

Missouri Democratic Party
MINUTES 11/9/2019

1:24 Rev. Gray calls meeting to order. Attendees say the pledge of allegiance. Gray welcomes everyone to the meeting and apologizes for the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, mentions that they are actively recruiting candidates. Says the executive meeting went well. Jokes that there was a resolution wherein no one may bother him. Mentions the Local Leaders Retreat, asks for conciseness in reports.

1:26 Andrew Storey calls roll. Shirley Mata is introduced as the new state committee member from Clay County. Brett Cline is introduced as the new Senate 2 member by proxy.

Quorum was met.

Rev. Gray asks for corrections/amendments to the Q3 minutes. Bob Ford moves to accept Q3 minutes. The motion is seconded and carries.

Cydney Mayfield presents the Treasurer's report. Bryan Struebig asks for clarification on interest pay. It is on a credit card. Bob Ford asks what qualifies as an uncategorized expense. Mayfield explains that it's any expense that doesn't neatly fit in an existing category. It is asked how many individual donors we have. Lauren Gepford answers 3,000 this year. Michela Skelton asks to whom/what we've donated. Gepford answers Jasper County and NARAL. Rasheen Aldridge asks where the money for the rented lease is going. Mayfield and Gepford answer the KC office and the storage unit.

Jonathan Kessler motions to accept the Treasurers' report. Amanda Kelly seconds. Accepted with a voice vote.

Joan Barry arrives.

Cydney Mayfield reads a passage about being a Democrat. Says she's honored to take on the fight with all to join Missouri blue.

Rev. Gray confirms that a vote was taken to accept the Treasurer's report. Asks for caucus/committee chairs' reports.

Rep. Quade delivers update on candidate recruitment from HVC. 82 filed. 25 leaning run. Of 25 targeted flippable districts, only 8 have candidates. Mentions that MDP Fellows over summer have compiled a contacts list. Mentions McCreery is leading the recruitment subcommittee. Mentions that Alex Johnson, field director is in attendance. Will make drives and phone calls.

Tara Logan updates on behalf of the Rural Caucus chair. Went over Rebuild Model, their statewide education initiative. Discussed platform that will appeal to what the Rural Caucus will be promoting across the state. Welcome ideas to modemruralcaucus@gmail.com

Holly Bickmeyer updates on behalf of Progressive Caucus. Offers a public and formal apology on behalf of Progressive Caucus for harm their actions have caused. Moving forward will be more mindful of seeking input and reaching out. Working on putting together a progressive summit. Needs to know if there are scheduling conflicts. Welcomes input via Shelley Hoffman. Wants party to endorse ranked choice voting and Green New Deal.

JP Johnson updates for Black Caucus. Thanks Rasheen Aldridge for his work in establishing the caucus. Discusses the establishment of caucus. Mentions that the caucus discussed the retracted resolution. Says that in the spirit of resolution it is important to have uncomfortable conversations when we mess up. Delivers statement on behalf of the Black Caucus about the feelings of its members about the resolution which led to the apology from the progressive caucus. Formally denounces the retracted resolution, emphasizing the resolution's impact on Black women. Calls on the Chair to organize a committee on diversity and inclusion.

Jim Faul updates for Labor Caucus. Another new caucus, discusses the establishment of committee. Working on a monthly newsletter and monthly meeting on bills related to labor in General Assembly. Will take votes on what is and is not considered a labor issue. Will not comment on bills that are not considered labor issues. Will take a vote on bills determined to be related to labor. Emphasizes the caucus's goal of communication and centering labor issues, including unemployment, wages, union activity, workplace treatment. Goal to be a unified voice for working people. Email missourilaborcaucus@gmail.com for involvement with labor caucus.

Sarah Crosley updates for Women's Caucus. Offers help and support to labor caucus for building caucus. Emphasizes the importance of centering sisterhood and need to create a more dynamic space for women in future meetings. Invites folks to join future meetings.

Nelson Mitten reports for candidate recruitment committee (Senate). Has recruited several prospective candidates for the 2nd district, has someone seriously considering running.

