Tuna Can drive to benefit the Food Banks; third, LeRoy Martin's idea that a flag could be hung outside the office during office hours; fourth, Marcia Farrell has reports on several Fundraising efforts.

Bill Ellis presented an idea for a bumper sticker reading "What Have the Republicans Done for You?" Asking the question creates interest and makes people think. Mr. Ellis presented a cost worksheet which shows that this could be a good fundraiser.

Roger Fight suggested that we could be a market test if some stickers could be donated. It was suggested that Mr. Ellis give the CCDC 100 free stickers, and that we buy 150 more, thus decreasing the cost per sticker. Paul Doherty feels more research is needed, possibly to secure a better price from other local printers. A sales price of \$1-3 was suggested. More research will be done.

Motion to receive 100 donated stickers and buy 150 more, Kris Grier, LeRoy Martin seconds. Motion passes, with Paula Doherty abstaining.

Without a formal motion the agenda as amended is accepted by unanimous voice vote.

- Approval of Minutes of February 20 meeting

Motion to accept the Minutes by LeRoy Martin, Marcia Farrell seconds.

Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

- Treasurer's Report: Kris Grier

Report was discussed. Some fundraising may be necessary mid-year to help cover office expenses. A few new Memberships have come in.

Treasurer's Report was accepted without formal motion and vote.

- Report of Chair

Program Meeting

Roger Fight discussed the last Program Meeting which was a presentation by Bill Greenwood of the EDC. It was agreed by attendees that Mr. Greenwood was articulate and neutralized

to some extent people's negative feelings about the EDC. It was also felt, though, that he is naive about the need for public support of the EDC, and lack of concern at some undue jockeying within the organization. Marcia Farrell was also taken aback by his wholehearted support of Jim McEntire.

It was felt to be an outstanding program, drawing 25 people, including some who do not usually participate. Paula Barnes and Paula Doherty, co-chairs, get credit for a great meeting.

Membership

The Membership Committee has been calling previous members and asking them to re-up; this has resulted in some more memberships. This is an ongoing activity. Further contacts are waiting to be made, and letter writing and website work will continue. Sylvia Hancock will return to the area on May 2, and we hope to enlist her aid.

Database – Risks and Benefits

Roger Fight and Marlin Bially have talked to Sue Marett of Jefferson County about the database their organization uses. She shared software and ideas. It is felt that there are some big downsides to their approach, in that all information is stored on one PC and accessed by one person. We need to customize this, ensuring the safety of data while allowing access (either read-only or write). Paula Doherty discussed ways that data could be saved in the cloud, and that conditions for access can be set. Marlin Bially says we would need interface programming; all agree that VoteBuilder is a good tool for our use with its phone banking capability, so perhaps customizing VoteBuilder rather than using a different tool would be best. Roger Fight and Marlin Bially will meet to discuss further.

PCO Recruitment Contacts

LeRoy Martin has successfully recruited Cherie Pickett. Julie Johnson, Paula Doherty, and Marcia Farrell are also working on on several candidates. Marcia Farrell is tentatively planning a luncheon in Forks to help in this effort; Andy Pascua may help with this.

We need to continue to look more broadly, expand contacts. It may be worthwhile to appoint some PCOs to secondary "interim" positions in nearby districts while we attempt to recruit permanent PCOs.

Motion to confirm Cherie Pickett as the new PCO in Precinct 259, District 1, Julie Johnson, Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote, motion passes unanimously.

Official Office Hours

We now have official office hours 4 days per week: Wednesday 10-1, Thursday and Friday 11-2, Saturday 10-1. Hours will be posted on door. Steve Vause suggested that the office hours

could be simplified by standardizing them to the same hours each day (i.e., 10-1 each day). Carlyn Syvanen added that this makes it easier for people to put in extra hours. It was noted that during election season the office will be much more fully staffed. We will announce the new hours.

LeRoy Martin's suggestion that a flag be flown outside the office when the office is open would further simplify/clarify.

Without a formal vote, the official office hours were adopted. There will be an announcement of the new hours and a sign on the office door.

