



## **Asotin County Democrats**

Minutes of meeting June 4, 2024

At Clarkston United Methodist Church

**Meeting called to order** by chair Becky Eklund. There were 13 people attending plus a candidate for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, Patrick Miller of Cheney, Wash.

**Minutes of the May meeting** were reviewed but not approved as a couple of members asked that the minutes be revised to include more information about the process followed to approve endorsements for candidates at the group meeting May 14 and the Executive Committee meeting May 15. The chair and the secretary said they would get together and revise the minutes.

**Financial report:** No financial report.

**Candidate presentation:** Patrick Miller, a Democrat of Cheney, was at the meeting and is running for the 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District seat against incumbent Mary Dye, a Republican. He gave a presentation and then answered questions. He stayed for the entire meeting.

**Get Out The Vote postcards:** The group listened to a report on the costs of having Get Out The Vote postcards designed, printed and mailed by Printcraft Printing. The group was asked if anyone was opposed to spending the money to produce and mail postcards for both Primary and General elections, and no one raised their hand that they objected. It was reported that Printcraft Printing in Lewiston can do the design, printing and bulk mailing for 860 postcards for \$265 plus a maximum of \$283 for the postage. Group members Lorraine Nelson, Mary Shannon and Linda Bentley are working together on the postcards. Becky Eklund will get names and addresses from Votebuilders and said there may be more than 900 names on the list depending on which names are pulled. There was discussion about whether to send postcards only to registered democrats who haven't been voting, or to also include the "likely" democrats. Also discussed was which election years should be used to check on who voted when. A list of possible phrases to use on the postcards was passed around the group for members to check up to three of the phrases they preferred as a way to encourage people to vote. The phrase with the most checkmarks was "Vote like future generations are watching!"

**More from the Get Out The Vote discussion:** There was a suggestion to have a signup event to register new voters. There was another suggestion that we send postcards to newly graduating high school seniors about registering to vote. Also discussed was the power of making phone calls and knocking on doors to reach voters. No action was taken on these.

**Bylaws changes:** Two areas to be changed were reviewed. First, the group reviewed a suggested change to allow the group to endorse more than one candidate for each election.

The second suggested bylaw change is to clarify how voting works within the group. That change suggests adding “dues” to be a member in good standing to vote. When questions arose about that, it was explained the fee would be a minimal fee but enough to possibly discourage group infiltration from party outsiders. The suggested changes also define “quorum” and intend to clarify the role of the Precinct Committee Officers in voting. No action was taken and this will be on the agenda again at the July meeting.

**Vacant positions:** It was noted there are only three PCOs and 25 precincts so quite a number of PCOs are needed. Also vacant are the first and second vice chair positions. The county also has no state committee member but it was reported those positions are filled per Legislative District, not per county, and Asotin County does not need to find someone for the position.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting date was changed from July 2 to July 9 because of the proximity to the July 4 holiday and its possible effect on attendance.

**Bob Ferguson campaign:** A staffer from the campaign checked in with the group via Zoom and talked about the campaign progress and answered questions.

Minutes submitted

by Lorraine Nelson, secretary