

# Minutes, Central Committee Meeting, July 18, 2023

## MFPE meeting room, 6:30 pm.

### Program

1. Secretary's report: June's report waived until next meeting
2. Treasurer's report: Ciera: (include)
3. Committee reports: Jakob discussed that this space would be used to devote to committee reports for the committees to be formed later in the meeting.
4. Precinct reports: Jakob announced that this space would be available each meeting for precinct representatives to report on activities in their precinct, starting next meeting. If precinct reps want to contact people in their precinct, they can get access to names in precincts by asking Jakob or Thai Nyguen who can pull info from the VAN
5. Report on Crossing the Divide events:
  - a. Day of Service: 74 hours were spent (not including commutes and organizing)
    - i. United Way and customers were very happy;
    - ii. Discussed continuing to do it through United Way for liability reasons, press coverage
    - iii. Consider doing an Adopt-a-Highway, 2 days (2x a year)
    - iv. Other orgs to consider partnering with: Food bank, humane society
    - v. Would be good to find one person to head up organizing Days of Service
  - b. Held v Montana
    - i. Various party members participated in witnessing the trial. We've asked the plaintiffs to discuss trial, the issues, how they organized support at some Central Committee meeting in the future.
  - c. Event coming up: Joint social event with Cascade Dems in September at the Craig Taproom
  - d. Discussion of event calendar
    - i. Weekly meetings will be held at the MT Dems HQ on Ewing St. into the future.
    - ii. Central committee meetings will be held temporarily at MFPE headquarters, but we are still looking for a permanent place to host meetings. Must have good internet connection and audio/video capabilities.
6. Discussion of swag purchases:
  - a. Discussion of new logo and banner designs.
  - b. Discussion ordering a new banner, T-shirts, and hats (to be sold to raise funds)
  - c. Discussion on swag budget vs. seed money needed for Fall Banquet
7. **Motion: Mark: Motion to set aside \$1000 as a swag budget, second: Bob**
  - a. Discussion: none
  - b. Approved by acclamation
8. Discussion of upcoming Montana State Convention
  - a. There was discussion of bylaw language that was being proposed. Participants suggested the following issues be raised at the meeting:
    - i. Ethics: Bring up the following language in discussion on ethics: "Officers shall not use their office for private gain."
    - ii. Minority inclusivity: Consider striking "equal" and maybe replace with equitable/proportional
9. Jakob presented the Central Committee meeting themes for the next year:
  - a. AUGUST: Pre-campaign organization

- b. SEPTEMBER: Candidate preparations
  - c. OCTOBER: Communications: Strategies and tools
  - d. NOVEMBER: Native American issues
  - e. DECEMBER: Holiday party
  - f. JANUARY: County / Municipal engagement
  - g. FEBRUARY: Defending our Montana Constitution
  - h. MARCH: Introducing the 2024 candidates
  - i. APRIL: Environmental allies (Earth Day)
  - j. MAY: Veterans issues and military appreciation
10. Discussion of volunteer opportunities/sign ups: Farmers Market, Stampede, Pride parade and events, Day of service, crossing the divide events.
    - a. Mark, Moffie: volunteered for Farmers Market August
    - b. Shani: volunteered for Farmers Market Sept
    - c. Consider storing everything in Kev's storage space
  11. Stampede: Shani will go early to hold down the fort. Ben, Shani, Bob,
    - a. Need 20 people to participate before we will march. Bob will organize a signup function.
    - b. Wear blue, candidates shirts, Dems shirts
    - c. Will we have signs? (Lake county dems pretty amazing. Polson July 5 - vintage car, Tester signs, bicycle built for two. Repubs had a big float.)
  12. Pride: Lots of opportunities to help out; e.g. stand outside MT Book and Toy during the Drag Story Hour; provide eyes/ears to the Gold Bar/Western after the parade.
  13. We will form a fundraising/fall banquet committee
    - a. Ciara will be chair, Jakob will make calls if someone gives him a list; Jan will help on the banquet side
    - b. Ask Sandy Luckey and Sheena to help with fundraising?
    - c. Responsibilities: Wrangle fall banquet details; raise seed money for the fall banquet;
    - d. Hit up Alan and Nancy Nicholson; the Hunters;
    - e. Look at previous COPP reports (on SIRS)
  14. We will form a Recruitment and Engagement committee
    - a. Bob to chair; Thai to help
    - b. Thai: ID levels of engagement that we want: show up; donate; volunteer; day of service,
      - i. Ask: At what level of engagement are you willing to commit to?
  15. We will form a Values and messaging subcommittee
    - a. Shani will chair, Bob will assist
    - b. Get consensus on a common values vision and message. Figure out how to hold the conversation.
    - c. "LCCDems will be the pillar central committee in Montana"
    - d. "Turn Lewis and Clark blue"
  16. President's requests:
    - a. Jakob asked LCC Dems to:
      - i. Show up to events and bring a friend.
      - ii. Give us your ideas: in person, through the website
      - iii. Make recurring donations
  17. Discussion of reimbursing delegates for registration fees for attending the Montana Democratic Convention.
    - a. Motion: Moffie; second Mark
    - b. Discussion: No payment for cocktail hour.
    - c. Motion passed by acclamation

- d. Delegates will register themselves, then request reimbursement from the Central Committee
- 18. Caucus cookout, August 20: MDLCC asked us to provide yard games for the cookout; we were asked to sponsor the event.
  - a. Can we volunteer to clean up?
  - b. Discussion of donating to the event. Questions about fundraising income, concern about cash flow. There was no motion to sponsor it, but it will be brought up next month.
- 19. New business
  - a. Tim Sheehy tried to hijack the Boulder property tax mtg. Jeff Benson asked him to leave the mtg and to go back to Minnesota.

Minutes prepared by Bob Schmitt

**Attendees**

Jakob Miles  
Bob Schmitt  
Ciara Maxwell  
Skyler Manley  
Jan Clinard  
Carol Makin  
Mark Makin  
Moffie Funk  
Ben Kuyper  
John Driscoll  
Shani Henry  
Thai Ngyuen - online