

**Portland Democratic City Committee Meeting Monthly Meeting 2018-01-11**  
32 members attending

Sarah Alexander (sarah@portlanddems.org) shared PDCC Community Guides to facilitate shared ideas, empathic communication, and efficiency and effectiveness of our meetings. Emphasized limiting paper printouts of minutes and reports.

Sarah proposed PDCC community guidelines:

- Assume best intentions – presumably if we’re here we ...
- Be present – limit distractions and engage w/ each other
- No side conversations
- Be respectful when disagreeing
- Step up, step back – extroverts should try to step back to allow more introverted people space to step up and share their ideas.
- We use Roberts’ Rules but don’t let stop you from participating.

The Portland Democratic City Caucus will be March 4<sup>th</sup> at King Middle School from 2pm – 5pm. Registration for voters begins at 1pm (the city clerk has confirmed their availability). At the caucus we can elect delegates to the state convention. There are many tasks to do, so a committee will be set up to facilitate planning. Sarah distributed a sign up sheet during the meeting to get volunteers. We should publicize the caucus on the PDCC site and Cumberland county site.

Harlan Baker shared additional ideas about the caucus. Usually about 200-250 people attend the caucus. The caucus does not elect delegates that support candidates for governor. We will elect delegates to the state convention, and select members of the Portland Democratic City Committee (as the currently adopted bylaws are written, the membership of the committee is “reset” at every biannual caucus). There are a set number of Portland delegates to comprise the Cumberland county committee. There will also be an opportunity to meet with candidates for election (or their surrogates), and clean election forms, petitions, etc., will be circulated.

This year, the Maine Democratic Party will initiate online preregistration, presumably starting next week. The state convention will be in Lewiston. Portland may send up to 220 delegates.

Emily Postman was elected as Vice Chair.

Mike Desjardins was elected a Secretary.

PDCC members got into small groups to brainstorm 2018 goals and plans. Ideas were generated about what should be our biggest priority, which of our current activities should be expanded, what should be our focus at the city, county, and state

level. Notes from each group were given to Sarah for future communication and deliberation.

The Treasurer's report was distributed.

Announcements were shared.

- Emery Unger circulated a petition to get Mark Eves on the ballot for the governor's race
- Jill Duson announced her intention to run for State Senate and solicited for donations to her campaign for clean elections seed money.
- Cumberland County Committee meeting is Sunday Jan 14 from 3pm - 5pm
- The next Dem Drinks will be 5:30 January 18<sup>th</sup> at Bayside Bowl.

Meeting adjourned.