

DRAFT Minutes
Lincoln County Democrats of Oregon
General Meeting
Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 6:00 PM

The hybrid meeting – in which 10 attendees participated via Zoom and 14 participated in-person at the Newport Visual Arts Center – was called to order by Chair Cherie Harbour at 6:03 PM.

Candidate Statements

After making a few initial remarks, Chair Harbour yielded to candidates running for election this May.

Pat Rubin is a retired longshoreman running for Newport Port Commissioner Position 5. He believes we are losing lumber business to Coos Bay and Longview because the incumbent commissioners, all fishermen, have not followed up on opportunities and have been otherwise inactive. Moreover, he stated that they haven't been paying attention to the port's infrastructure.

Alison Baker (as represented by Diann Eckstein) is running, as the incumbent, for the Oregon Community College Board of Education Zone 6 (south of Newport). Diane mentioned Alison's experience as a member of the Surfand Homeowner's Association and of Habitat for Humanity. Alison's years of experience working in community college finance have well qualified her for this position, Dianne believes.

Measure for a Trades Education Center (not up for vote until 2024) was favorably described by Patrick O'Conner.

Elected Official Update

Kaety Jacobson (County Commissioner, Lincoln County), announced that the County is on the verge of buying land for the new animal shelter. The county is also attempting to hire consultants that can assist in obtaining funding for, for example, wildfire recovery in Otis.

Budget

Treasurer Marta West reported a balance of \$5,530.63. She indicated that it is unlikely we will spend much on this year's campaigns, although some funds has been set aside for that purpose. She and Chair Harbour then highlighted certain features of this year's proposed budget. Noteworthy, in that respect, are the figures for projected income (\$12,000) and projected expenditures (\$15,250).

Committee Reports

Coordinated Campaign Committee (Lisa Spence-Bunnett) announced that 12 to 14 precinct chairs attended their March 16 meeting. At that meeting, they discussed the updated Precinct Committee Chair (PCP) handbook. Other issues identified by attendees at that meeting included

miniVAN training, candidate talking points, and precinct maps. Lisa also mentioned that a survey has been distributed to all PCPs that was designed to identify their past experiences in that capacity and the type of support they most need. Ballots for this year's May elections will be mailed on April 26, so most PCP campaign activity will have to occur before that date. If you are interested in becoming a PCP then email Lisa at lspence.it@gmail.com.

Programming Committee (Carol Schenk) reported that our next monthly meeting will be the first held in Yachats on April 26. Doors will open at 5:30 and the meeting will commence at 6:00, in the Yachats Commons (441 Highway 101). Guest speakers are two local climate activists: Michael Allen of Florence and Maia Stout (Yachats resident and Newport High School student). A Zoom option will be made available but . . . consider carpooling!

Communications and Technology Committee (Judy Bowman) Contact Judy at jbk97367@gmail.com if you would like to join the committee.

Bylaws Revisions

Chair Harbour described the proposed revisions: 1) allowing electronic attendance at meetings, 2) creating different methods of achieving greater gender balance among the county officers, and 3) eliminating satellite clubs and developing standing regional committees. Voting (by PCPs, the county executive committee and county's elected officials) on the revisions will begin on March 29.

Announcements

Lisa Spence-Bunnett reminded the attendees of the Central Coast Humane Society's Spay-ghetti dinner that will be held on April 1, beginning at 5:00, at the Eagles Lodge in Nelscott.

Adjournment

Chair Harbour adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.