

OKLAHOMA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Monthly Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2019

3700 N. Classen Blvd

Oklahoma City, OK 73118

Oklahoma County Central Committee Officers Present:

Robbie White, Chair

Larry Toombs, Vice Chair

Carol Chappell, Secretary

Jasmine Brown Jutras, Affirmative Action Female

Matthew Ruiz, Affirmative Action Male

Ms. White presided at the meeting and Ms. Chappell acted as secretary.

Pledge and Welcome - Robbie White called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm, and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. White introduced the county officers along with Affirmative Action representatives Matthew Ruiz and Jasmine Brown Jutras.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Upon motions duly made and seconded the minutes of the prior meeting were unanimously approved.

Finance Report – Larry Toombs gave a review of the current finance report summarizing donations and expenses. After brief discussion, upon motions duly made and seconded the finance report was unanimously approved. Mr. Toombs presented a Review of Special Events Fundraising sheet, and stated the county's fundraising goal is \$50K. Discussion followed regarding various fundraising events such as the silent auction at the upcoming ODP county convention (\$2K goal), and fall candidate fundraiser, and outreach initiatives such as a citywide Democratic billboard campaign.

Discussion followed a motion by Calvin Rees requesting an audit of county finances and an amendatory motion by Ms. Brown Jutras to appoint three members to oversee the audit. After more discussion Mr. Rees withdrew his motion. Ms. White stated that the county central committee has been reviewing expenses to reduce unnecessary spending and strive for transparency.

Secretary Report – Carol Chappell gave a wrap up of the recent EOCD new precinct officer training, and announced the county booth and float in the upcoming Pride Festival and parade, as well as efforts to form an Outreach and Education committee. Brief discussion followed with suggestions for furthering engagement. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the secretary report was unanimously passed.

Affirmative Action Report – Matthew Ruiz announced that the Affirmative Action meeting for this past Saturday was cancelled due to weather. Marguerite McGuffin said the committee is working on their end of term report, and that the next meeting is on June 8 at 8am at the convention site. All are welcome to join. Mr. Ruiz announced a ribbon cutting for a food pantry and clothing closet for underprivileged students at Rose State College's Center for Success and Inclusion and Diversity. All donations are encouraged and welcome. Joshua Harris Till asked about the variance in Affirmative

Action delegate numbers and how delegate seats will be allotted. A brief discussion followed. Ms. McGuffin said she would defer further discussion until after today's meeting.

Chair report – Ms. White read a statement that she had posted on the county Facebook regarding our collective stance against racism. She also asked that everyone contact District Attorney David Prater to let him know that we are very concerned about the recent shooting of another unarmed Black teenager, this time in Edmond, and that we as a community will be watching and holding people accountable for their actions. A brief update followed regarding the recent HD officer meeting. Ms. White said an email newsletter is in the works. Next OCPD monthly meeting is June 18.

State Convention - Mr. Toombs reminded everyone the ODP State Convention is June 7-9 at the Renaissance Hotel. There will be a hospitality suite with vendor tables, food/drink and a silent auction (Friday). The Carl Albert dinner is June 8. Seats are \$100. Mr. Toombs reiterated the need for volunteers on Friday and Saturday of the convention, and listed some of the donations towards the silent auction. Please let any of the county officers know if you can volunteer or have items for the silent auction. Ms. McGuffin inquired about the CD 5 finance report. Discussion followed. Ms. Craig stated there is a tentative transition meeting for the new officers on May 28, followed by a general meeting a week later to review their findings.

Federation Reports - Ms. McGuffin presented club bylaws for the OK Latino Democratic Federation. She asked that their letter requesting formal party recognition be submitted quickly to allow full participation in the convention. Mr. Rees announced that the OK Democratic Veterans group will host a reception room at the state convention on June 7 for all convention participants at which they will have a silent auction and awards ceremony. Michelle Stearnes invited everyone to participate in the OK Democratic Disability Federation. Their convention is on June 1 at 10am in the Teamsters union hall in OKC. Ms. Brown Jutras announced the results of the election of officers at the recent Young Democrats convention, and events such as an upcoming retreat as well as Joshua Harris Till's campaign to be Young Democrats of America President. The YDA convention is July 17-20. Brondalyn Coleman invited everyone to the Carl Albert After Dark event June 8 at the Vanessa House Brewing Company. The event is streetcar accessible and tickets are \$17. Ms. Brown Jutras and Ms. Coleman distributed an informational packet about the Black Millennial Convention in Washington, DC, May 30-June 1 for millennials of African descent. The goal of the convention is to empower Black people in politics, to engage young politicians, and give them tools, connections and knowledge. They are currently fundraising to support the Oklahoma delegation.

OK County precinct officer Susan Mendus discussed a resolution that the Creek County officers introduced at their CD 3 convention. The resolution proposes that the state Democratic platform consist of the resolutions from the most recent convention, which would require a change to the constitution. Discussion followed. Lauren Craig suggested tabling further discussion for a conference call, and would email all who are interested.

Mr. Rees stated that the convention rules have been posted.

State Office Candidates - Ms. White opened the floor to all state candidates who were present, including Marguerite McGuffin (for female Affirmative Action), Victor Gorin (for male Affirmative

Action), Tim O'Connor (for secretary), Clay Pope (for vice chair), Alicia Andrews (for chair), and Christine Byrd (for chair). Michelle Stearnes (representing T. Sheri Dickerson for chair) and Calvin Rees (representing Dave Ratcliff for vice chair) also spoke.

Democrats Doing Great Things - Ms. White presented a news clipping of Bethany YD's who spent Arbor Day picking up trash. Ms. Coleman thanked OCDP for working towards progress.

Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.