

1 Draft Minutes

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 January 24, 2018 – 7:00 PM

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5 OFFICERS PRESENT: Bret Nilles, Valerie Smith, Sam Gray. Sarah Stutler, Laura Geary  
6 Bell, Michael McGree, Andrew Leonard

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8 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE JANUARY 2018 MEETING:

- 9 1. Motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the December 6 2017 meeting of the Linn  
10 County Democratic Central Committee as amended was moved, seconded, and  
11 carried on a voice vote.  
12 2. Motion to approve the December 2017 Treasurer's Report was moved,  
13 seconded, and carried on a voice vote.

14  
15 I. CALL TO ORDER

- 16 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Linn County Democratic  
17 Central Committee was held on January 24, 2018, at the  
18 Hiawatha Community Center in Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret  
19 Nilles called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM, and Michael  
20 McGree, Recording Secretary, was present. A quorum was  
21 present.

22 II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 23 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee in a recitation of the  
24 Pledge of Allegiance.

25 III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND CANDIDATES

- 26 a. Chair Nilles welcomed elected officials in attendance.  
27 i. Elected officials present: Jim Houser (Linn County  
28 Supervisor); Ben Rogers (Linn County Supervisor);  
29 Stacey Walker (Linn County Supervisor); Sharon  
30 Gonzalez Linn County Treasurer); Kay Hale (Ely City

- 31 Council Member); Amy Witchendahl (Hiawatha City  
32 Council Member)
- 33 b. Chair Nilles welcomed candidates for elective office/campaign  
34 surrogates in attendance.
- 35 i. Eric Gjerde (HD67); Molly Donahue (HD68); Scott Foens  
36 (HD68); Tracy Ehlert (HD70); George Ramsey  
37 (Governor), Jackie Norris (Surrogate for John Norris,  
38 Governor); Bill Heckroth (1<sup>st</sup> Cong. District  
39 Representative); Fran Swanson (Surrogate for Abbie  
40 Finkenhauer, 1<sup>st</sup> District Cong. Representative); Courtney  
41 Rowe (1<sup>st</sup> District Cong. Representative)
- 42 ii. Candidates and surrogates provided brief campaign  
43 updates
- 44 c. Chair Nilles welcomed first time visitors and other notable  
45 guests in attendance.

46 IV. SECRETARY'S REPORT: LAURA GEARY BELL AND MICHAEL MCGREE

- 47 a. Approval of minutes
- 48 i. The Draft Minutes of the December 6, 2017, meeting of  
49 the Linn County were approved as distributed on a voice  
50 vote.
- 51 b. Resignations/Nominations
- 52 i. This agenda item was skipped.
- 53 1. January 2018 was last meeting of current Central  
54 Committee members.
- 55 ii. Skipped

56 V. TREASURER'S REPORT: ANDREW LEONARD

- 57 a. Approval of monthly report
- 58 i. Treasurer Andrew Leonard presented the December  
59 2017 Treasurer's Reports. The report was approved as  
60 distributed.

- 61           b. Pass the hat
- 62                 i. The “Pass the Hat” fundraising activity raise \$263 dollar
- 63                 for Linn County Democrats.
- 64           c. Audit Committee 29:00
- 65                 i. Chair Bret Niles presented a brief summary of the Report
- 66                 of the Audit Committee. He noted that financial
- 67                 statements were found to be substantially in good order.
- 68           d. Finance Chair 31:00
- 69                 i. Finance Chair Sarah Stutler and Sunny Story reported on
- 70                 fundraising activities.
- 71                         1. Upcoming Mari Gras event
- 72                         2. New fundraising club membership levels
- 73                 ii. Mardi Grai 2/10 5-9
- 74                 iii. Sunny Story
- 75 VI. COMMITTEE UPDATES
- 76           a. Affirmative Action Committee
- 77                 i. No report.
- 78           b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Catherine Crist reporting
- 79                 i. Ms. Crist provided the report of the Disability Caucus.
- 80                         1. She thanked candidates for their commitments to
- 81                         making events accessible
- 82                         2. Next meeting: Jan. 31, 6 PM, at Mount Mercy
- 83                         Graduate Center
- 84           c. Labor Caucus: Caucus Member Kelly McMahan reporting
- 85                 i. Ms. McMahan provided an overview of Labor Caucus and
- 86                 invited interested person to learn more about Labor
- 87                 Caucus by attending Thursday February 8 at the Blind
- 88                 Pig.

- 89 d. Stonewall Caucus: Caucus Chair Harvey Ross reporting  
90 i. Stonewall Caucus meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each  
91 month at the Starlite Room in Cedar Rapids from 6:30 –  
92 8:00 PM

93 VII. New Business/Announcements

- 94 a. Members briefly presented items of New Business and  
95 announcements for consideration. No Motions were presented  
96 for action.

97 VIII. CAUCUS TRAINING

- 98 a. First Vice Chair Valerie Smith presented abbreviated Precinct  
99 Caucus training.

- 100 b. The Committee broke out into groups by House District Caucus  
101 locations for final briefing by Location Managers.

102 IX. ADJOURNMENT

- 103 a. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40 PM.  
104 b.