

Senate District 34 DFL Planning Meeting Minutes,
Tuesday, April 4, 2017
Maple Grove Community Center, Maple Grove, MN

Present: Nancy Meyerhoff, Karl Reinhard, Kyle Tonn, Lee Carlson, Amy Van Schepen, Bonnie Westlin, Kristin Bahner, Kristy Janigo, Matt Crea, Chris Stroman, Erin Osborne, Chris Evans, Caroll Holmstrom, Michael Vogel, John Stearns, John Hall, Andrew Zenk, Elsa Leven, Mark Gortze, Andrea Gortze, Kevin Anderson, Georgiana Ruzich, Mara Holmstrom

1. Call to Order

Nancy Meyerhoff called meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Body recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Minute of last meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of March 7, 2017 were tabled until the next meeting. We will get the posted on the website. Motion to put them on the Website. Seconded. Passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lee: As of March 31, 2017 - \$2334.40 in the bank – there are four \$25 from Luxembourg on our account. I will be speaking with our banker tomorrow.

Nancy: If anyone is interested in apprenticing, let me know. We want people to back up these positions so we have experienced people moving on.

John Hall (IBEW): Presented a check to SD 34 DFL in the amount of \$500.

5. Old Business

a. Election of State Central Committee Member

Nancy did not receive any interest in someone becoming a State Central Committee Member. Amy has expressed interest this evening.

We have two male alternate positions open.

There are two to three meetings a year. The DFL does not know when the next meeting will be.

Amy will look up to whether an alternate moves up, or if a person is elected.

Kyle: I believe we bump the first alternate up and elect another alternate.

Nancy: I will contact Deb Norgaard, who is the first alternate.

Kyle and Kevin expressed interest in the male alternates.

We will post this for election at the next meeting.

b. Fundraiser at OMNI Brewery

i. May 16

ii. Erin Osborne and Amy Van Schepen

Erin: Tuesday, May 16 at Omni Brewing from 6 – 8 pm in the Community Room.

We are hoping to have an email blast and on Facebook.
\$10 admission includes food – does not include beer.

Amy: We had to put down a \$100 deposit; we get back at the end of the part if enough beer is bought. Food will be light appetizers.

We had not thought about sponsorship levels, but we will consider that.

Erin: we will try to send out a postcard to people who attended the caucuses – we are working out the costs.

c. Precinct Listening Sessions

Nancy: Are we going to want to send postcards for these as well?

Can the two things be combined?

Amy: we would have to print special ones for each district. We could add a link to the website. We have 75 Facebook followers and about 500 emails we email to regularly.

Nancy: The state can send robo calls as well. Maybe we can do that for each.

The purpose of the Precinct meetings is to get the Democrats together and getting to know each other. Second is to listen to people – a lot of people are not happy with the party. Why are you in the party, what is working, what do we need to do different.

Lee: Personal contact is the best way. If you have one person in each precinct and give them a list of strong and leaning Democrats and have them call them.

Nancy: Quite a few of our precincts don't have a chair. I sent out a note to those who are today. If you know someone, let me know and I can start contacting him or her.

We have two people interested in hosting so far. If we can't find anyone, I am willing to host some at the Library for some of him or her.

*Maybe even at a coffee shop that is more local to the area.

Nancy: I would like to get those done sometime this month – so we have data and we can start planning what we want to do and make budget plans.

We can also offer the hosts that someone from the Central Committee will come and help by gathering the data.

So how much do we want to spend on promoting these items (Fundraising and Precinct Meetings)?

Motion to allocate up to \$20 per month for social media advertised for the events we are sponsoring. Seconded.

Discussion: How many people are we expecting at these events – then you can talk about how much you are going to spend.

To be fair it is going to be hard to predict with the change in political climate.

*Don't call it a fundraiser, call it some other thing; people are being tired of being asked for money.

Motion to amend the motion to spend \$20 per month on social advertising for the next four months. Seconded.

Motion to amend to three months. Seconded. Passed.

Motion Passed with up to four months.

Amy: Limit the postcards to large events, not the Precinct Sessions – those should be phone calls or emails.

Question: How many postcards are we thinking?

Kyle: that is the wrong question – there are many different ways to decide whom to send the cards to. We haven't done postcards in the past for events; we have only done them for the caucuses.

