



Draft Minutes

Virtual via Zoom, Thursday, March 18, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

- Welcome & Introductions - Charles Skold, Chair (**6:30-6:40**)
 - The Chair invited people to share their name, preferred pronouns, and one thing about our collective response that troubled them this year, and one thing that gave them hope. Many discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts.

- PDCC Business - Charles Skold, Chair (**6:40-6:50 PM**)
 - Reports
 - Chair's Report - Charles
 - Great news! We planned a PDCC vote to Endorse [L.D. 2](#) "An Act To Require the Inclusion of Racial Impact Statements in the Legislative Process" discussed by Rachel Talbot Ross previously, however it has already passed by the Maine Legislature!
 - Our Voter Outreach committee is doing great work and doing outreach to Portland voters with postcards and planning a voter registration drive in the spring
 - Treasurer's Report - Kim Walter
 - Ended February with about 2,500.00 and our recent expenses included the postcards and stamps.
 - Minutes approval - February minutes were drafted by Joe Zamboni
 - The PDCC did not approved the minutes of February meeting (which can be viewed [here](#)) as there was not a quorum

- Reflecting Together - Charles Skold, Chair (**6:50-7:00 PM**)
 - In President Biden's recent address to the nation, he said "While it was different for everyone, we all lost something." The Chair invited the PDCC to share something they lost this year (for example lost income, lost opportunities, cancelled celebrations, lost time with family, lost loved ones).



- Charles introduced our special guest: Kristine Jenkins, our Cumberland County District Public Health Liaison (**7:00-7:45pm**)
 - Kristine introduced herself, and discussed her work for the Maine (Center for Disease Control (Maine CDC). Kristine described that Maine is divided into public health districts (we also have tribal district). In her role, Kristine acts as a district liaison and often brings back issues to the state from the local area, works with public health officers in the municipalities, and works with public health councils in the Cumberland County area. Kristine shared a few slides about Maine's COVID-19 impact, vaccinations, and steps moving forward. (Kristine will also share this information with the PDCC after tonight.) Vaccinations have had a slow start (in Maine and across the US), but things are picking up in regards to supply. Kristine offered to be a resource if someone should be getting vaccinated per the schedule but is having trouble getting connected. Kristine discussed that Maine has a call-in option about vaccinations and also accessible transportation options. The age-based role-out is complicated, and Maine is trying to connect with folks quickly, and identify home-bound individuals as we progress towards younger folks getting access to the vaccine. In regards to advocacy for specific communities, Kristine said that can be done at the Commissioner and Governor level, but there is a weekly meeting at the Commissioner level about equity and diversity that continues to look at these issues. Kristine finished by taking questions from the PDCC.

- Announcements (**7:45-8:00 PM**)
 - Charter Commission
 - Platform and Issues Meeting
 - Voter Outreach
 - Meg shared that our next Voter Outreach Subcommittee meeting will be on Sunday 3/21 @ 7:30pm ([register](#)). We will be doing a registration drive in the spring. Our postcard drive will continue, we have sent 450 and would like to send another 700.
 - Member announcement: Open Primaries Campaign - Bill Weber discussed a new proposed bill, LD 231, which would establish open primaries. Maine is one of 14 states that has closed primaries. This bill would allow independent voters to vote in primaries. Betsy Sweet added that the vast majority of young people, new



Mainers, labor union folks, and workers are unenrolled. Colorado did this and increased participation by 20%. This would help us know more about our unenrolled voters. Barb Wood is on the committee for this.

- **Adjourn (8:00 PM)**
 - Following adjournment, the PDCC executive team stays on the call for any further informal discussion or question from members.

Minutes by PDCC Secretary, Joe Zamboni