



## LCCDCC July 13, 2021 VIA ZOOM

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### Call to Order and Introductions: Tonia Bossell, Chair

- **Tonia** called the meeting to order at **7:00 PM** via Zoom and in person at MDP headquarters. Tonia welcomed all, and asked for introductions. In attendance (by Zoom identification or sign in sheet): **Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, Mark Mackin, Trent Bolger, Jan Clinard, Rep. Moffie Funk, Jacob Torgerson, Reg Hageman, Melinda Reed, Jacob Hopkins, Mayor Wilmot Collins, and Lori O'Brien** (introduced herself as a Democrat currently in Minneapolis, but soon moving back to Montana).

### Minutes and Financial:

- Secretary **Linda Beischel** submitted June minutes to the chair, who shared them in person and Zoom chat for participants to access. After attendees had time to read the minutes, they were accepted without objection.
- New Treasurer **Jacob Torgerson** reported that he had not yet received records from the previous treasurer (current balance approximately \$1900).

### Redistricting Report: Jacob Hopkins, Montana Democratic Party

- **Jacob H** ([jacob@montanademocrats.org](mailto:jacob@montanademocrats.org)) introduced himself as the Montana Democratic Party Data Director, and as staff to the Democratic representatives on the [Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission](#).
- **Jacob H.** was enthusiastic about testimony organized by Dems at the July 8 Commission meeting (“vigorous public debate”). The goal is adoption of congressional redistricting criteria for state legislative redistricting as well. Dem advocates emphasized that “competitive districts” should be a goal, to the chagrin of Republican members. In addition, Dems asked for a between-district population variation of up to 5%.
- Moffie agreed to testify in person at the July 20 meeting at 10 AM.
- **UPDATE:** Agreed criteria and goals adopted in July are at the above link.

### Speaker: Melinda Reed (for Helena City Commission)

- **Jacob T** enthusiastically introduced **Melinda** (<https://melindaforhelena.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/Melinda-for-Helena-105890591649828> . Melinda noted her experience as City manager, and that she is a working parent.
- From her website *“After years of traveling the world, I chose to call Helena home in 2013. I spent seven months last year as the Interim City Manager for Helena and learned a tremendous amount about how our city operates. Prior to that, my time serving with The Friendship Center highlighted the critical role of social services in our community and the need to ensure that our city supports all of its residents. I am running to ensure that initiatives like the Housing Trust Fund are sustained, our city water system is prioritized, and to continue efforts to move toward zero waste in Helena among other important issues”*.
- **Mayor Collins** voice his support for Melinda, as did Rep. Dunwell.
- At his request, Mayor Collins was approved for VAN access.

**Speaker: Jacob Torgerson (for HD 82)**

- **Jacob T** <https://www.facebook.com/jacobtorgersonforhd82> thanked the group for their encouragement. He has filed for HD82 (Rep. Funk is term limited). He encouraged all to sign up for his email list and contribute if possible.
- He emphasized his public school background, as well personal experience with public assistance and everyday struggles. He's running on "*Universal childcare and Pre-K, accessible and affordable housing, and fairer, more equitable tax system*".

**Deep Canvass Update: Trent Bolger**

- **Trent** is committing to knocking his precinct before our next meeting and challenged others to do so as well.
- Canvass training via Zoom is available every two weeks. Contact **Ethan Smith** ([ethan@montanademocrats.org](mailto:ethan@montanademocrats.org)) for a schedule and to sign up.
- In response to **Moffie's** question, **Trent** noted that deep canvass is likely what she already does on doors. The key is active listening. The new piece is digitizing voter responses into the VAN.

**New Business: Group**

- All were encouraged to march with LCCDCC at the Big Sky Pride Parade on Saturday July 17. Line up at 10 AM behind our banner. The group felt this provided more visibility than a Farmer's Market table that day.
- Alternate meeting venues (quiet, low or no cost) were again discussed, including the Heath, Placer lobby, staggering Ox. Tonia urged resolution by September.
- Possible FUN fundraisers include a movie at the Myrna or a drive-in. The group was encouraged to think about the future of fundraising.
- In response to a request to fill open precinct representative positions, **Reg Hageman** volunteered for precinct 17. He was accepted with thanks.

**Legislator Report: Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell**

- **Mary Ann** reported on the interim house local government committee meeting she attended today. Most bills were "bad", but Republicans did agree to join Dems in examining the impact of numerous anti local government control bills passed at the session. They also agreed to investigate the shortage of affordable housing.
- **Mary Ann** <https://www.facebook.com/MaryAnnDunwellforSD42> is running for SD42 (Senator Cohenour is term limited). **Mark** encouraged contributions (Dunwell for SD 42, PO Box 4656, Helena 59604)

The meeting was adjourned with the Chair's thanks at 8:00 PM. **Next meeting Tuesday August 10, 2021** at 7 PM in person and via Zoom. Respectfully submitted, Linda S. Beischel, secretary