

Payne County Democrats
Meeting Minutes from 8 August 2024
1002 S. Husband St., Stillwater
Snacks and socializing at 6:00pm, meeting at 6:30pm

Present at Meeting: David Copley, Julie Couch, Eileen Cravello, Sam Cypert, Bob Darcy, Florence Degler, Roy Degler, Mavonna Ellis, Carolyn Gang, Chris Garofollo, Cynthia Gedra, Alex Good, Deanna Homer, John Homer, Kathy Huston, Jim Huston, Pat Jaynes, Neal Ketchman, Gary Lanman, Pam Lanman, Pat Mullins, Roger Mullins, Lynne Murnane, Clay Ness, Gary Nicholson, Ed Noltensmeyer, Trish Ranson, MJ Seals, Doug Stevenson, Cynthia Stevenson, Elizabeth Thornton, Justin Worley, Charmaine Naidoo, Julia Reid, Dorothy Pugh, Judy Clay, Frances Escalante-Fox, Rhonda Fanning, Michelle Honeyman, Michale Pogue, Andrea Arquitt, Ed Arquitt, Genie Baumann, Christine Murthy

Officer Reports:

President's Report and announcements: Justin Worley

- Justin welcomed everyone to the new Headquarters and acknowledged the positive energy ushered in by the Harris/Walz ticket.
- Passed around the sign-up for the Payne County Fair. A good way to make contact with people and get our message out.
- Thanked all for the paper goods for our new meeting space.
- Justin pulled Precinct lists. Talked about visiting with neighbors in our precincts. He is hoping for a Blue County in the next election. Needs help cleaning up information on the Van app, so people who know people in their neighborhoods could help with that. We need to be out knocking doors and sharing our message. We can use the rack cards to help get our talking points out to our neighbors.

Finance Report: Carolyn Gang

Reported that we have various donations for the Sandy Ness Memorial Fund, and for the Headquarters. She will move the scholarship funds to a savings account. Later in this meeting, Sam Cypert and Carolyn Gang moved that the scholarship would be called the Sandy Ness Scholarship in her honor. That motion passed. We have an \$18,805.10 balance. Pins and bumper stickers will be for sale after the meeting tonight. [Link to Financial Report](#)

Secretary's Report: Cynthia Gedra

The July Meeting Minutes were approved. (Cypert, Gang)

Affirmative Action Report: Sam Cypert, Pat Mullins

- Sam introduced Trish Ranson and Robin Fuxa (in absentia since she was helping her daughter move into the dorms) to the attendees.
- The last coffee chat brought in 3 new members
- He and Justin attended the Governor Beshear dinner in OKC
- Justin and Sam are on Stillwater's LGBTQ Task Force
- OSU Civic Engagement–September 17: Register to vote

OSU College Democrats Report: Camryn Paulson

- August 21–Lights on Stillwater. Please let Camryn know if you want to help

CD3 Report: Roger Mullins–none

Committee Reports:

Communications Sam Cypert

- There are more than 324 new visits to our Facebook profile, plus new subscriptions to the Newsletter and to our Website

Budget No Report

Political Affairs Sam Cypert

- Our Chairman, Justin Worley was interviewed for his opinion regarding President Biden's stepping down from the nomination
- Thirteen school districts have declined the Secretary of Education's requirement to use the Bible in their curriculum.
- Taxpayer paid religious schools appeal to the US Supreme Court to be able to operate
- Pew survey on gun violence: 58% of Americans favor tougher gun laws.
- On July 30 Biden introduced a Code of Ethics for the Supreme Court

Community Engagement Alex Good, Camryn Paulson

- See Payne County Fair

Events Pam Lanman, Carolyn Gang

- Brayfest will be on October 10th at the Library at 6pm. There will be red beans, rice, cornbread, etc. It is meant to be a fun, social event.

Voter Engagement Jim and Kathy Huston

- Jim told us about Rosie the Riveter. The original Rosie was a Tulsa native!
- Jim reported that of 30 precincts in Payne County, 17 have no leadership. Look on the voter Portal to see which Precinct you are in and see if yours is one that has no

leader. It could be you! You could step up to visit with people in your neighborhood precinct. [Precincts needing leadership](#)

-Jim wrote an editorial for the NewsPress

Veteran Affairs Ed Noltensmeyer

-Ed is a proud enlisted Army Veteran (as is David Copley) who belongs to the American Legion 129. They will have a fundraiser Pancake Breakfast on October 19 for Boys and Girls State. Location is 611 S. Main St. Cost is \$8.00

-Credits Biden for passage of the PAC Act which helps Veterans exposed to toxic chemicals, and those suffering from "presumptive cancers" from that exposure.

-December 14 is Wreaths Across America. Ours will be at Fairlawn Cemetery at 11am.

Membership and Recruitment Lisa Bozeman

-Thanked so many people for coming to the meeting and asked that we all sign in. [Forty-eight people attended this meeting.](#)

Campaign Updates

-Camryn Paulson reported that Robin Fuxa and Trish Ranson will have a combined door-knocking day on August 24th. Robin needs drivers and Trish will be doing postcard writing. Trish does door knocking on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Check their websites for more information.

-There will be Voter drives all over town in the next month. Friday, October 11 is the last day to sign up to vote.

-August 21 is Lights on Stillwater. OSU College Dems will be there!

Discussion/Announcements

-Sign up if you want to house sit at our Headquarters

-Coffee Chat will be August 31 at 10am at the Payne County Fair booth

-The Hat was Passed for donations

-Trish Ranson announced that there are 89 days until the election

-August 25 7-9pm at Modella Gallery is an event called "Rockin' With Ranson". Red Dirt Rangers will be playing music. Wine and beer will be available.

-September 8 at 3pm at Stonecloud Taproom is "People Politics and Pints" with Trish Ranson and Uwe Gordon.

-Kamala signs will be available soon. We will announce when they are ready.

-Sam announced the OSU SU Activities Board is asking for donations of school supplies for giving out on August 22.

-Adjourn

Next meeting is Thursday, September 12th at Democratic Headquarters at 6:00pm
Respectfully Submitted by Cynthia Gedra