Priority Setting Tabulated Results

The goals and priorities set at our retreat were distributed and input sought from members; the results were tabulated by Carlyn. Roger Fight sees this as the background for our operations; this does not need to be honed further at this time, but will be taken further at a later meeting.

Medicare Site Neutral Reimbursement

This issue was brought to us by Tommie Schwendt, League of Women Voters.

Currently, emergency rooms and clinic can charge more than hospitals for the same service. It was pointed out that emergency rooms have more overhead, are available 24/7, and also have more paperwork/accountability. This proposal will prevent these extra charges. The hospitals take a big hit, as much as 5% of revenue. Ms. Schwendt suggests we contact our Senators about this. The question was asked, why only the Senate and not the House? Roger Fight will suggest a resolution be prepared for the CCD meeting on the 21st.

Julie Johnson recommended that we prepare a resolution. There must be standards in place for third-party billing, etc. -- we should support.

Port O Call "All Call" for Candidates

Dale Wilson came to our last Wednesday discussion group with a proposal for recruiting good candidates for local offices. As originally discussed, this seemed a two-step process, with the first step being a discussion of the issues. However, the meeting has now been called for April 15th, basically starting with Step 2 – people announcing their interest in running and giving speeches. It has been pointed out that if people announce their candidacy but then fail to file, they are in violation of PDC rules.

We are still interested in going forward with Step 1 – finding and mentoring likely candidates - but more work is needed.

It was agreed that some of our members should attend the meeting and get the lay of the land.

- **State Committeewoman**

State Committeewoman Julie Johnson has some information to make available by posting on the website. She just received notice of a meeting in Seattle tomorrow regarding Affirmative Action, process to select delegates to the 2016 Democratic Convention. She will send this information to Paula Doherty to be posted on the website after tomorrow's meeting, when new rules and changes will have been determined. One of the issues is that there will be more delegates chosen, with breakdowns to follow.

Julie Johnson and Marcia Farrell will both be missing a few meetings due to attending the State meetings. They request "excused" absences noted in minutes, and this will be done. When we know of such an instance we will cite their attendance at another meeting.

Julie Johnson went to Washington, DC and met with Derek Kilmer. They discussed proposed listening sessions; he is interested in participating. Also attended the National Indian Women's Honoring Luncheon. Many dignitaries were present, and several outstanding women were honored.

Julie Johnson is Chair of the Native American Caucus; this is in the planning stages, will probably be held in Bellingham in May. Panels, speakers, elected officials, and funding agencies (including EPA, BIA, HUD, Health Services) will be included. Senators Murray and Cantwell will be invited.

We do not have enough PCOs from the 29 tribes, need better representation.

Julie Johnson asked if there will be a list of Democratic Party endorsements, and when that may be available. It is needed in time for the Native American Caucus. Proposed endorsements include Joe Pakootas, Debra Juarez (Seattle City Council), an Roxanne Murphy (Bellingham City Council). It was noted that Seattle is now voting by District.

- State Committeeman

State Committeeman Joe McGimpsey is not present; no report.

- New Business/Discussion

Preparations for endorsement of Superior Court candidates

The endorsement meeting will be March 20. Dave Newport asked for our endorsement for Superior Court, to replace retiring Judge Wood. A committee is working on gathering information and will make a recommendation. Committee members are Mike Doherty and Kathy Marshall.

An endorsement request was sent to the Bar Association; Simon Barnhart replied that the request was appreciated but that in his opinion politicizing endorsements is inappropriate. Thus we will hold an endorsement meeting, but may not end up endorsing anyone. More candidates may come forward and request endorsement. Additional input will help; when we are asked "who are you for?" it's hard to say. Roger Fight hopes this committee will become permanent, as a more structured endorsement process is needed.

Appointment of PCOs

This was covered earlier in the meeting.

PCO Training

Roger Fight developed an outline draft and shared it with the PCOs; he got feedback from

several, generally supportive. Bill Dole will be part of this group, concentrating mainly on VoteBuilder training. Roger Fight would like to have help in developing training, and would like to start training sessions soon, 6-9 people per session to discuss ideas for meeting intent, steps to take. Target date is before end of April. First sessions will be getting our feet wet, and we will develop this as we go along. Carlyn agreed to help with this.

