

Johnson County Democrat Party Committee Meeting Minutes
• August 1, 2017 •

As approved Sept. 5, 2017

Call to Order

Called to order by Chairman Bill McIntyre at 7:12 PM. Allegiance to Flag of the Republic pledged by all present. A sign-sheet was circulated. 10 present.

Old Business

Minutes from July 11, 2017 meeting were read aloud and copies were circulated. A few minor corrections were suggested followed by a motion by Will Cox to approve with corrections mentioned, seconded by Jim Shell. Motion carried.

Treasurer reported \$93.00 collected during last meeting's hat-pass. There had also been an anonymous donation of \$450.00. There have been no payments out since the last meeting. Checking account balance is \$1,555.78. Greg Haas moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Will Cox seconded and it the motion carried by voice vote.

Vanessa Vogel moved to add two items to agenda, seconded by Greg Haas. Motion carried. Item 1: voter registration booth during "Oktoberfest" in Buffalo. Item 2: State Wyo Dem Party central committee meeting in Buffalo in 2018.

Voter Registration booth, who will do it? Happens in late September for one afternoon, setup by noon. Need to be sure we have a person to staff the booth, photocopier, table, notary public. Chairman McIntyre will approach Pam Kinchen about being our notary public again. Alternative notaries were discussed. Will offered to ask around for another notary as well. Vanessa suggested we add ACA signups to the booth. Kathy Swensen moved to give permission to Vanessa to contact/invite an ACA navigator about attending and providing/presenting information to interested Fest participants about the ACA at our booth. Kay McCormick moved to amend the motion by setting up a side-by-side canopy instead of fitting them in the same "tent". Motion seconded by Greg Haas and carried.

Central Committee meeting. Issue of timing in summer months. There is some concern that the busy summer months, July and August in particular, will be overwhelming. Chair McIntyre described central committee's decision process to choose when to have a summer meeting. Dates are set by Central Committee, not Johnson County Democrat Committee. It was agreed it may be a challenge to find volunteers, hotel space and meeting space during some of the busy weekends in July. Vanessa requested that future conversations with State Committee Chair include education about the timing of the event and how it will or will not conflict with other events in the small community of Buffalo. Will Cox moved to move on to next agenda item, while we wait to hear from the Central Committee. Motion was seconded by Kay McCormick. Motion passed.

Chair McIntyre reported on Wyoming Democrat Party Central Committee meeting that took place in Thermopolis on July 15, 2017. He attended the social hosted by Hot Springs County Democrats on Friday, July 14, 2017. He attended several meetings in the morning and reported on what he heard during those. The Central Committee meeting proper started at 1pm. Bill McIntyre and Greg Haas shared some of their observations of the meeting that began at 1pm. There was some discussion about how to learn from the organizational aspects of the Hot Springs meeting.

Report by Carol Cox on August fund-raiser "JC Dems Dog Days of Summer". Meal/food and activities planned. Greg Haas agreed to provide phone numbers from JC Dems list to Carol Cox who will be asking many of us to call folks this coming Wednesday or Thursday to remind/invite them.

Bring your own chairs is okay, although not necessary. Carol will prepare an accounting of costs and revenues after this event.

At least two folks left the meeting about this time.

Greg Haas moved with a second by Kay McCormick that the JC Dems chairman oversee the creation of a simple website for Johnson County Democrat Committee that would include the following: list of events, contact information, ways to donate time and money. During the discussion, Vanessa Vogel called Greg to task on his previous claim to not want to move on these things until there's somebody to do the work. Vanessa asked Greg who he planned on having build the website. Vanessa described several website building services that might be easy for those of us without website building experience. Greg responded he does have ideas about how to put up something simple but mostly he wants to move the process along and get permission from the group for the Chairman, with help of the other County Committee members to begin, and expand, digital and social media outreach. Vanessa reiterated the importance of having something simple on the backend. With something thusly accessible, it is more likely we can find volunteers to maintain the site. Motion passed.

Greg Haas moved with a second by Carol Cox that the chairman oversee the creation and utilization of a twitter account to publicize JC Dems activities and news items. Vanessa Vogel asked for a show of hands of those in the room to see who uses twitter. Only one person raised their hand. Greg Haas indicated the use of Twitter or any other social media would be part of an effort to reach people not already in the room. Several others present verbalized a dislike and/or a lack of knowledge of Twitter and acknowledged it may be an appropriate tool for outreach to others. Vanessa stated a website/Facebook combo is a better way to go. Jim Shell asked for clarification on what would be done with a Twitter account, what would the purpose be. Greg reiterated the intended purpose is to allow the group an entrance into social media to help get word out about activities and needs. Greg illustrated the need with an email from the Wyo Dems Interim Executive Director asking if we had a Facebook link he could share. Motion passed with 7 people left in the room.

New Business

Greg Haas shared an email from Evan Welty, Wyo Dems Interim Executive Director. Evan would "like to set up Organizing/Canvassing/Data Entry Training some time with you all, the training would take 3-4 hours and is set up around teaching how to work the voter file database." Because several people left and due to the lateness of the evening everyone agreed this could and should be a topic of conversation at the Saturday fundraiser. There we can gauge interest and possibly set up a time.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed at 9:25 P.M.