## Faulkner Co. Democratic Party General Meeting Minutes February 4, 2019

Chair Vice Chair Parliamentarian Treasurer David Barber Christi Berry Joseph Charlson Jim Mosley Secretary Communications Chair Events & Fundraising Chair Jessica Angel Meleah Bowles Maureen Skinner

- Introduced of the new executive committee
- Approved minutes from last meeting
  - Tyler Pearson made a motion to approve minutes, Maureen Skinner seconded this motion, motion passed
- Treasurer's Report by Jim Mosley
  - CLICK HERE to view the December 2018 Treasurer Report
  - CLICK HERE to view the January 2019 Treasurer Report
- Membership numbers: 15 paid members in 2019 at the start of the meeting
  - Created an advisory committee of experienced members to guide the executive committee
    - Includes Betty Pickett, Chris McDonald, Kathryn Spinks, Julie Adkisson, and Linda Tyler
      - Advisory committee will be asked to look at drafted bylaws and decide how to proceed to establish bylaws
- Membership & fundraising goals
  - Maureen Skinner discussed goals for membership as increasing membership and diversity in membership as we grow and rebuild
  - Discussed FCDP having a presence in the community year round
  - Discussed FCDP becoming active outside Conway
  - Discussed some fundraising goals such as:
    - Having an office staffed well before the election, expanding candidate support, and being able to host many more events as well as the Donaghey Dinner
- David Barber discussed specific action items for the meetings
  - In February, we collected items for the Conway Warming Center and David Barber and Christi Berry delivered those
  - In March, we will be collecting items for the Certain Little Class Food pantry
    - Items to collect: non-perishable food, feminine hygiene products, travel hygiene products, etc.
- Tyler Pearson (JP for District 7) updated the members on the Faulkner Co. animal shelter
  - The Quorum Court has started having an extra meeting each month dedicated to the animal shelter
    - The next animal shelter meeting will be Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00pm. It will be held at the Justice Building in Courtroom A on the 4th floor
  - The biggest obstacle is how to fund operational costs
    - Operational costs are estimated at \$600,000 yearly (based on Washington Co.), while the voluntary tax typically brings in \$100,000-125,000 yearly
  - Tyler Pearson recommended calling your JP, and urging them to work toward a solution for operational costs, such as a millage increase, reallocation of county funds, etc
- The Faulkner Co. League of Women Voters has invited Donna Clawson, from the Friends of the Faulkner Co. Animal Shelter, to speak at their Feb 7 meeting
- Paid membership
  - The Democratic Party of Arkansas says to vote, one must be a member in good standing for 30 days, but the DPA does not define good standing
  - The executive committee proposed that members be in good standing and vote by paying dues with a monthly ActBlue donation of \$5/mo, given they continue to donate monthly (and can vote the 2nd month after they begin paying dues online)

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- This would benefit people by making membership dues easier on the budget and benefit FCDP by having many monthly \$5 donations that would amount to more than we currently bring in with yearly membership fees
- The body voiced some concerns, such as whether someone could be voting without ever paying the full amount
- We created a Dues Task Force assigned with ironing out details of paying membership dues online with monthly donations
  - Dues Task Force includes: Teresa Huff, Jackie Wright, Julie Adkisson, Austin Angel
  - Dues Task Force will report back in March
- Maureen Skinner voiced the idea that people could volunteer in return for their membership fees being covered
- We discussed the need for having dues payment methods detailed in bylaws
- New committees
  - David Barber defined our new committees as such:
    - Legislative Watch committee keeps us apprised of happenings down in Little Rock, bills and etc. that we need to be paying attention to.
    - <u>Outreach committee</u> this is reaching out to various groups we think need to be reached out to. Minority, socioeconomic, people who don't live in Conway, faith, youth, etc.
    - Events committee plan and organize events. Probably work with outreach when outreach thinks an event would be a good idea to reach out to particular group.
    - <u>Data and Technology committee</u> analysis of population data, research what is important to Faulkner Co voters, during election cycle will be VAN experts, also help with website updates
    - <u>Community Liaison committee</u> people who attend other meetings, like city council, school board, etc. to represent Dems and report back on issues we need to be paying attention to
    - <u>Communications committee</u> helps ensure a steady flow of info from the party back to the community. Basic responsibilities will include social posts, party messaging and "branding", grassroots communication strategies, and op-eds or blog posts.
    - <u>Fundraising committee</u> helps raise money. Works with communications, outreach, etc to find and target folks who might give, makes giving easier, works with events to do fundraising events.
    - <u>Candidate Recruiting</u> works with other committees to identify potential candidates and convinces them to run. Trains them once we have them (or arranges trainings)
  - Please sign up for committees
  - Consider who would work well on these committees, and bring them to the March meeting
- Party Like It's 1919
  - Maureen Skinner spoke about a Women's History Month social event hosted by the FCDP and the FCDW
  - Casserole Contest at the Cooperative Extension office at 844 Faulkner on March 25
  - Include a potluck, trivia, prizes, etc
- Next meeting: March 4 at 6:30 at the Faulkner Co. Library- 1900 Tyler St
- Closing tasks
  - Sign up for a committee
  - Consider people you can bring to our March meeting
- Introduced guests- thank you for coming!
- David Barber made a motion to adjourn, Jim Mosley seconded, motion passed

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Members Present:

- Jill Acree
- Julie Adkisson
- Austin Angel
- Jessica Angel
- Christi Berry
- Meleah Bowles
- Glenda Hall
- Ronnie Hall
- Rene Henderson
- LeRoy Hendricks
- Frances Hendricks
- Teresa Huff
- Judy McKnight
- Jim Mosley
- Hayden Pearce
- Tyler Pearson
- Maureen Skinner
- Kathryn Spinks