Agenda Dec 3, 2019

Johnson County Democratic Party Meeting
Dec 3, 2019
Agenda

7:00 p.m. Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Sign in sheet and introductions
7:05 p.m. Reports
- Secretary's presentation of the minutes of the last meeting (https://jcdemswyo.org/2019/11/minutes-nov-5th-2019/)
- Treasurer's summary of financial activity.
- Announcements from the Chair. (Joe's email. Sarah's request)

7:15 p.m. New Business:
- Motion to form Primary Election committee

Old business
- Video(s) about Ranked Choice Voting (a.k.a. Instant Runoff Voting)
- Followup on January event
  - motion to send invitation in most time efficient manner, or motion to hand-address invitation
  - motion to create list of activities for the event
- Donation to College/Civic Center (motion to donate a particular dollar amount)

Announcements from the floor
- Better Angels

7:40 p.m. Adjourn & Announce next meeting

Minutes Nov. 5th, 2019

JC Dems Minutes – Nov. 5, 2019
In Attendance: Greg Haas (C), Lois Petersen (S), Jim Shell (T), Bill McIntyre, Joanie Taylor, Mary VanAuken, Frank Pratt, Kaye McCormick, Bob Day and Kathie Day

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Started meeting with a phone conversation with Judith da Silva and Kevin Delaney. Kevin is with the National Organization Team for the Elizabeth Warren campaign and Judith is a volunteer organizer. Both are recruiting community leaders and volunteers to help support the Warren campaign. How to get more info from that campaign will be shared via the jc dems email list.

Oct. 1 minutes were approved as written: (Bill, Kathy)
Treasurer's report: We currently have $2032.83 in our account.

Announcements:
The state party appointed Jeff Dockter (previously ran for State Auditor) as WDP treasurer.
Greg will show a video about how rank voting works at our next meeting. We will also discuss location and start planning for the upcoming caucus at the Dec. mtg.

Lois proposed setting up a New Year's Gathering of JC Democrats to be held on Sun., Jan. 26 at 1 pm as a way to bring fellow Democrats together to discuss issues, get to know one another and combat the feeling of political isolation. Joanie moved, Mary seconded that we proceed with plans for the gathering. Approved. Motion made/approved (Bill, Kathy) to spend up to $200 in support of this effort.

Lois spoke about Better Angels and the Sheridan meeting she attended pertaining to this group. She passed out information

about the organization and specifics related to an upcoming workshop scheduled for Nov. 21 in Sheridan. To register for the workshop, please go to: https://www.better-angels.org/event/depolarizing-within-workshop-sheridan-wy/

Jim Shell suggested we consider making a donation to Sheridan Community College in appreciation for free use of the classroom for our monthly meetings. Further discussion at our next meeting.

Next meeting will be Tues, Dec. 3 at 7 pm, Room 108, Bomber Mountain Center
Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Agenda Nov 5, 2019

Johnson County Democratic Party Meeting
Nov 5, 2019
Agenda

7:00 p.m. Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Sign in sheet and introductions

7:05 p.m. Reports
Secretary's presentation of the minutes of the last meeting. (https://jcdemswyo.org/2019/10/minutes-october-1-2019/)
Treasurer's summary of financial activity.
Announcements from the Chair.

7:15 p.m. New Business:

Guest Kevin Delaney via telephone from Warren Campaign. Intro, Talk, Q & A

Lois will move that Dems gather in early Jan. as a way to get to know each other.

Old business
Followup on tri-county training.
Followup on letter writing.

Announcements from the floor
Lois hopes to present some information about Better Angels.
Others.

7:40 p.m. Adjourn & Announce next meeting

Minutes October 1, 2019

JC Dems Minutes – Oct. 1, 2019
In Attendance: Greg Haas (C), Lois Petersen (S), Bill McIntyre (SCM), Joni Taylor, Will Cox, Mary VanAuken, Mike Matto, and Kathie Day (SCW)

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm
Agenda for this meeting and minutes of our Sept. 3 meeting were approved as written
Treasurer's Report: In Jim Shell's absence, Greg read the report. We have a current balance of $2048.23. Our fundraising goal is to have $4,000 raised by May 2020. Discussion about whether to publicize dollar amounts of our budget was tabled until next meeting.

Announcements:
Kendra Cross, Treasurer for the state party, has resigned. Any interested in running for that position should contact Joe Barbuto by Oct. 6.

