11/12/2019: SD7 Central Committee Meeting

Present: Chris Rubesch, Deb Taylor, Maya Maki, Carmen Schempp, Emily Nygren, Floyd Ralph, Jo Haberman, Jen McEwen, Rich Updegrove, Lavern Capan, Ron Salveson, Jocelyn Heid, Erin Dewitte, Bella Maki, Kelli Letuska, Shawn Pelletier, Dick Huddelson, Susan Willis, Helen Clanaugh

Call to Order: 6:49pm

Introductions – each person present introduced who they are and in which precinct they live.

Affirmative Action Statement: read by Rachel Frederiksen

Agenda approval: unanimously approved.

September minutes approval: Maya moves to approve, Erin 2nds – approved.

Prior to moving into elections, Rich noted that taking into consideration there was discussion before the meeting about potentially cancelling, that because the main purpose of the meeting was to fill the Affirmative Action / Outreach Officer positions – he moved that Rachel Fredricksen be nominated (since she is also already filling that position at the Duluth DFL body and has been screened before.

Deb feels that all positions (per the letter) must screen.

Chris reminded the body that all questions must be directed to the Chair, and opened the floor for nominations.

SD7 EC, party unit elections:


b. Directors: Jocelyn nominates Floyd Ralph; Rich nominates Morgan Campbell; Jen nominates Ashley Grimm; Jo Haberman nominates Luke Sharman. Ron moves that we vote for the candidates all at once, Emily 2nds; approved. Shawn 2nds all 4 nominated candidates; approved, and all elected - 1 abstention.

c. Jo nominates Shawn Pelletier for a non-female SCC alternate, Erin 2nds ; approved, 2 abstentions. Emily nominates Helen Clanaugh as a non-male SCC alternate, Erin 2nds ; approved, 1 abstentions. Jen nominates Deanna Erickson as a non-male SCC alternate, Erin 2nds ; approved, 2 abstentions.

d. Fundraising committee chair – Gary Westorff resigned from this position; no nominations at this time.

Officer reports:

Chair, Chris – thanked all in attendance for showing up tonight and for their civility, despite current political divisions. Caucus and Convention committee planning notes. If you are interested in helping with planning, please contact Chris. (You need not be on the SD7 EC to participate in this planning.)

Vice-chair, Deb – mirrored Chris’s comments.

Treasurer, Maya – See also, emailed report from Maya with a recap of financials from Solon-Munger, plus the outgoing funds for local campaigns. End result – we are still at a healthy place financially as we get ready for caucus and convention costs. Jen asked, how much does it cost for caucus and convention? Last convention was around $6,000 (which included captioning). Deb noted typically a couple thousand for caucuses. Chris noted last caucus we just about broke even because of donations at the caucuses. Rich moves to accept report ; Kelli 2nds. Approved.

Standing subcommittees:

Communications – Jocelyn: nothing to report, but we do need to figure out how to maximize our online communications as we get closer to caucuses and conventions.
Data management: nothing to report – Shawn did have questions for the group though wondering if there is data mining that we can do from this most recent city elections, to prepare for caucuses and convention. If you have ideas, let him know and he will look into how to get this done.

Fundraising – vacant / no report

Outreach – vacant / no report

Oversight – Rich wanted to acknowledge the new voices in attendance, and feels that this is evidence of healthy and positive growth of the unit.

New Business:

NAACP Social Justice Social on December 12th @ prove gallery – Sponsorship opportunity for us. Chris would like the committee to approve a sponsorship. Jo was very happy to lend her support for this. Erin also resoundingly in support, and feels this social justice social is a great opportunity for us to develop partnerships with groups with similar values. $200 – 500 levels; Emily makes a motion that we approve the amount that purchases a table, Shawn 2nds; unanimously approved. Chris and Maya will follow up and connect with NAACP on this.

Other business:

Jo noted for our new outreach officer that there is a newly reformed GLBT coalition of congregations in the Duluth area, and she wants to pass on the information for them. She and Rachel will connect.

Shawn – for outreach and inclusion officer – wondering about the outreach and inclusion committee since it seems to have disbanded since Louisa resigned, and the few other members have not been meeting in her absence. Chris will work with Rachel on re-booting this committee.

Announcements:

Emily giving an update about Brandon’s position in CD8 – he has been doing a great job and CD8 appreciates the financial support from SD7. Emily will be doing more fundraising, and wants to make sure all know that she and Brandon are both available to answer questions prior to her ask for more funds at our next meeting.

Caucuses – February 25th 6-8pm; locations secured.

Convention – March 21st, at Lincoln Park Middle School.

7:32 pm Shawn moves to adjourn, Jo 2nds – unanimous consent.

Next meeting: December 10th, 7pm, Lincoln Park Middle School