

## Faulkner Co. Democratic Party

### General Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2019

<b>Chair</b>	David Barber	<b>Secretary</b>	Jessica Angel
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Christi Berry	<b>Communications Chair</b>	Meleah Bowles
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Joseph Charlson	<b>Events &amp; Fundraising Chair</b>	Maureen Skinner
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jim Mosley		

- Meeting called to order by David Barber. Christi Berry stood in for secretary.
- Approve minutes from last meeting
  - Teresa Huff made a motion to approve minutes, Tina Haggard seconded this motion, motion passed
- 2019 goals and plans for those goals
  - Jim Mosely, Treasurer, discussed where finances have come from in the past
    - Membership fees
    - Filing fees
    - Donaghey Dinner
  - Goal to increase membership from about 50-60 to 100
  - Maureen Skinner, Events & Fundraising Chair, discussed fundraising
    - 2 T-shirts on the way, suggested donation of \$20
      - One shirt is branded, one is neutral
    - FCDP needs to be a presence in the community year round
    - Presented upcoming events
      - Party Like It's 1919 casserole contest
        - Need volunteers
        - Need entries for casserole contest
      - Mobile Activism - Postcards and Queso
  - David Barber discussed outreach
    - We need to reach out to other groups and bring people in
    - We are going to aim to have one event each month at different "investment" levels (time, money, etc...)
    - Presented [County Conversation Toolkit](#) created by Julee Jaeger
    - We need to engage throughout the county because Conway only represents about half the population of Faulkner County
- [Treasurer's report](#) and membership update by Jim Mosley
  - February Treasurer's Report
  - Paypal Account
    - Balance transferred to bank and paypal account was closed
- Maureen Skinner discussed Donaghey Dinner
  - It's usually in June, but there is no set date yet
- Crystal Certain from Certain Little Free Class Pantry at Conway High School presented on childhood food insecurity and how she is addressing it
  - In Arkansas about 24% of children suffer from food insecurity
  - Ms. Certain and her students started the pantry out of her closet and it has grown and now spread to satellite pantries on the High School campus and they partner with CAPCA to provide for students over the summer break
  - They have added hygiene products. Students can have a hard time accessing soap, shampoo, and feminine hygiene products because they are not covered by SNAP
  - The pantry is open to all and this helps to not single any students out, and to lessen the stigma of the pantry
  - The kids love getting handmade items!
  - Ms. Certain was presented with a thank you card and donations for the pantry

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- David Barber said, “This is who we are. This is the Democratic Party”
- Dues Task Force recommendations presented by Austin Angel
  - Members included Julie Adkisson, Jackie Wright, Teresa Huff, and Austin Angel
  - These are the recommendations presented
    - Keep dues at \$25 per year or \$15 per year for young democrats (under age 35)
    - After July 1, new members can join at the rate of \$15 for the remainder of the year
    - Monthly payments on ActBlue at a minimum of \$5 per month can be used to pay membership fees; once the \$25 or \$15 threshold is reached, they receive full, voting membership and are considered a member in good standing as long as they are paying
    - Establish a membership fund and accept donations to support financial assistance or allow members to sponsor new members on a volunteer basis
    - To encourage membership and donations, include tiered rewards for monthly/annual contributions, sponsorships, volunteer hours, etc....
  - A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of the Dues Task Force to allow a minimum of \$5 monthly contribution on Act Blue to pay membership fees and that a contributor would be considered a member in good standing once they had paid the \$25 or \$15
    - After discussion, Maureen Skinner made a motion to amend the motion to include the phrase, “Good standing is determined by amount paid” so that it is clear that a contributor who has paid the membership fee will be considered a member and that they will not lose their membership if they stop making monthly contributions as long as they have paid the amount of the appropriate membership fee. Jim Moseley seconded. Amendment carried by voice vote.
    - Motion carried by voice vote.
    - Membership forms and Act Blue membership accounts will be created.
- Legislative Watch report
  - No one from the committee was present, but members were referred to a list on the agenda of bills at the federal and state level
- Sign up for committees
  - Legislative Watch committee - keeps us apprised of happenings down in Little Rock, bills and etc. that we need to be paying attention to.
  - Outreach committee - 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.
  - Data and Technology committee - analysis of population data, research what is important to Faulkner Co voters, during election cycle will be VAN experts, also help with website updates
  - Community Liaison committee - 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
  - Communications committee - 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.
  - Fundraising committee - 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.

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- Candidate Recruiting - works with other committees to identify potential candidates and convinces them to run. Trains them once we have them (or arranges trainings)
- Create a Committee to form a volunteer recognition program discussed
- Create a Committee to form tiered membership discussed
- Introduced new faces. There were several new faces tonight! Thank you for coming.
- April service project will be to collect items for the Mayflower Animal Shelter: straw, dog food, towels, blankets, toys
- Christi Berry made a motion to adjourn, Maureen Skinner seconded, motion carried

#### Members Present:

- Austin Angel
- Jessica Angel
- David Barber
- Christi Berry
- Meleah Bowels
- Tina Haggard
- Glenda Hall
- LeRoy Hendricks
- Frances Hendricks
- Teresa Huff
- Jim Mosley
- Maureen Skinner
- Jackie Wright

8 Guests Present