Sarah Hunt (current Exec. Director – WDP) is willing to work toward a Tri-County (Campbell, Johnson, Sheridan) Training Session if we can come up with a topic, location suggestion and date. The topic we are interested in is Caucus Day Procedure since the caucus will run differently this year (run-off/ranked choices style). Please contact Greg right away with the date you would prefer to attend – the evening of Tues, Oct. 15 or sometime on Sat., Oct. 19.

Greg has set up a listserv that should facilitate email communication. Currently he has 61 addresses for Dems he sends our newsletter to. More information and the signup for the listserv can be found here: http://lists.jcdemswyo.org/listinfo.cgi/jcdems-jcdemswyo.org.

New business:
Letter writing: We discussed language/ideas to be used in writing to Representative Tass and Senator Kinskey asking their support of 'A Resolution Urging the WY State Legislature to Adopt Legislation to Make All County-Level Political Races Non-Partisan.' A few letters were drafted. Please write a personal letter to each of these legislators in the next few days and feel free to enclose a copy of the resolution itself, found at: https://johnson.wyodems.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/10/Resolution-County-Elections-Signed.pdf

Addresses are:
Rep. Richard Tass, 386 Crazy Woman Canyon Rd., Buffalo, WY 82834
Sen. Dave Kinskey, 614 Mountain Shadows Blvd., Sheridan, WY 82801

Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Next meeting is on Tues., Nov. 5, 2019 at 7 pm, Bomber Mountain Civic Center Room 108.

Agenda October 1, 2019

Johnson County Democratic Party Meeting
Oct 1, 2019
Agenda

7:00 p.m. Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Sign in sheet and introductions

7:05 p.m. Reports
Secretary's presentation of the minutes of the last meeting.
https://jcdemswyo.org/2019/09/minutes-september-3-2019/
Treasurer's summary of financial activity.
Announcements from the Chair.

7:10 p.m. Old Business:
Follow up on resolution story to Bulletin.
Follow up on email listserv.

7:15 p.m. New Business:
Letter content ideas and addressees
Announcements from the floor

7:25 p.m. Adjourn

** LETTER WRITING SESSION **

Minutes September 3, 2019

JC Dems Minutes – Sept. 3, 2019
In Attendance: Greg Haas (P), Jim Shell (T), Lois Petersen (S), Bob Day, and Kathie Day (SCW)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm
Agenda for this meeting and minutes of our Aug. 6th meeting were approved as written
Treasurer's Report: Jim reported a current balance of $2028.23. Jim shared a record of donations given to JC Dems through ActBlue Network. Lois will write a thank you notes.

Announcements:
Greg noted that our website domain name (jcdemswyo.org) is expiring. Payment of $15.99 was approved to renew it.
Greg updated us on the Aug. 17 meeting of the State Central Committee that took place in Lander. Three resolutions were presented and passed there:
1) RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PROVIDE THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WITH STATEHOOD AND FULL DEMOCRACY
2) A RESOLUTION REGARDING WYOMING DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES DURING THE 2020 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION CYCLES
3) A RESOLUTION URGING THE WYOMING STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT LEGISLATION TO MAKE ALL COUNTY-LEVEL POLITICAL RACES NON-PARTISAN This resolution, submitted by JC Democrats, was presented by Greg and was passed unanimously. Greg will report on this resolution and its passage at the state level to the Buffalo Bulletin. *IMPORTANT*: The Johnson County Democrats will host a letter-writing session at our next scheduled meeting

(Oct. 1st), sending information about this resolution proposal to our state legislators and asking their support for it. Please plan to come to the meeting and help with this effort.

The next State Committee Meeting will take place in February of 2020. Park County was selected as the location for the 2020 Wyoming Democratic Party (WDP) Convention taking place on Saturday, June 6, 2020 – mark your calendar.

Greg summarized other documents related to state party politics and activities sent by Joe Barbuto, WDP Chair.

Greg demonstrated Instant run-off or ranked choice voting.

New business:
We need to start conversing with fellow democrats, help people get registered to vote, and recruit precinct chairs. There was discussion about possible ways to use voter rolls for this effort.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.
Next meeting is on Tues., Oct. 1, 7:00 pm, Bomber Mountain Room 108.

