

1 Draft Minutes of the Executive Board

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 Meeting Date: November 11, 2017

4 MEMBERS PRESENT: Bret Nilles, Valerie Smith Sam Gray, Laura Geary Bell,
5 Michael McGree, Catherine Crist, Harvey Ross

6 GUESTS: Michael Bayliss, Andrew Leonard

7 I. CALL TO ORDER :

8 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the Linn
9 County Democratic Central Committee was held on November
10 11, 2017, at the Kirkwood Linn County Regional Center in
11 Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret Nilles called the meeting to order at
12 6:33 PM, and Michael McGree, Recording Secretary, was
13 present. A quorum was present.

14 b. Candidates for Treasurer Andrew Leonard and Michael Bayliss
15 briefly introduced themselves

16 II. STANDING COMMITTEES

17 a. Finance: Financial Secretary Sarah Stutler Reporting

18 i. Ms. Stutler briefly recapped the success of the Hall of
19 Fame dinner. A few minor matters are outstanding
20 (auction items to pick up, thank you notes).

21 ii. Ms. Stutler reported that proceeds after expenses from an
22 event honoring Sen. Wally Horn hosted by Sen. Rob
23 Hogg will benefit Linn County Democrats.

24 1. Event is at the African American Museum in Cedar
25 Rapids on Friday December 1 at 5 PM

26 2. Admission is \$25

27 iii. Ms. Stutler discussed possible idea for future fundraisers

28 1. Chili Cookoff

29 2. Trivia

- 30 3. Spring fundraiser: Pigs, pies, & politics
- 31 b. Technology Committee: Committee Chair Harvey Ross
- 32 i. The Executive Board discussed the current Linn County
- 33 Democrats website:
- 34 1. Advantages and disadvantage of changing to a new
- 35 content management system
- 36 2. Efficient ways to disseminate event information
- 37 a. use of calendar on the website and possibly
- 38 on Facebook
- 39 3. Recruitment of technology committee members
- 40 c. Hospitality Committee: Committee Chair Joe Stutler reporting
- 41 i. Planning for the upcoming holiday meeting on December
- 42 6 was discussed. Mr. Stutler placed a PayPal donate
- 43 button on a website blog post to solicit donations to defray
- 44 expenses.
- 45 d. Candidate Recruitment: Second Vice Chair Sam Gray
- 46 reporting
- 47 i. Candidate recruitment for House District 95 was
- 48 discussed including names of potential candidates.
- 49 ii. The city elections were discussed. Linn County
- 50 Democrats continue to remain officially neutral in the
- 51 runoff.

52 III. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CHAIR

- 53 a. No report
- 54 b. The Chair stated that he would followup with Joy Mincey Powell
- 55 regarding her anticipated return.

56 IV. DISABILITY CHAIR: CAUCUS CHAIR CATHERINE CRIST REPORTING

- 57 a. Ms. Crist discussed the implications of a recent IDP
- 58 Constitutional Amendment authorizing electronic participation at
- 59 State Central Committee meetings
- 60 i. Logistical implications of this were discussed

- 61 b. Ms. Crist discussed accessibility guidelines for the upcoming
- 62 2018 Precinct Caucuses
- 63 i. Accessibility packages that include portable microphones,
- 64 amplifier, table lifters, and other supplies are planned to
- 65 be available for Caucus sites.

66 V. SECRETARY'S REPORT: CO-SECRETARIES LAURA GEARY BELL AND MIKE
67 MCGREE

- 68 a. Central Committee Members & Contact Detail
- 69 i. Votebuilder data shows that some Central Committee
- 70 members may not be registered as Democrats. Possible
- 71 actions to address this were discussed.
- 72 1. For now, any members not registered as Democrats
- 73 will be notified informally.

- 74 b. October meeting minutes
- 75 i. The October 11 2017 Draft Minutes of the Executive
- 76 Board of Linn County were approved as amended.
- 77 c. Laura Geary Bell discussed an extension of virus protection for
- 78 the Executive Board laptop.

79 VI. TREASURER'S REPORT: NO REPORT

- 80 a. An election to fill the vacancy in the office of Treasurer will be
- 81 held at the holiday Central Committee Meeting on December 6.
- 82 b. The Chair will notify the membership of this election.

83 VII. 2018 CAUCUS PLANNING

- 84 a. Locations
- 85 i. 1st Vice Chairperson Valerie Smith reported that all
- 86 locations for the 2018 Caucuses have been secured or
- 87 were close to being confirmed.
- 88 b. Temporary Chairs & Secretaries
- 89 i. Ms. Smith reported that about half of the Caucuses had
- 90 filled their Chair and Secretary position.
- 91 c. Training

- 92 i. Use of the January 2018 Central Committee meeting was
93 discussed. Much of this meeting will likely be devoted to
94 training.
- 95 ii. Ms. Smith reported two dates had been set for Precinct
96 Caucus training outside the Central Committee meeting:
- 97 1. January 25, 2018: Cedar Rapid Public Library
98 2. January 29, 2018: Ladd Library

99 VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- 100 a. 1st District Central Committee
- 101 i. 1st District Secretary Sandy Hockenberry had resigned
102 her office.
- 103 ii. A “Communications Team” has formed to perform the
104 functions of District communications, including Secretary.
- 105 1. Laura Geary Bell will be a part of this team
- 106 iii. 1st District will undergo a financial audit on January 20.
- 107 iv. Two new State Central Committee Members were elected
108 from 1st District:
- 109 1. Shelley Parbs
110 2. Roy Fauss
- 111 v. Linn County has been selected as the location for the
112 2018 District Convention
- 113 vi. Next State Central Committee meeting is 12/09

114 IX. NEW BUSINESS

- 115 a. Linn County Democratic Central Committee will hold a Special
116 Election for Treasurer at the holiday meeting on December 6.

117 X. ADJOURNMENT

- 118 a. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.