

1 Draft Minutes

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 August 23, 2017 – 7:00 pm

4
5 OFFICERS PRESENT: Bret Nilles, Valerie Smith, Sam Grey. Sarah Stutler,
6 Laura Geary Bell, Michael McGree, Diane Peterson

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8 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE AUGUST 23 MEETING:

- 9 1. Motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the July 22, 2017, meeting of
10 the Linn County Democratic Central Committee as distributed was
11 moved, seconded, and carried on a voice vote.
12 2. Scott Rolland was elected Alternate Committeeperson from CR12.
13 3. Motion to approve the July 2017 Treasurer’s Report was moved,
14 seconded, and carried on a voice vote.

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16 I. CALL TO ORDER

- 17 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Linn County Democratic
18 Central Committee was held on August 23, 2017, at the
19 Hiawatha Community Center in Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret
20 Nilles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and Michael
21 McGree, Recording Secretary, was present. A quorum was
22 present.

23 II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 24 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee in a recitation of the
25 Pledge of Allegiance.
26 b. The Assembly observed a moment of silence in remembrance
27 of Norm Sterzenbach, Linn County Democratic activist. Recent
28 events in Charlottesville were also remembered.

29 III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

30 a. First time guests were recognized by the Chair and briefly
31 introduced themselves.

32 b. Elected officials and notable guests were welcomed by the
33 Chair:

34 i. Sen. Liz Mathis (Iowa State SD 34); Councilor Kay Hale
35 (Ely City Council); Swati Dandekar (US Director, Asian
36 Development Bank); Troy Price (Chair, Iowa Democratic
37 Party)

38 c. Candidates present were as follows:

39 i. Abby Finkenhour (Iowa First Congressional District);
40 Thomas Heckroth (Iowa First Congressional District);
41 Courtney Rowe (Iowa First Congressional District); Tracy
42 Ehlert (Iowa HD 20); Molly Donahue (Iowa State HD 68);
43 Scott Foens (Iowa State HD 68); Dierdra DeJear (Iowa
44 Secretary of State); Monica Vernon (Mayor, Cedar
45 Rapids); Tyler Olson (Cedar Rapids City Council); Rachel
46 Wall (Linn-Marr School Board)

47 d. Candidates for elective office present or surrogates provided
48 updates on their campaigns.

49 IV. IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIR – TROY PRICE

50 a. Iowa Democratic Party Chair Troy Price spoke to the Assembly,
51 presenting his vision for a more engaged and active Party
52 structure with emphasis on activism at the local level.

53 V. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: FINANCIAL SECRETARY SARAH STUTLER REPORTING

54 a. Ms. Stutler briefly reported on the following upcoming activities:\

55 i. Dem Good Wine Tasting (Wednesday 9/6)

56 ii. Linn County Democrats Hall of Fame Dinner (Saturday,
57 1/21)

58 1. Honorees

- 59 a. Helane Golden
- 60 b. Harvey Ross
- 61 c. Iowa State Senator Wally Horn

62 VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- 63 a. The following Alternate Committeepersons were seated:
 - 64 i. Arash Yarpezeshkan (CR09); Courtney Rowe (CR25);
 - 65 Mary Burke (TFRA); Timothy William (MR02)
- 66 b. Approval of minutes
 - 67 i. Motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the July 22, 2017,
 - 68 meeting of the Linn County Democratic Central
 - 69 Committee as distributed was moved, seconded, and
 - 70 carried on a voice vote.
- 71 c. Resignations/Nominations
 - 72 i. Scott Rolland was elected Alternate Committeeperson
 - 73 from CR12.

74 VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 75 a. Approval of monthly report
 - 76 i. Motion to approve the July 2017 Treasurer's Report was
 - 77 moved, seconded, and carried on a voice vote.
- 78 b. Pass the Hat

79 VIII. COMMITTEE UPDATE

- 80 a. Affirmative Action Committee
 - 81 i. No Report
- 82 b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Catherine Crist reporting
 - 83 i. Ms. Crist provided a brief update Disability Caucus
 - 84 upcoming events
 - 85 1. Accessibility, Inclusion, and Outreach Conference
 - 86 scheduled for the day of Saturday 10/21/2017.

- 87 a. See website idpdc.com for more information
- 88 2. National Voter Registration Day (9/25/2017)
- 89 ii. Disability Caucus meets on the fourth Wednesday of each
- 90 month at 5:15 prior to the Central Committee meeting
- 91 c. Stonewall Caucus: Caucus Chair Harvey Ross Reporting
- 92 i. Mr. Ross extended an invitation to candidates for elective
- 93 office to attend Stonewall Caucus meetings.
- 94 ii. Stonewall Caucus meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each
- 95 month in the Market Grille from 6:30 – 8:00 PM at the
- 96 Mount Vernon Road Hy-Vee (4035 Mt Vernon Rd SE,
- 97 Cedar Rapids)

98 IX. LABOR CAUCUS

- 99 a. Bret Niles reported that Labor Caucus, Linn County Democrats,
- 100 Invisible Iowa will be hosting a Meet the Candidates Forum on
- 101 Thursday, October 5, at the IBEW 405 Union Hall located at I
- 102 1211 Wiley Blvd SW in Cedar Rapids.
- 103 i. Candidates invited include First Congressional District as
- 104 well as gubernatorial, state and local candidate.
- 105 b. 1:19:00 – meet the candidate – see tape

106 X. 2018 CAUCUSES

- 107 a. 1st Vice Chair Valerie Smith reported on the 2018 caucuses:
- 108 i. Caucuses are scheduled for evening of Monday,
- 109 February 5 2018
- 110 ii. They will be organized by Iowa State House District
- 111 iii. Valerie Smith 2/5 Caucuses 1:19:304
- 112 iv. Caucuses will elect new Central Committee members
- 113 v. Event trainings for organizers are forthcoming

114 XI. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 115 a. Linn Phoenix Club will host Democratic gubernatorial
116 candidates Cathy Glasson, Andy McGuire, and John Norris on
117 Thursday 9/21 from 5:30 to 7:30 at 825 17th St SE, Cedar
118 Rapids (private residence).
- 119 b. Phoenix Thurs 9/21 at Kay's
- 120 c. Dem Good Wine Tasting is Wednesday 9/6 from 5:30-7 PM at
121 1st Avenue Wine House in Cedar Rapids.
- 122 d. Upcoming parades in Marion and Hiawatha were discussed
- 123 e. Meet the Candidates – Oct. 5 (Indivisible Iowa, Hawkeye Labor
124 Council, & Linn County Democrats)
- 125 f. Meet the Candidates Forum on Thursday, October 5, at the
126 IBEW 405 Union Hall located at 1211 Wiley Blvd SW in Cedar
127 Rapids.

128 XII. OLD BUSINESS

- 129 a. Members who have ideas for meals should contact Hospitality
130 Chair Joe Stutler.

131 XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- 132 a. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.