Doug Brooks updates for MDP statewide task force for establishing offices throughout the state. Committee has adopted the formal goal of opening more offices. Offers help for opening offices for the 2020 campaign season. Distributing surveys to identify areas in each congressional district that could form an office, with the ultimate goal of a paid staff person in each office. District survey is to determine existing offices and locate need for offices. Other survey is a county survey to determine the level of development county by county. Lauren sent out survey and calls were made to get data. Has had about 25% of counties respond to survey. Goal for SC members is to help obtain this data. Has a list of counties within each district that need to respond. Invites emails and calls for questions about this information.

Amanda Kelly updates for affirmative action delegate selection committee. Meeting after business meeting. Working to set up a communication plan for those who want more info on delegate selection.

Tao Weilundemo updates for IT committee. Mentions that state house candidates will get free VAN access; incumbents will be covered. Rep. Quade mentions that those challenging incumbents will have to go through HVC to obtain this access or pay regular \$500 rate. Mentions that VAN will be seeing some changes. Goes over changes in predictive modeling in VAN. Working to figure out which scores are most predictive of actual support. Working to identify folks who are unregistered who may be mobilized. Working to have this through by January with Ben, data team, and MU graduate student in statistics. Changed web hosting platform from \$1500 a year to \$50. Goes through the portal resource and how to gain access. Moving resources all to one spot in the portal. Elected officials, staff, county committees will have access. Leadership (staff, Chair) determines who gains access. Bob Ford asks how to get access. Tao answers that access can be gained by requesting access through the portal link on the website. Working with the education and training committee to get more content in the portal. Within portal, announcements are at the top and the documents themselves are in a Google Drive. Tao also mentions the Slack team and importance of communication and collaboration between meetings. Will go over Slack later. Mentions that the team is still working on building the portal. Highlights the search bar within the portal.

Amanda Kelly asks for clarification on access to these resources. Tao clarifies that access will be limited to those with a login and mentions users' ability to upload. Requests that folks have permission to distribute the information they upload.

Lauren is asked how folks can edit their contact information. Lauren clarifies that you can edit some documents or comment suggestions.

Amanda Kelly asks if some documents can be password protected. Tao clarifies that if you don't want some to access document, then it may be best not to upload it.

Genevieve Williams asks if the access is open only to electeds, Tao clarifies that access is open to anyone the leadership approves, so it will not just be upper-level folks

Bob Ford asks if there is a primary, will both candidates have access. Tao answers that yes, they will.

Tao highlights the Slack training document. The same people on the portal will have access to the slack channel. Clarifies that there are videos on the slack training page to train users in Slack.

Tao highlights the button to sign up for Slack. Lauren opens Slack and Tao explains the function of Slack. Lauren displays the signup page and the Slack interface. Tao explains that each

committee/caucus should have a channel. Tao explains that anyone can drop information in the channel so it is no longer up to Lauren to mediate information. Tao gives a brief rundown of Slack and shows how to join and create channels. Explains how to customize your profile, send messages, and browse the workspace directory. Explains that you can merge Slack with apps like Google Calendar, use Slack to create polls, etc. Lauren demonstrates poll creation. Tao explains where one can use Slack: browser, desktop app, and mobile phone app. Explains the benefit of the app over the browser so you can receive notifications. Clarifies direct messaging and mentions that this can be done for small groups as well. Mentions uses for Slack such as setting up to do lists, setting group topics, uploading files & links, using emojis, etc. Explains Slack notification customizations. Explains that one can opt to turn on notifications for mentions, use @channel to notify all in channel, use @here to notify all that are online in the channel, turn off notifications at a certain time, opt for emails from Slack, set key words, etc. Lauren demonstrates customizations for notification settings.

Tao wraps up with a reminder about training videos. Bob Ford asks if there will be a training video about the delegate selection process. Tao responds that these resources will be a platform for that information but that other committees will create it.

Rev. Gray reminds everyone to sign up for the portal. Mentions that the meeting is ahead of schedule. Delivers Jean's Chair's report. Report mentions that there is still no candidate for Lieutenant Governor. Explains Jean's call time and mentions that donations may be on the rise in the future; things are looking up. Congratulates Rep-elects Gunby and Aldridge. Closes the chair's report. Skips the Vice-Chair and ED's reports.

Rev. Gray asks for unfinished business. There is none.

Rev. Gray opens to new business. There are two appointments to be made to the executive committee, Dan Kandlbinder and Shirley Mata. Asks for discussion on these appointments. Shirley is in attendance and is asked to speak. Mary Elisabeth Dorsey asks that we move forward with nominations. There are multiple seconds. The chair recognizes Shirley Mata to speak.

