

**Minutes**  
**Lincoln County Democrats of Oregon**  
**General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, July 27, 2022 6:00 pm**

Chair Michael Gaskill convened the meeting at 6:02 pm.

**Picnic Update**

Chair Gaskill reminded people about the summer picnic at Beverly Beach on August 7, 12-3pm. He thanked Treasurer Wendy Girard for her taking the lead on planning the event.

There was discussion over how much to stress fundraising at the picnic and transparency around spending. Publicity and Fundraising Chair Eliot Sekuler responded that the 2022 campaign budget was presented at the previous General Meeting and that he would be happy to share the information again. Sekuler noted that the County party's support is critical to candidates that won't be receiving any other party support. Gaskill added that how the budget is spent is ultimately approved by a vote of the Lincoln County Democrats Central Committee, so expenditures are transparent. He expressed understanding of the feeling of donor fatigue.

**Budget Request for Campaign**

Sekuler presented a request for a vote to approve funding of \$2,500 to reserve prime space with Newport News-Times at a discounted rate. He clarified that the advertisements will state that the Lincoln County Democrats endorse the listed candidates. Chair Gaskill stated that he will send the request for funding to voting members via email.

Kate Kelly asked about the organization of the Lincoln City Club in relation to the Lincoln County Democrats.

Representative Gomberg asked if the same ad will be placed in the *Newport News Times* as in the *Lincoln City New-Guard*. He recommended emphasizing south county in the Newport paper and north candidates in the Lincoln City paper. Chair Gaskill encouraged anyone interested in helping with any aspect of the campaign publicity to volunteer.

There was another question about what is the best way to donate, given that there are separate Lincoln City and County party funds. Chair Gaskill explained that funds get split, but that if donors want to specify donations, they should specify their intention to Treasurer Wendy Girard.

**Update from PCP Committee**

Chair Gaskill announced that there is a newly formed PCP Committee and that there will be upcoming trainings on how to engage as a PCP in this critical election. He asked PCP's to look for emails and to contact him if they weren't received, and he invited anyone who wants to be appointed as a PCP to request to be appointed at the next General Meeting. He also asked for more help with the PCP Committee. One person asked what a person's role is as PCP and said that he hasn't seen information about what he should be doing. Chair Gaskill explained that one responsibility of a PCP is to vote on county matters as a member of the Lincoln County Democrats Central Committee, and the other is directing

voter contact, coordinating get-out-the-vote efforts, within the PCP's precinct. He went on to explain that the Democratic Party of Oregon provides access to a voter database that gives data on who is a Democrat and some details of political leanings. Chair Gaskill can provide lists to PCP's, and he can also train PCP's to access the data directly to generate their own lists. The questioner asked how to operate in an unincorporated area where going door-to-door is impractical. Another speaker commented that because the contact lists are of Democrats, he has never had any negative experience door-knocking in Lincoln City. Chair Gaskill noted that if mailing postcards is the most practical, it is up to the PCP to work as will be most effective for the precinct. There are packets being developed for PCP's to hand out. Gary Lahman said that in prior years he was given a physical printout of Democrats in his precinct and asked if they would be made available. Chair Gaskill responded that he can provide paper lists, and people can also access the application "MiniVan" so that PCP's can update information and generate their own reports.

### **Recruitment Committee**

Chair Gaskill announced that in Lincoln County there are many city council and mayor races with open seats. He encouraged everyone to help find people who might run for office, and he invited people to join the Candidate Recruitment Committee. Newport City Councilmember Cynthia Jacobi reported that she is on the committee and has been working to find people to run for open seats in Newport, including for open committee positions. She encouraged people to consider applying for local committees, which are critical for planning and which provide experience in government leadership.

### **Delegate to State Central Committee**

Chair Gaskill proposed nomination of Joanne Cummings as a primary delegate to serve as representative to the Democratic Party of Oregon's State Central Committee. A majority of members present voted in favor of the appointment.

There was discussion around the possibility of resuming in-person and hybrid meetings.

### **State Fair**

Chair Gaskill asked for volunteers to represent Lincoln County Democrats at the Oregon Democratic Party's booth at the state fair in Salem on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Update Campaign Chair for State Representative David Gomberg**

The Gomberg campaign is looking for a field chair.

### **Pow-Wow**

There was an announcement that the 2022 Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow is scheduled to take place on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Siletz Tribal Community Center. This will be a one-day social Pow-Wow for tribal members and community to attend.

### **Oregon Democratic Party Meeting of the State Central Committee (SCC)**

The Oregon Democratic Party State Central Committee meeting will be held in Eugene on August 20 & 21.

### **Lincoln City Mayor Susan Wahlke**

Lincoln City Mayor Susan Wahlke announced that she is running for reelection and there is a candidate running against her. She is helping recruit for open council seats.

### **Lincoln County Commissioner Kaety Jacobson**

Lincoln County Commissioner Kaety Jacobson thanked everyone for support for her reelection in May. She reported on the county's climate action planning efforts, including replacement of the fleet with electric vehicles and addressing water availability for households dependent on wells. Commissioner Jacobson the reported that she has been approached with questions about abortion access. She said she would be happy to discuss how the County Health Department provides services with anyone who has questions.

### **Newport City Councilmember Cynthia Jacobi**

Newport City Councilmember Cynthia Jacobi reported that she is the liaison to the county's the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. She reported that there will be a hazardous waste collection service throughout the County at various locations as well as an upcoming tire collection event.

She also reported that the City of Newport is working on its transportation system plan to help redevelop its downtown core.

### **Women's Rights and Gun Safety Rally**

Newport Indivisible is sponsoring a rally at the Newport City Hall this weekend in support of women's rights and gun safety.

One speaker requested that there be an event calendar for community events and she asked out how to connect with others at the meeting. Chair Gaskill mentioned he had been considering creating listservs or creating private Facebook groups for members. He invited volunteers to help maintain the online event calendar.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.