

Payne County Democrats
Meeting Minutes from 11 July 2024
Stillwater Public Library
Snacks and socializing at 6:00pm, meeting at 6:30pm

Present at Meeting: Gladeen Allred, Terese Bandy, Debi Bomar, Lisa Bozeman, Rita Breuninger, Eileen Cravello, Sam Cypert, Bob Darcy, Florence Degler, Roy Degler, Lin Feazle, Lucas Fenderson, Carolyn Gang, Chris Garofollo, Cynthia Gedra, Alex Good, Deanna Homer, John Homer, Jim Huston, Pat Jaynes, Neal Ketchman, Pam Lanman, Diane Lowe, Lynne Murnane, Clay Ness, Gary Nicholson, Camryn Paulson, Trish Ranson, MJ Seals, Danielle Shreve, Doug Stevenson, Cynthia Stevenson, Elizabeth Thornton, Mike Woods, Justin Worley

Officer Reports:

Chair's Report and announcements: Justin Worley reported that we had a booth at the Payne County Pride celebration, and had lots of good conversations with attendees.

Finance Report: Carolyn Gang reported that we are having a good financial year. Beginning Balance as of June 13, 2024 is \$16,879.94. [See attached report](#)

Secretary's Report: Cynthia Gedra

June minutes were amended to reflect Pass the Hat collection of \$32.00 and a \$150.00 donation in honor of Sandy Ness. Approved and passed (Gang, Cypert)

Affirmative Action Report: Sam Cypert reported that he went to a Stonewall meeting. July is Minority Mental Health month.

OSU College Democrats Report: Camryn Paulson. No report at this time

CD3 Report: Roger Mullins. No report

Committee Reports:

Communications Sam Cypert. No report

Hospitality Florence Degler needs a volunteer to bring snacks to the August 8 meeting. (This was filled at the meeting.)

Budget No Report

Political Affairs Sam Cypert reported that SCOTUS canceled the Chevron ruling. Justin clarified that the regulations are not canceled, but that they could now be challenged and overturned by a judge.

- Former US Senator Jim Inhofe passed away.
- Representative AOC introduced articles of impeachment on Supreme Court Judges Alito and Thomas.
- OK Governor Stitt approved Allisa's Law, allowing for installation of panic alarms in public schools to be used in case of emergency.
- Secretary of Education Ryan Walters is instigating a re-working of Oklahoma Social Studies Curriculum using materials from Prager U. Trish Ranson said that they are pushing for Articles of Impeachment on Ryan Walters.

Community Engagement Alex Good, Camryn Paulson

Ranson and Fuxa campaigns: dates and times were given for door knocking and Days of Action. Saturday, July 20 from 9:30-12:30 will be a day of action simultaneously for both candidates. Please see their websites for specific dates and times if you would like to help support or meet with these candidates. Find them on the Internet at:

ransonhouse34.com

robinforoklahoma.com

Pat Jaynes asked if Trish's new t-shirts and other merchandise could be available for the Payne County Fair. They will be!

Events Carolyn Gang spoke about plans so far for Brayfest. See New Business

Veteran Affairs Ed Noltensmeyer No report

Membership and Recruitment Lisa Bozeman No report. She just requested that everyone remember to please sign in on the sign-in sheet

New/Old Business

-We have several donations in honor of Sandy Ness totaling \$1,025.00 so far. Carolyn asked for ideas about how we could use the money to honor our friend and past leader of Payne County Democrats.

-Justin signed a lease for office space for PC Dems for \$1,000. per month. Address is 1002 S. Husband Street in Stillwater. It will be shared with OSU College Dems, Robin Fuxa and Trish Ranson. Please donate if you feel you can. It needs yard work. More details to come.

-Brayfest: the planning for this event has been referred to the Events committee. It will be on October 10 or 17. \$10.00 per ticket. It is a party-building event, not a fundraiser, per se. We will hear from candidates running for office, have some games and socializing. Pam Lanman, Justin Worley and Carolyn Gang will look

into food options including red beans and rice/catering. Several people from those in attendance signed up to help with this event.

-Bob Darcy wrote a statement* endorsing Joe Biden for President. There was much discussion, and at the end of discussion and debate, Bob Darcy formally made a motion to endorse Joe Biden for President. There were many seconds as we adopted his statement to be published by the Payne County Democrats. Justin will write something for county newspapers.

These are some thoughts expressed by those in attendance, as understood by myself (Cynthia Gedra):

-We should vote for the Biden team

-Kamala Harris would be a good president if she had to step in during a Biden administration.

-Could there be any changes at the DNC in Chicago?

-Justin Worley stated that the State Democratic Party supports Joe Biden and our Electoral Delegates will support him. Kamala Harris may win Biden's delegates if she is the candidate.

-Mike Woods, a delegate who is going to Chicago, said he would vote for Biden unless Biden releases him from that pledge. He would then support the candidate that Biden endorses. He is frustrated with the national media.

-Several members expressed their support of and gratitude for Biden and Harris.

-One person did not want to make a statement endorsing Joe Biden just yet.

-Several expressed frustration with the news media.

-Trish Ranson suggested that we vote for the best candidate. Vote against a bad president, such as the tactical votes that we just saw in France and England against more authoritarian candidates.

*Following is the statement passed unanimously by those present:

"The Payne County Oklahoma Democrats recognize the tremendous job President Joe Biden and his administration have done. We enthusiastically support Joe Biden's re-election as we do the entire Democratic ticket. There is much more to accomplish. President Biden's are the steady hands the nation needs."

-written by Bob Darcy 11 July 2024

Discussion/Announcements

-Coffee Chat will be at Aspen on Lakeview 10am July 27

-Motion to adjourn (Darcy, Feazle)

-Next meeting is Thursday, August 8th at our new office space located at 1002 S. Husband St. at 6:00pm. We passed the hat for donations.

-Respectfully Submitted by Cynthia Gedra