Mata is active in the KC area and the UAW. Mentions that her organization under her leadership has flipped four seats, and she is excited to do more.

Shelley Hoffman asks to speak, the Chair recognizes her. Hoffman asks for the microphone. Shelley mentions that both nominees are from the UAW, and earlier nominees were tabled because they were two UAW slots. Hoffman mentions that she is voting against this motion to give more slots to other unions, particularly educators. Mentions her surprise that there are again two UAW members nominated for union slots.

Gray clarifies that the two earlier nominations were filled and then resigned. Hoffman asserts that they were never filled. Gepford says they were filled at the second quarter meeting. Skelton

mentions that her memory is consistent with Hoffman's that those seats were never filled. Gepford clarifies that there are folks on the committee not in labor seats that are members in unions including the NEA, laborers, IBEW, and others. Skelton asks if any other unions have two members representing them. Gepford clarifies that there are three seats guaranteed to union members (labor seats) but that there can be more, and there are more currently in the committee. Hoffman is again recognized. She adds that while there are other members that happen to be in unions, but these three should be split among several unions. Skelton says she didn't think her question was answered. Gepford clarifies that she cannot be certain but believes other unions only have one member each.

Motion to accept appointments is approved.

Gray introduces a motion to create an ad hoc committee to develop a code of conduct and social media policy for the State Committee created by the executive committee. Holly Bickmeyer asks if this applies only to state committee members or to all those who represent the party. Gray clarifies that right now this applies to State Committee members, Executive Members and staff. Asks for questions.

Motion to accept recommendation is approved.

Gray introduces a resolution that has been submitted to committee members. Gray reads the resolution to officially support certain ballot initiatives in the 2020 election (needs clarification). Motion to accept is made and seconded. Winston Apple, author of the resolution, speaks on the resolution. Apple mentions that this resolution was unanimously approved by a DNC committee. Argues the importance of this resolution in showing action on platform planks. Apple speaks on importance of moving toward universal health care, and electoral reform in the form of ranked-choice voting. Gray asks for questions to the author. The author receives a question about whether the platform includes ranked-choice voting. Apple clarifies that he is referring to the national Democratic platform. The author receives a question about whether the official language of his resolution has been approved by the Secretary of State. It has not. Author is asked for a response to concerns that this resolution would negatively impact the election of minority folks. Author answers that if folks vote in blocks they will be fairly represented. Nelson Mitten asks if the language in the ballot initiative would require a second vote under the Hancock amendment. Mary Elizabeth Dorsey is opposed to the resolution and states that her opposition is rooted in her understanding of the purpose of the MDP, which is to elect Democrats. States her belief that it is inappropriate to take this position as a party since members are already free to volunteer for these initiatives.

Gray closes questions. The motion is defeated.

The 2021 first quarter meeting will be January 25th at a TBD location.

Gray opens the floor to comments and announcements. The Sunrise Movement takes the floor. Amy Ramirez, co-coordinator of Springfield Sunrise Hub, speaks on the importance of acting on the climate crisis. Advocates for endorsing the Green New Deal pledge as a state party. Heather from the Columbia hub speaks on the impact of climate change on Missouri farms. Heather explains the tenets of the Green New Deal. Sean from the Springfield hub speaks. He emphasizes the popularity of the Green New Deal, citing the new Dem majority in Virginia as well as the new Dem majority in the House in 2018.

Gray asks for more announcements.

Events are announced for the coming months, including the Dec. 12 St. Louis Democrats' (city and county) Christmas Party.

Shelley Hoffman announces the 3rd Congressional district meeting last Saturday.

Joe Poor apologizes for the hurt his actions have caused and apologizes directly to Rep. Proudie.

Jamie Blair announces that the progressive caucus is giving away buttons by donation.

A coordinator for the Greater St. Louis Women's March announces that the March will take place on January 18.

Yvonne Reeves-Chong announces Veteran's Day events in her community, Waynesville, on Monday and welcomes Democrats to march with her group in the parade.

Holly Bickmeyer announces a fundraiser in Phelps County.

Gray reminds attendees of the progressive caucus' buttons.

Rev. Gray thanks attendees for participation, congratulates newly-elected exec committee members.

Meeting is adjourned.