

KCDP County Committee

12/17/20

Minutes from November 19 & 21

- Dusty Farmer moved to approve the minutes. Second Monteze Morales.

Elected Official Reports

- Sen. Sean McCann – Just wrapped up a session tonight. Have added another day tomorrow. Will be working on Covid Relief legislation tomorrow. Vaccine news is exciting. Healthcare providers beginning to get vaccines. People are not using good mask behavior. Virtual coffee hour scheduled for tomorrow will be postponed to next week, likely Tuesday at noon.
- Sheriff Fuller – Covid 19 vaccinations for Sheriff's office will begin soon. Sheriff's office has developed plans for security for vaccination plans. Only three inmates have gotten Covid since this began in March. When someone is brought to the jail, they are automatically quarantined. No cross contamination with Staff and inmates. 12 staff have gotten Covid over this time.
- Julie Rogers – several County advisory board positions are open, but deadline is tomorrow. Looking for people with environmental ties for the Environmental Health board. Bionca Stewart is the new legislative aid in the District Service Office. Julie Vogel is retiring in Lansing. Send some positive messages to Julie after her long service to the 60th District. New person will be Laurie Day.
- Jon Hoadley - if you have notes for Julie Vogel send to either Kelly Doyle or Melissa Fish.
- Tracy Hall – County is looking for a housing director. Dog licenses can now be renewed online.

Chair Report

- We should be very proud of the work KCDP has done this year. We are going into 2021 with \$30,000 in the bank. This puts us in a good position for 2021.
- Good that the party is growing.
- November fundraising was low, but this was expected due to the election. Over the year \$133,000 was raised.
- Communications has been amazing thanks to Gary Sigman.
- Thanks to all the volunteers that worked in the office during the election.
- It will be great when we can get together in person again.
- Thanks to all.
- Namita Sharma acknowledged the folks who ran for Democratic office but did not win their campaigns. We had great candidates. Had a record number of people of color running as well. Most diverse County Commission we have ever had. First female county clerk with Meredith Place. First black Oshtemo trustee in Kizzy Bradford. First Latina candidate to run for County Commission in Monteze Morales. Emily Beutel is first Democratic Clerk in Texas Township. Abigail Wheeler was named her Deputy Clerk as well.

- Congratulations to our winners and congrats to those who did not win. Kelly Doyle expressed that it is a brave thing for people to run for office and she encourages them to run again. Thanks to all who volunteer and show up to do the work of the party. Thanks to Margy for being our chair this past year.

Elections

- Margy Belchak appointed Mark Miller as Parliamentarian and Cory King and Vince Lavieri as Tellers for counting.
- Change to voting rules – Multiple office positions such as tellers is proportional.
- Mark Miller moved to approve the rules report. Second Thomas Whitener. Motion carries.

Election of County Committee members

- Mariah Phelps nominated PJ Newland, Terry Watson, Dennis Harris and Mark Horton.
- Jeff Parsons nominated Zak Ford and Kathleen Garland-Rike.
- Bill Reeves nominated Kathy and Don Cooney.
- Dusty Farmer nominated Libby Heine-Cogswell.
- The practice has been to nominate at one meeting and vote on these people at the next meeting.
- Paul Clements moved to vote on these nominations today but they are not active until the January meeting. Second Jeff Parsons. 39 No; 3 yes; motion does not pass
- Discussion – Chris Pomeroy stated that we held up endorsements in the spring because we did not know if people were members. Wendy Flora said it has been our practice in the past to vote people in the meeting following their nomination. Monteze Morales stated that if we want to move forward in the party this practice could be changed. Namita Sharma suggested that a group of Republicans could come to a meeting and vote in a Republican

Renewal of Lease in our Current Space

- We need to decide on whether we renew our lease for 2021. There have been discussions because we won't be using this as much in an off year.
- Ken Hosner suggested that the office location makes the party very visible.
- We currently pay \$1400/month. Margy has approached our landlord about a rent reduction.
- Kelly Doyle also suggested that we have a satellite office potentially on the northside. Bill Reeves agreed.
- Namita Sharma called the question. Second Mark Miller. 43 yes; 2 no. Motion carries to call the question.
- Mariah Phelps stated that the Executive Committee is recommending that we renew the lease for the space. 43 yes; 3 no; Motion carries to lease our office for 2021.

