

Minutes Portland Democrats Monthly Meeting September 7, 2017

Sarah Alexander presiding. Sarah@portlanddems.org
Emily Fidor, President of PDCC, is taking a leave through the election.

17 members attending

Minutes for July were approved.

The PDCC did not hold a meeting in August. Therefore the process of voting on the byelaws has been post posted until starting tonight. Vote online or mail back by Sept 21st.

The fall election task force will subsume the committees that have been in effect up to this time. We focused on three actions: 1) Organize and foster a candidate forum, 2) Organize and foster voter registration efforts to increase the number of people who are voting for the first time and, 3) Develop an online election guide,

Most of the meeting time was spent with small groups of discussants considering next steps for the three initiatives listed above. The names listed are the point people who are leading the initiative. PDCC members are encouraged to contact these members to volunteer efforts and/or provide suggestions.

Candidate Forum

Michael Langenmayr mlangenmayr@gmail.com. Michael was unable to attend the meeting. Sarah led the discussion and reported the following:

The candidates forum volunteer group is working to ensure a successful October 5th Candidates forum. The group will be working to recruit people to the event, with the goal of 150 people attending. We also wish to solicit questions from the Portland Dems members for the candidates, manage the all of the logistics the day of the event and ensure as many groups as possible in Portland help turn out their members to the forum. All candidates may participate in the candidate's forum. Each has been asked to submit a 100-word description about them. The PDCC is not endorsing any candidates.

Organizing and encouraging Voter Registration

Stephen Hong sbhong15@gmail.com is organizing voter registration. Saturday, September 9th, we will need people to register for during the Green Fest. Other ways to engage people may be through local high schools, churches, contacting volunteer organizations.

Digital Voter Guide

Matheux Knight is organizing the digital voter guide initiative.

matheuxknight@outlook.com

The digital voter guide volunteer group discussed both the functionality of the digital voter guide and methods of effective distribution to ensure a great amount of visibility.

In regards to functionality we discussed and separated both the necessary and nice to haves.

Necessary:

- Located on the Portland Dem's website
- Includes candidate headshots and accompanying text
- Easy to differentiate district and at-large groups of candidates
- Mobile friendly

Nice to haves:

- Ability to enter address which could provide
 - District user lives in
 - Highlight of the candidates you will be voting for
 - Location of where you will vote
- Provide a city-wide district map
- Information, or link to information on how to register
- Short introduction video to voter guide

In regards to visibility and communication we discussed a multi-faceted digital and print approach.

Communication:

- Provide voters with simple link to access the voter guide
- Use emails to link the guide
- Using PDCC Facebook page to share the link to all PDCC members
- Request a commitment from PDCC members to share link in FB post at least 1 to their network
- Print up business cards with link to voter guide to pass out at forum and give to candidates to pass out with palm cards

POSSIBLE: Facebook targeted advertisements to those living in Portland

Dem's drinks will start up again this month. It is the third Thursday of each month, from 5:30-7:30. This month is September 21st at Brian Boru.

Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

The October PDCC meeting is Thursday, one week after the Candidates Forum. Location still to be determined.

The platform process was explained. Each section of the byelaws was presented with the opportunity to ask questions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Douglas Lynch