Agenda September 3, 2019

Johnson County Democratic Party Meeting
Sept 3, 2019
Agenda (proposed)

7:00 p.m. Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance
Sign in sheet and introductions

7:10 p.m. Reports

- Secretary's presentation of the minutes of the last meeting.
  https://jcdemswyo.org/2019/08/minutes-august-6-2019/
- Treasurer's summary of financial activity.
- Announcements from the Chair, including reports from SCC on August 17 in Lander, WY (three resolutions, WDP, DNC, ASDC, and further discussion in New Business)

7:25 p.m. Old Business:

- Precinct Committee People – Names, Precincts

7:35 p.m. New Business:

- Discussion about objectives and planning for next several meetings, especially leading into Primary/Caucus 2020.
- Discussion time regarding ranked-choice (instant runoff) voting.
  (Chair will share a sample ballot at the meeting)

8:00 p.m. Adjournment

State Party Adopts Similar Resolution as JC Dems

For the record, here's a copy of the resolution passed by the WDP State Central Committee in 2019.

Click link for WDP PDF –> Resolution Urging Non-Partisan County Races

Click link for JCDems PDF –> Resolution-County-Elections-Signed

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Minutes August 6, 2019

JC Dems Minutes – Aug. 6, 2019
In Attendance: Greg Haas (C), Jim Shell (T), Lois Petersen (S), Bob Day, Bill McIntyre (SCM), John O'Laughlin, and Kathie Day (SCW)

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm
Agenda for this meeting and minutes of our July 2nd meeting were approved as written
Treasurer's Report: Jim reported a current balance of $1897.80. Forms to update bank signature cards have been signed and Jim will return them to the bank.

Announcements:
Greg shared news of the loss of two special young men. Shawn Cox, son of Carol and Will Cox, and Patrick McCormick, the son of Kay and Jim McCormick, both died suddenly this past month. A celebration of Shawn's life will be held at 10 am on Sat., Aug. 10th at the Big Horn Baptist Church. Donations in Shawn's memory can be made to the Donor Alliance for Organ and Tissue Donations, 200 Spruce St., Suite 200, Denver, CO 80230. A celebration of life for Patrick will be held at the American Legion Hall in Buffalo from 5-7 pm on Friday, Aug. 16th. We share the sorrow of these losses.

The resolution developed by JC Dems, asking the legislature to enact legislation to make all county level political races non-partisan, has been submitted to the State Party, was enhanced by Joe Barbuto, and the new version was read and approved at tonight's meeting and will be introduced at the Aug. 16th-17th meeting of the WDP. Greg Haas, and possibly Bill McIntyre, plan to attend the state meeting to present and defend the resolution. They will be able to vote and, if supplied the proper forms from Carol Cox and Kathie Day who, by office, are eligible to vote, be able to vote in proxy for them if they are not able to attend in person.

There was a discussion about Precinct Committeemen. As a result, Greg appointed John O'Laughlin to this position in the 04-08 precinct and Bill McIntyre to the position for Kaycee.

Greg projected a list of names of those registered as Democrats in Johnson County both pre and post the 2016 election. There was a net loss of 36 from pre to post since some Democrats changed their affiliation in order to be able to vote for county position candidates. He will supply us with access to that list and has asked each of us to select a number of names of those who switched affiliation that we will reach out to and invite back into Democrat affiliation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05. Next meeting is on Tues., Sept. 3, 7 pm, Bomber Mountain Room 108.

Local Elections Should Be Non-Partisan

Regarding the partisan nature of county elections in Wyoming, JC Dems passed the following on second and final reading July 2, 2019:

WHEREAS hundreds, if not thousands of voters, without switching party affiliation, are unable to vote in Municipal and County partisan primary elections for their candidate of choice and,

WHEREAS partisan primaries and “party switching” creates significant increases in record keeping for election officials and,

WHEREAS “party switching” results in increases of costs and difficulties faced by state parties when attempting to accurately reach out to their members and,

WHEREAS “party switching” leads to inaccurate counts of party membership, especially in smaller jurisdictions and,

WHEREAS voters who change parties in order to vote in a local primary election are inadvertently locked into affecting a state-level primary race and,

WHEREAS many municipal elections in Wyoming are already non-partisan,

THEREFORE we hereby RESOLVE that the Wyoming elections statutes be amended to state that “all municipal and county elections in Wyoming” shall be non-partisan.