- Additions to Agenda

Outside Flag for Office -- Roger Fight called for a Motion to acquire a flag to be flown during office hours. LeRoy Martin will follow-up, will look into a donation, possibly from Derek Kilmer.

Marcia Farrell so moves, Julie Johnson seconds. Voice vote, passes unanimously.

Tuna Can Drive – LeRoy Martin suggests a canned tuna drive to benefit local Food Banks. He suggested that the Executive Board take the lead, target date month of April. Suggested setting targets of 50 cans, etc., and honoring "Tuna Royalty" for largest contributions. People can designate which Food Bank they want to support; it is hoped that equal contributions can be made to all local Food Banks. Try for a goal of 1,000 cans. Publicity needed, Press Releases, etc. LeRoy Martin will take the lead on this. Reminders can be added to Calls to Meeting and other communications. Contributions will mostly be from members attending events, but others may contribute too. No restrictions on type or size of can.

Roger Fight suggested that the PCOs should be the competing "teams" and Julie Johnson suggested awards for top contributors.

Motion to endorse this idea and for LeRoy Martin to take the lead by Julie Johnson, Ric Mahurin seconds. Voice vote, passes unanimously.

Fundraising – Marcia Farrell reports that the St. Patrick's dinner is sold out (47-50 people). The "Give 'Em Hell Harry" dinner theater event will be held at the 7 Cedars Casino and should sell very well. Will be heavily advertised, sponsored by Clallam County Democrats. \$60/ticket, with our meal expense being approximately \$35/ticket. We should make some money, the amount depending on attendance and the expenses of getting the performance team here. There is no charge for use of the facility, and we may use it for future events. It can accommodate 200 people, and we hope to get about 180.

Julie Johnson moves to support this, LeRoy Martin seconds. Voice vote, passes unanimously. Also in the works is a luncheon with Jessica Hernandez, Clallam County Democratic Women. Roger Fight suggests we describe this more broadly, including Clallam County Democratic Women, to attract a broader demographic. Marcia Farrell, Ric Mahurin, and Catherine Harper will work on this. Jessica has clarified that this group and this event have no connection to the Food Bank.

It was suggested that we go to the Facebook page for "Clallam County Democratic Women" as this may also be a good place to recruit new members.

No motion was needed; this idea is germinating

Bill Dole noted that we have approved the idea of bumper stickers, and we should have buttons and pins available for sale (such as "Proud to be a Democrat"). We need to find a supplier which would make this semi-profitable. Bill Dole will research. Some buttons are still in stock, we will see if any are usable. We should have someone in charge of display, pricing, etc.

- Unfinished Business – none noted.
- Good of the Order

Paula Doherty reported on possible program events. Impossible to find a speaker to address a program on Electronic Warfare. Paula Barnes suggested that Roger Fight present a program on the Trans-Pacific Partnership for the April 8th program.

Roger Fight suggests that Electronic Warfare issues is better suited for a Rally; program meetings should include discussion. The EWR is stuck in red tape right now, problems with their process. People are more interested in discussing the impact than the process.

Marcia Farrell is planning the 4th Wednesday Activity Night (March 28th). She is trying to obtain "Citizen 4" for screening. Bill Dole will try to get it. Roger Fight says it is available for streaming.

Meeting of the CCD will be March 21st. This will be an endorsement meeting, plus the agenda.

Next E-Board Meeting will be April 17th.

Bill Dole asked why the program meetings are held at 6 pm on Wednesdays. Roger Fight says that the schedule was discussed, agreed so that people could be home early. This could be re-thought at a later time.

Julie Johnson asked for clarification of the March 21st "CCD" meeting. Roger Fight clarified, this is the full membership, Saturday, March 21st, 10 a.m. -- this used to be called the "Central Committee" meeting.

- Motion to adjourn, LeRoy Martin, Steve Vause seconds.

Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

Meeting is adjourned at 1:10 p.m.