

**Cass County Democrats
Officers Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2024**

Attendance

Sarah Slattery, Chair
Jayden Speed, Vice Chair
Brandy Jordan, Treasurer
Wendy Callahan, Secretary

New Business

1. Community Events – we have plans to attend the following events in Cass County:
 - a. June 29 – Limestone Days in Weeping Water
 - b. July 4 – Freedom Festival in Murray
 - c. July 19-21 – Dynamite Pete Days in Louisville (Jayden working on contacting person re: table/booth)
 - d. August 7-10 – Cass County Fair at County Fairgrounds
 - e. August 17 – Pillage the Village in Manley
 - f. September 5-8 – Plattsmouth Harvest Festival
 - g. September 28 – Weeping Water fall festival (last Saturday in September annually; confirm date); \$25-30 to participate per Suzanne Oliver
 - h. Items need for booths and parades include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Banner
 - ii. Wagon
 - iii. Candy, bottled water and/or freezer pops (remember scissors) are great treats to hand out (5lbs of Sweet Tarts donated by Wendy)
 - iv. Donkeys
 - v. Canopy
 - vi. Literature
 - vii. SWAG
 - viii. Vehicle
 - ix. Volunteers to work the booth and/or walk in parade
 1. Determine parade route and time, especially for summer events, and provide to volunteers so they can determine if that is a safe event for them to attend (health concerns, heat, etc.).
 - x. Need to see if we can get some items from Nebraska State Democrats

- xi. Maggie Douglas, Carol Blood and/or Preston Love may join us for events, walk together in parades, etc.
 - i. Recruit volunteers during Debate Watch Party
 - i. Request items from NDP for our party events, such as auction items, i.e. t-shirts (happy to take older items!)
2. Fundraising
- a. Some of Lancaster County is included in LD2 and should help us with fundraising, since we have some shared candidates
 - b. Unions – IBW, Carpenter’s Union, Farmer’s Union, etc. can all help with fundraising or providing things we need
 - c. In-kind donations are welcome. Examples of useful non-monetary donations include:
 - i. Host an event/provide space
 - ii. Stamps/thank you cards
 - iii. Parade candy/water/fans
 - iv. Items we can auction
 - v. Food/catering/plates/drinks for events
 - d. Reach out to national organizations/PACs for donations/grants
 - i. Dirt Road Democrats
 - ii. United Rural Democrats
 - iii. National Democratic Party
 - e. ActBlue – ways we can utilize it
 - i. Allows multiple forms
 - ii. What about creating a 2024 voter outreach fund/24 donors in 24?
 - iii. Prize-drawing for t-shirt if we hit 24?
3. Meetings & Events Planned
- a. June 27 – Debate Watch Party; we will also emphasize fundraising, donation and volunteer needs
 - i. Menu to include complimentary Cheetos and ice cream; hot dogs and popcorn will be available for sale
 - ii. Bingo cards – pay to play; provide a prize for the winner
 - iii. Emphasize what we’ve already done over the past month since being elected to county party leadership and what we want to do
 - 1. We need funds to work!

2. No funds? No problem! We take in-kind donations and volunteers! (“Time, talent, treasure.”)
 - iv. Speaker for watch party? Cavanaugh or Frederickson are first choices. If not, perhaps Conrad, Day, Pansing-Brooks, Morfeld, or Hunt.
 - v. Recruit volunteers for Limestone Days, Freedom Festival and County Fair using sign-up sheets and Mobilize
 - vi. Use sign-up sheets to gauge interest in book club
 - vii. Jayden will create phone bank in VAN for us to invite people to events
 - viii. Will start using Mobilize for events
 1. Any way to link/sync all calendars – Facebook events, Mobilize, website, Google calendars, etc.?
4. Voter Education & Turn-Out
 - a. Republicans are BAD FOR YOU!
 - b. Emphasize the harmful, detrimental bills passed by our legislature.
5. Treasurer’s Report – Brandy’s discussion with Gina Frank, NDP Outreach Director
 - a. Keep doing fundraising links to our ActBlue
 - b. If we are at the Nebraska State Fair for one day (August 23-September 2), we can get a \$300 grant from the NDP
 - c. Possibly can get a grant for the Debate Watch Party?
 - d. Have donation jar at petition signing events
 - i. Also noted we don’t do this at our regular meetings/events, and should, with ActBlue QR code attached!
 - e. Possibly can get a grant for a State of the Union Watch Party?
 - f. We should be on the state party listserv now (or shortly) (*received emails adding us during our meeting*)
 - g. NDP is holding social media training via Zoom on June 30 – we should participate
 - h. Party has mass mailing permit that we can utilize
 - i. We get a \$250 text grant, already granted. 1c for 200 characters. Per Gina we have 90% left, however we’ve never used this. Jayden will call Gina on this.
 - j. Should be able to do everything we need via “dashboard”.
 - k. Keep posting to social media
6. Schedule next meeting of officers
 - a. Hold meetings monthly, in-person when possible

Old Business

There was no old business, as this was our first meeting.

Action Items

Sarah

1. Request parade items and any needed literature from NDP.
2. Prepare food for Debate Watch Party.
3. Print bingo cards for Debate Watch Party.
4. ~~Add Debate Watch Party to Mobilize.~~ Done.

Jayden

1. Schedule speaker for Debate Watch Party.
2. Create phone/text bank in VAN to invite people to upcoming meetings, starting with the Debate Watch Party.
3. Determine Limestone Days parade route/timing.
4. Contact appropriate person for booth/table at Dynamite Pete Days.
5. Create phone/text bank in VAN to invite people to upcoming meetings, starting with the Debate Watch Party.
6. Call Gina regarding text grant. She told Brandy 90% remains, but we haven't utilized any of it, as far as we know.
7. Ask Gina what the "dashboard" is that she referenced with Brandy.
8. ~~Create special ActBlue fundraiser.~~ Done. "Rural Victory Fund" is active!

Brandy

1. Prepare donation jar and ActBlue QR code to use at all events.
2. Meet with Jim to transfer treasurer and account information.
3. Set up P.O. Box to utilize as public address for county party.

Wendy

1. ~~Send out fundraising email with new fundraiser.~~ Done.
2. ~~Provide receipt to Brandy for candy donation.~~ Done.
3. Order Thank You cards (discussed post-meeting) and provide receipt to Brandy.
4. Prepare auction item donation ("Suffrage Act Proclaimed" cross-stitch).

5. Create sign-up sheets for Limestone Days, Freedom Festival and County Fair for the Debate Watch Party and future meetings as applicable.
6. Add events to Mobilize for online sign-ups.
7. Create sign-up sheet to gauge interest in book club.
8. ~~Ask Kevin at Silverstones about hosting book club space.~~ Done (by both Jayden and Wendy).
 - a. Per Kevin, he's okay with it, provided we order books through him.
 - b. We may also be able to utilize the Plattsmouth Public Library auditorium or sitting area; we can always check with Karen Mier.
9. Prepare agenda for next meeting (TBD).

All

1. Prepare list of the harmful, detrimental bills passed by our legislature as part of voter education. Discuss at next meeting as part of strategy to encourage voter turnout.
2. Attend Social Media Training via Zoom on June 30, if possible (Wendy is registered)