

Johnson County Democratic Party Committee Meeting Minutes
• December 5, 2017 •

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair William McIntyre at 7:05 PM. Allegiance to Flag of the Republic pledged by all present. A sign-in sheet was circulated. 15 in attendance (two of whom joined just after call to order). Introductions were made around the table.

Reports

Motion by Joanna to accept and approve minutes of Nov 7th meeting as presented by Secretary Haas. Seconded by Laura, passed, following no discussion, by voice vote with none opposed.

Treasurer Shell was not present and no report was made.

Old Business

Chairman McIntyre announced the formation of new Labor Caucus of the Wyoming Democrat Party. Chairman can appoint a person to this caucus from Johnson County. Chairman sought expression of interest. Carol Cox offered to discuss it further with Chair. Discussion took place on the importance of Labor to the Democrat party and vice versa.

Chairman McIntyre introduced Dean Ferguson the new Executive Director of WDP. Dean introduced himself, briefly shared his background and the goals he shares with WDP. Dean thinks about the job in stages. They've opened an office in Downtown Cheyenne; about \$400/month, smaller than classroom we met in. WDP has two employees, they're looking for a third. Money currently going to two consultants will pay most of the salary of the Finance Director, although 3rd employee will not be budget neutral. Dean insists on openness, clarity and honesty in budgets and actual expenses, especially since a big part of his job is asking for donation to the Democrats. Dean hopes for regular, perhaps weekly, calls to county communications people to have two-way communications about what's going on around the state. Dean discussed other particular activities and fundraising pieces that he's been working on and towards. Dean can't yet tell us who it is but promises a very solid candidate to run against Senator Barrasso. Dean shared that the Native American Caucus will hold their first meeting this coming weekend. Through December Dean will be writing a coordinated campaign and continue working with current candidates. The Nellie Tayloe Ross dinner will be February 24th in Cheyenne. Dean requested message bills that can be passed to a legislators. The issue of attracting young people to politics came up. Dean suggested accepting that youngsters might not trust parties in general; but emphasized they are interested in issues. He suggested actually giving power and responsibility to younger voters if and when they become involved. Dean can be contacted by emailing dean@wyodems.org. Discussion about getting votes, what's needed, some general ideas about doing those things.

Update on Summer State Central Committee Meeting. Chair contacted WDP but has not received a response. The meeting to discuss that will take place Thursday and response will be sent to Chairman McIntyre.

Update on the ACA ad and the cost. Two ads in the Bulletin, \$90.00 each. Nobody present could report directly on turnout on December 1st.

Update on Wyoming Promise. About 400 signatures gathered. Hugely non-partisan activity. Another 80 to 100 signatures need to be added to the database. Activities will slow down in December and resume in January. Places are needed where people can come sign the petition. Contact Wyoming Promise – Johnson County if you have suggestions: <https://county16.net/wpjc>.

Chairman thanked everyone for coming and verbalized appreciation for the conversation.

New Business

No new business and Joanna moved for adjournment. Lois seconded. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.