Henry County Democrats Meeting

October 26, 2021

6:30 PM

The regular monthly meeting of the Henry County Democrats was held in-person at the Mt. Pleasant Middle School. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Jeff Fager with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Seventeen people were in attendance.

AGENDA ITEMS:

**Minutes**: A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded and unanimously carried.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Our current balance is $6,245. There was a motion made and seconded to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**:

* Nineteen Henry County Democrats T-Shirts have been sold so far with $285 collected.

**New Business**:

* *Survey Results*: There 39 respondents, most likely from extremely likely voters. Top three issues were: 1) voting rights, 2) health care and 3) climate change and environment. Most respondents indicated there has been a good balance of national and regional issues for focus, however, we need to increase current focus on local issues. While some respondents felt we are headed in the right direction, others indicated they didn’t know if we are headed in the right direction. Jeff shared additional survey feedback, one being that parades are possibly not a top way to communicate with the members or the community. The majority of respondents indicated they would probably be likely to volunteer as a HCD. Jeff will post results on our website (Prohenrycounty.com). Click on About and then click on Archives.
* *Major Themes of Survey*: 1) Engagement with external world, public at large. How do we strengthen our engagement among the Democrats? 2) Recruitment of local candidates with a focus on 2023 (and non-partisan elections).
* *General Ideas*: 1) Fundraising….do an annual fundraising letter to HC Democrats to seek contributions 2) Spring/Fall rally to engage folks and get them excited 3) Think about meeting location alternatives (to include Zoom links for those who can’t attend face to face). There was discussion about such a place as a a Progressive Community Center……for non-profits……mailbox location……..phone capability….gathering space to meet etc. Occupants of the center would be considered as tenants and pay rent as such tenants. 4) Possible change of meeting schedule was discussed with option to meet quarterly as business meetings and then have a variety of other groups to meet and address other topics/issues/bookclub/Pints and Politics etc. It was decided that the November meeting will continue this discussion regarding future meeting locations, agendas and topics. In addition, for November, Jeff will determine an additional topic for discussion.
* *Proposal from IDP (Food Drive)*: This item was not discussed
* *HCD Response to Issues*: This item was not discussed
* *Important Dates Coming Up*:
  + Precinct Caucus- Monday, February 7
  + County Convention- Saturday, March 26
  + District Convention- Saturday, April 23
  + Primary- Tuesday- June 7
  + State Convention- Saturday, June 18
* *Next Meeting*: Will be held November 23, location yet to be determined by EXEC Committee. There will be a special topic (JEFF) in addition to a follow up discussion from the October meeting to set up meeting schedule and topics.

**Open Floor**: Deidre DeJear will be here November 5th……no location yet. Demo Memo will make announcement.

Iowa WINS will sponsor on November 18, VANG at Heatlilator Building 7:00 p.m.

VOTE on November 2nd! Let’s try to avoid a possible write in campaign. Vote for ballot names.

**Adjournment**: 7:45 pm. Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt A. Mitchell, Secretary