Budget

- Margy stated that the Executive Committee recommends the proposed budget. 42 yes; 0 no; Budget passes.
- Meredith Place stated that there was no money earmarked for fundraising. Margy said that postage and printing costs for fundraising were included. We usually have the Brown, Todd, Wolpe event in the off year. This is generally a cost of \$7,000 to 10,000 for a return of \$30,000 approximately. She also said there were some line items such as canvassers and campaigns are not needed this year.
- Paul Clements moved that the new Executive Committee appoint a committee to develop a job description and contract for the new Chair. Second Zac Bauer. Motion carries.

Offices

Chair

- Namita Sharma nominates Mariah Phelps for Chair of the KCDP. Vince Lavieri seconded.
- Mark Miller moved to close nominations and vote by acclamation to approve Mariah Phelps as Chair.
- Mariah Phelps elected as Chair.

Vice Chair

- Kelly Doyle nominates Marshall Kilgore as Vice Chair. Keisha Dickason second.
- Mark Miller moved to close nominations and vote by acclamation to approve Marshall Kilgore as Vice Chair. Second John Taylor. Motion carries.
- Marshalls Kilgore elected as Vice Chair.

Second Vice Chair

- Meredith Place nominated Ken Willcutt as Second Vice Chair. Second Zac Bauer.
- Mark Miller moved to close nominations and vote by acclamation to approve Ken Will cut as 2nd Vice Chair. Motion passed but not unanimously.
- Ken Willcutt elected Second Vice Chair.

Treasurer

- Namita Sharma nominated Nicky Leigh as Treasurer. Second Dusty Farmer.
- Mark Miller moved to close nominations and vote by acclamation to approve Nicky Leigh as treasurer. Second Julie Rogers. Motion carries.
- Nicky Leigh elected Treasurer.

Recording Secretary

- Mariah Phelps nominated Wendy Flora as Recording Secretary. Second Cory King.

- Mark Miller moved to close nominations and elect Wendy Flora as Recording Secretary by acclamation. Second Thomas Whitener. Motion carries.
- Wendy Flora elected Recording Secretary.

Trustees

- Trustees are automatic members of the Finance Committee. Monteze Morales nominated Tami Rey, Shardae Chambers and Paul Clements as a slate of Trustees. Jeff Parsons second.
- Tracy Hall nominated Zac Bauer. Second Kelly Doyle.
- Anthony Bates nominated Meg Whitener. Thomas Whitener second.
- Kelly Doyle suggested that all of these folks be nominated, and we have five trustees rather than four. Meredith Place agreed.
- John Taylor moved to nominate Tami Rey, Shardae Chambers, Paul Clements, Zac Bauer as Trustees and Meg Whitener as alternate trustee with the same duties as trustees. This was removed as there was already a motion on the table.
- Zac Bauer asked to join the slate of Trustees. This was accepted. The amended slate is Tami Rey, Shardae Chambers, Paul Clements and Zac Bauer.
- Cheri Bell moved to Call the Question. This motion passed.
- Namita nominated Meg Whitener as an alternate Trustee with the same powers as a Trustee. Second John Taylor. Motion carries.

Announcements

- Dana Nessel will be speaking at 5:30 for our January meeting.
- United Rural Democrats is a new organization nationally. We will have them speak at another meeting. Unitedruraldemocrats.org and [@rural_united](https://twitter.com/rural_united)
- Barb Hammon is getting her Covid Vaccination on Monday. Please get your vaccines once available.
- Cory King thanked everyone who was on the past Executive Committee.