Nancy: We could hand things out at our Precinct Listening Sessions.

Motion to not set a budget for postcards.

A motion is not needed if we don't do anything.

d. Parades and Business Expo

Amy: Our first parade is in Rogers, Sat June 24 line-up at 9:30, should be done by 1 p.m. – there is a fee of \$100, but it can be waived if you become a sponsor – no info yet.

Next Parade is the Maple Grove Parade, the Thursday after the 4th of July. I don't have info on costs yet; it is always different for political units.

Bonnie – it is \$175 for political units for the shorten route.

Amy: the Expo is July 15 from 10 to 4. Someone has to be at the booth all the time. The smallest booth size is \$100 - \$10 per table and \$10 for electricity. We can bring our own table.

Lee: I am questioning if the parade is worth the \$175 – you mostly giving stickers to children. Would be better to get people to the Fundraiser and talk to them.

Nancy: What does it look like if the Republicans march and we don't have a presence?

Amy: We can request the DFL bus if it is available – it doesn't cost anything.

*Can we carry signs what we stand for?

Lee: I have a box of T-shirts (about 50) that have never be used. How about a group a people comes up with a plan.

Motion to allocate the following \$175 for the Maple Grove parade and \$100 for the Expo. Seconded. Passed.

Bonnie: I think we should have a presence in Rogers.

Motion to allocate \$100 for the Rogers Parade. Seconded. Passed.

6. **New Business**

a. Meeting Dates and Places

Some people can't meet Tuesdays, some can't do Thursdays; does anyone have suggestions.

Suggestion: how about every other month.

Motion to let Nancy decide whether Tuesday or Thursday would be better each time.

Suggestion is to also have meetings in Rogers, Dayton and Osseo. I need suggestions as to where we could meet in those areas.

We are scheduled for May 2nd and we will leave that at this point. Put then look at scheduling in the other locations.

b. Presence at listening tour in Rogers

Eric Paulson is invited. First meeting is April 17th in Rogers at 7 p.m in the Community Room. Since this is in our District, some of us should show up.

There is also one on April 18th at the Ridgedale Library.

There is also one on April 19th. See announcements below.

c. Science March at the State Capitol

April 22nd from 10 to 2 p.m. If interested put your name on the sign-up sheet.

d. Summer Picnic

Thinking about this, may want to find a location now as they go quickly.
Suggestion of going to Fish Lake Park Reserve.

Amy is looking into reserving the space – later in the summer – late July
or early August.

e. Connections to other groups

Indivisible—Chris Evans

Indivisible CD 3 is focused on Eric Paulson's failure to represent the district. They have been generating phone calls to his staff; they try to meet with him regularly.

I am looking for people in this area to try the same tactics with our local state reps.

Indivisible—Brett Maxson

Stand Up Minnesota—North Metro—Jessica Bullock DFA

OFA (Organizing for Action)

DFA (Democracy for America)

Meeting this Thursday at 7 pm at the MG Library – limited space,
eight are signed up so far and I have room for 15.

Swing Left—Samantha Anders

Minnesota Neighborhood Organizing for Change

African Immigrant Services

Sierra Club-North Star Chapter

Northwest Metro Climate Action

IBEW – John Hall

ED MN

Run For Something

Focused on getting young progressives to run (35 and under), who are willing to run for smaller positions.

We are looking for contacts with these groups to develop relationships with them.

7. **Announcements**

a. DCCU

They are having a training program. Nancy has a link if you are interested in this.

b. Tax March April 15 11:00 at State Capitol

c. Listening Tour 4/17 Civics Steve Cwodzinski, Rogers Community Room 7:00

d. 4/18 Health Care Andy Slavitt South Shore Community Senior Center, Excelsior 7:00

e. 4/19 Immigration Linus Chan, Ridgedale Library 7:00

f. Indivisible—Chris Evans Brett Maxson

g. Camp Wellstone Training in July

- i. For Candidates, Campaign workers and organizers
- ii. No specific date yet.

Nancy: Reminder to sign up for activities at the front.

8. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:37.

-----Minutes not official until approved-----

Karl Reinhard, Recording Secretary
Senate District 34 DFL