

Minutes

Lincoln County Democrats of Oregon

General Meeting

September 25, 2024, 6:00 PM

Visual Arts Center, Newport, Oregon

This meeting – in which all 33 attendees participated in person, as Zoom was unavailable – was called to order by Chair Cherie Harbour at 6:00 PM.

Chair Update

Chair Harbour reported that \$3200 was donated at our Holoholo luau and fund raiser. Slate cards will be sent to all Democrats and left-leaning non-affiliated voters on October 5. Our budget, after paying \$6000 for the cards mentioned above, will leave us with a balance of about \$6600.

Candidate Remarks

Claire Hall (Candidate for Lincoln County Commissioner)

Mentioned her five terms and 20 years of experience as a County Commissioner. She summarized her opponent's approach to homelessness as based on "cops, courts, and jail." In response to a question from the audience she debunked claims made by Commissioner Miller that her conduct with regard to a proposed homeless deflection center was in any way secretive or procedurally irregular. She answered another question from the audience by saying that adding an additional two county commissioners was intriguing but would be expensive. More information about Claire is available at voteclairehall.com.

Steve Hickman (Candidate for Newport City Council)

Prior to moving to Newport about four years ago, Steve was a clinical psychologist specializing in mindfulness. He doesn't have a specific agenda but instead hopes to "listen and learn" from his constituents. He would like to make Newport more attractive and described himself as a good neighbor and future oriented.

Cynthia Jacobi (Candidate for Newport City Council)

Reported that she is running unopposed for her second term and briefly mentioned her background as a clinical registered nurse anesthetist. She identified housing and child care as our biggest problems needing attention and is working toward creating a play area near the four new apartment buildings north of town by the cinema. She mentioned the dam as another priority.

Andrew Keating (Candidate for Toledo City Council)

He described Lincoln County as an interconnected group of small towns, for example, residents of Newport might work at the Georgia Pacific plant in Toledo while Toledo residents shop and work in Newport. His background is in early childhood development and he worked as a consultant in that area for the state of Colorado before moving to Toledo one and a half years ago. He went on to say that his priorities are mental health, child care, and environmental/conservation issues. He is currently a member of Toledo's budget commission and will be one of four candidates vying for the three available seats on the city council.

Neighborhood Leader Program (Elissa Wilson)

Reported that there were 18 Neighborhood Leaders in the primary in May and there are 46 now. The goal of the program is to reach 2000 voters in 1600 houses. Intensive VAN training is now taking place in preparation.

State Central Committee (Brian Bunnnett, Delegate)

Described his impressions, largely unfavorable, of the recent quarterly meeting of the SCC in Eugene on September 22. He found the event to be rancorous, poorly organized, and curiously detached from an imminent and crucial presidential election. Lincoln County delegate JoAnn Cummings touted the DPO booth at the state fair and encouraged everyone to give staffing it a try.

Announcement

Lincoln County Democrats will have a booth at the Senior Fair, on October 1, at the Chinook Winds Casino.

Adjournment

Chair Harbour adjourned the meeting at 6:55.