

MINUTES
OCDP Executive Committee
Zoom Meeting
Tuesday, September 14th, 2021

Call to Order- by Chair, Jody Job at 7:09 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was held for Loretta Coleman who passed away this past week.

Roll Call, Welcome and Introductions- Roll call of officers.

Approval of the Agenda- Agenda APPROVED as posted without objection.

Approval of the Minutes- Minutes of the 8/8/2021 meeting APPROVED as posted without objection.

Chair's Report- Jody thanked the many volunteers for their participation in the latest OCDP events. Marci Welford received a special thank you from all for the extreme effort she put forth in participation and support of the Arts, Eats and Beats, as well as the Arts and Apples events. At those events 1,500 signatures were gained for Governor Whitmer. Additionally, over 100 people signed up for membership A Night School was held on how to be involved in influencing the redistricting. An emphasis was stated on the need to show up at Oakland University for the Redistricting Commission discussions. Also, noted was the need to identify democratic candidates to run in Oakland County.

Treasurer's Report- Phil Reid. Phil presented the Treasurer's report. The Treasurer's report was accepted for filing, subject to audit, without objection.

Political Organizing and Redistricting- Vaughn Derderian. Vaughn is the point person on MDP's Project 83, and has picked up other projects as well, including redistricting. Vaughn discussed the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission and the status of drawing up the redistricting maps. He noted the Commission is behind schedule due to the late receipt of the census data and their learning process.. He added a link in the Chat for members to sign up to be informed of developments regarding redistricting and to make public comments on the Commission's maps and deliberations. Vaughn stressed the need for public comments both in person and on Zoom, and that the Redistricting Commission was trying to stay independent of political influence. Oakland County is a critical component of redistricting. Efforts are being made to coordinate OCDP efforts with the MDP and relevant Congressional District parties.

Credentials Report- Director of Operations, Marci Welford. The Chair declared a quorum is present. The Credentials Report was accepted without objection.

Committee Reports-

DEI Committee- Mikal Goodman, Chair. The committee is planning on new events. They are providing new candidate training and inclusion training. Mikal stated he will be submitting the Strategic Plan request by the next day to Derryl Reed, Chair of the Strategy Planning Committee.

Community Support- Lisa Kiefer, Chair was not available for the meeting. Report Given by Valori Nicolai. The committee has assigned members of the Committee to present the Community Support document individually to all the Oakland County Democratic Clubs. A short presentation deck was developed to assist in this rollout. Additionally, a list of possible activities the Clubs could be involved in has been developed and being added too.

Finance Committee- Theresa Brooks, Chair. The finance committee met last Sunday. The committee is currently planning budget reviews for 2022 and 2023. Upcoming fundraisers include an outdoor Appetizers in the Afternoon on 9/26 at Valori Nicolai's home, and an in-person Phil Hart dinner is still being scheduled for 11/13 at the Troy Marriott. The Trunk or Treat event is still planned for 10/30.

Membership Committee- Nancy Quarles, Chair. The committee is working to increase membership. A membership appreciation is being scheduled in October.

Communications Committee- Sean Mason, Chair. Sean is the new Chair of the committee. He recently held his first meeting and has scheduled meetings for the first Monday of each month. Sean stated that the committee's social media post has reached 8,500 people and currently has 220 followers.

Strategic Planning- Derryl Reed, Chair. The Strategy Planning Committee has not received all of the requested inputs from the Committee Chairs for the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) section of the strategy document and copies of their plans for this year and the next. The deadline for these submissions has been extended to September 22nd.

Confidentiality of the information being gathered and of the Strategic Plan document development was emphasized due to possible Republican access.

An ask for membership democrat validation was requested to avert the Republican Party obtaining the Strategic Plan by possible Republican(s) posing as a Democrat(s). Emphasis was put on branding the Republican party as the party of "No"; the need for fundraising for candidates; determining the process for identifying new candidates; and the effectiveness and ineffectiveness of the Oakland County Democratic Clubs.

Women's Rights Committee- The OCDP Chair appointed Madiha Tariq to be chair of this newly formed committee. A vote was taken and Madiha was APPROVED as chair by the Executive Committee.

LGBTQIA+ Rights Committee- The OCDP Chair appointed Rolanda Kelly as chair of the newly created Women's Rights Committee. A vote was taken, and Rolanda was APPROVED as chair by the Executive Committee.

Unfinished Business-

Kim Soimsky went over the Rules and Bylaws Committee recommendation for adoption of Article VII Section 2, sub-section 12. which provides for the creation of a new African American Committee. Debate ensued.

Joseph Person moved for the closure of debate on the formation of the African American Committee. His motion was seconded. A vote was taken and 2/3rds APPROVED the closure of debate. A vote was then taken on the creation of an African American Committee, and the adoption of a new African American Committee was APPROVED by 2/3rds vote.

New Business-

There was no new business presented.

Announcements and Good & Welfare-

-The Chair introduced Sylvia deBoar. Sylvia is the DCCC representative for MI-11 and is working to help get Haley Stevens re-elected to Congress.

-Mikal Goodman thanked everyone, especially all the volunteers, and would be happy to have others join his DEI Committee. Mikal reiterated his campaign for Pontiac City Council, and asked for support.

-Brian Dunphy mentioned the Rochester Area Democratic Clubs picnic on 9/26 and welcomed participation from the meeting attendees.

Adjournment- 9:08 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Valori Nicolai, Temporary Recording Secretary