



Meeting Minutes
SANDERS COUNTY DEMOCRATS
Second Quarter Meeting
APRIL 18, 2021
DRAFT

Members Present: Melinda Ferrell, Daisy Carlsmith, Debra Achatz, Weylin Achatz, Ellen Childress, Diane Hernon, Mike Hernon, Karen Thorson, Debbie Lyman, Dave Lyman, Janet Linde, Bev Brumbaugh, Donna Maughlin, Dave Coupal, JoAnn Coupal, Kathi Slora, Jim Nash, Charles Bickenheuser, Diane Bickenheuser, Patty Morris, Mark Sheets, Colleen Hinds, Lynn Bierwagen, Mary Whitsett

Also Present: Monica Tranel

Call to Order: Melinda Ferrell called the meeting to order at 2:38 p.m.

Special Guest: Monica Tranel, 2020 PSC#4 candidate attended and spoke about worrisome bills in the Montana legislature as well as hopeful changes at the National level. John Thorson asked about reapportionment and when we would learn about redistricting and whether or not Montana would have a 2nd US Representative. Monica said that census results might be out in September and that redistricting needs to take place within 90 days after that. They need the census block and probably in September. Then they can do redistricting within 90 days. Probably by the end of the year. Redistricting commission is non-partisan in Montana for now. We should know in a week about if we are going to get a new congressional seat. Monica says to LIFT each other up and find joy even though this is not the Montana she grew up in and loved. She left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Minutes** from January 17, 2021
The January Minutes were approved as presented by **(M/S/C Donna Maughlin, John Thorson)** accepted by acclamation.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Diane Hernon, our new SCDem Treasurer presented an itemized accounting. Report accepted by acclamation. **(M/S/C John Thorson, S Ellen Childress)**
- **“Mask-Up” sign campaign** (Deb Achatz)
SCDems spent \$300 to repurpose 30 campaign signs (20 single sided and 10 double sided). The Ledger did the printing. These were distributed throughout the county. There has been some (minimal) theft. We will put this on our next meeting's agenda to determine if herd immunity is reached and take down signs. Also we can discuss how best to take credit as SCDems.
- **Membership Report** – Currently 52 members in good standing.
- **ActBlue info** (Diane) Shows we've raised \$520 from ActBlue.
- **Discussion about supporting food insecurity** (Ellen Childress)

A discussion was held about various ways food insecurity is addressed in the county - SCCFF using food vouchers, Backpack Programs in schools operated by each school or by the umbrella program through Sanders County Public Health, and various specific needs shared with Ellen by Trout Creek and Hot Springs schools. Charlie Bickenheuser will research options that were used in Washington State and report back. Possibilities include “A Bite to Go”, working through the Food Banks, or even during Farmer's Markets over the summer. John Thorson questioned how SCDems would get recognition. Had a question: Would we get any recognition out of this other than the principal? Deb Achatz suggested having a photo in the Ledger of us giving the money to Public Health.

Motion made to donate \$250 to Sanders County Public Health **(M/S/C: Debra Achatz/Lynn Bierwagen)**. Arrangements by the Central Committee Board will be made to make that donation this coming week with a 'big check' and get that photo to the Ledger and Valley Press.

NEW BUSINESS

- Precinct Persons - ACTION ITEM

- Motion made o accept the changes and additions to the current slate:

- Precinct 1: Debra Lyman ; Dave Lyman
 - Precinct 2: Kathi Slora; Jim Nash
 - Precinct 3: Debra Achatz; Mike Hernon
 - Precinct 4: Lynn Bierwagen; Mark Sheets
 - Precinct 5: Ellen Childress; no male at this time
 - Precinct 6: Janet Linde; no male at this time
 - Precinct 7: Donna Maughlin; no male at this time
 - Precinct 8: Mary Whitsett; no male at this time
 - Precinct 9: no female or male at this time

(M/S/C John Thorson, Donna Maughlin)

- Upcoming Events

- Highway cleanup on April 24th at 10:00 a.m. Mark Sheets would like 8 people; Dave and Deb will be there. Email Mark if you are going - it takes 2 hours.
msheets@blackfoot.net Wear boots, dress for the weather, wear gloves (leather is best). Lynn Bierwagen suggested having Narcan available if possible due to drug activity.
 - In May we will have another zoom to discuss all the many details of this summer's activities including 5 parades, Huckleberry Festival, and Sanders County Fair.
 - In May or June we will have a cleanup for our Huckleberry Festival Booth and consider a quarterly meeting outside. Ellen Childress supported our continued use of Zoom meetings to lessen the travel we have to do.
Event Calendar: Please save, print, and mark the dates for these SCDem events and plan to participate.
 - Huckleberry Festival (Bev Brumbaugh) August 14 & 15 only
 - A brief report was given as to the needs and scheduling of volunteers. Bev and Erika Jaegers will be coordinating the event this year.
 - Sanders County Fair: (Melinda Ferrell). September 2 - 5. Booth fee would be \$185. Discussion held about whether this was a good use of time and money. What information would be handed out - pamphlets, business cards, possible video, sign up folks to vote, perhaps a fundraiser, opportunity to advertise what Dems do. Motion made to pay \$185 for Sanders County Fair for our August 2021 booth: **(M/S/C Janet Linde/Debra Achatz).**

- Additional Items

- Thompson Falls has a chamber of events calendar listing lots of activities throughout the county. Decided to have a Zoom meeting to discuss summer events. Best date is third week of May in the evening.

This meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m. **(M/S/C Debra Achatz/Lynn Bierwagen)**

Respectfully submitted,

Daisy Carlsmith, Secretary