



July 9th, 2024

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome / Introductions

Approval of Minutes & Financial Statement:

- [Minutes](#)
- Financial Report

Announcements:

- Congratulations to Martha and Gina for Heroes of Independence
- T-shirts available for pre-order @ merch.salinedems.com
- July 27th Community Connection Day

Officer Reports

- Treasurer & Election Commissioner – Tamme Adams
- Secretary - Melinda Lou Hensley
- 2nd Vice Chair - Felix Stacy
- 1st Vice Chair - Laura Butler
- Chair – Bailey Morgan

Committee/Caucus Reports *(To join/form a committee, email saline@arkdems.org)*

- Hot Springs Village Democratic Club - Steve Rittenmeyer
- Community Outreach Committee - Felix Stacy
- Voter Outreach Committee - Bailey Morgan
- Fundraising Committee - Melinda Lou Hensley
- Saline County Democratic Women - Lela Chism and Brittany Smith

Action Items:

1. Ceasefire Resolution
2. By-laws Revisions
 - a. Resolution proposals process
 - b. Membership requirements
 - c. Redundancy fixes

Discussion Items:

1. We need more volunteers across the board; how do we get more buy-in?

Next DPSC Monthly meeting August 6th, 2024 @ 6:30 P.M.

Motion to Adjourn

[Scan here for the latest DPSC “Blue Review” Newsletter:](#)





**THANK YOU TO OUR MONTHLY
“FRIEND OF THE PARTY” DONORS!**

Good Neighbors:

Sally Smith
Gene Smith
Greg White
Felix Stacy
Randy Haun
Pat Edwards
Beth Mathys
Suzy Velez

Friends of the Party:

Fanny Neely
Diana Roberts
Steve Rittenmeyer
Barbara Nix

Community Partners:

LuAnn Baker
Helen Denison
Tamme Adams
Fred McGraw
Melinda Hensley
Delois Moore
Dustin Parsons
Donna Landreth
Janet Taylor
Bailey Morgan
Sam Stueart
April Reisma
Glen Rider

Life of the Party:

Tanya Williams
Peggy Butler
Charles Bear
Lela Chism
Jon and Lisa Poteet
Gary and Melissa Fults
Grace Hauser

Party Partners:

Jerri Delamar
Brenda Hanke
Nita Brown

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next agenda, and much more!



Democratic Party of Saline County

COMMITTEE MEETING

June 11th, 2024/ 6:30 PM / 101 S Market St, Benton AR 72015

ATTENDEES: Bailey Morgan, Martha West, Suzy Velez, Felix Stacy, Carl Frank, Patty Hector, Teresa Dannaway, Fred McGraw, Kenny Grand, Steve Rittenmeyer, Nancy Baumgartner, Grant Smith, Mary Gorden, Mike Gorden, 'Nita Brown, David Murre, Laura Butler, Chris Smith, Brittany Smith, Carla Hays, Tamme Adams, Jim Kelley, and Lela Chism

Minutes

Call to Order

Bailey Morgan, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes & Financial Statement

1. Minutes from May 14, 2024 were approved
 - a. Motion by 'Nita Brown, Second by Brittany Smith
2. Financial statement presented by Chair and Treasurer

Announcements

1. New DPSC members introduced and 'approved;' Jerry Hill and James Bartolomei (honorary)
2. Chair Bailey Morgan offered congratulations to National Convention Delegates Dustin Parsons and April Reisma
3. Chair announced that candidates and volunteers will meet at HQ at 9:30 A.M. on June 22nd for a community canvassing event.



4. Chair announced t-shirts available for pre-order for \$25 at merch.salinedems.com
5. Martha West spoke about Heroes of Independence to be held at Mills Park from 11 AM - 1 PM, asking for volunteers and social media shares. Chair has created a flyer for the event.
6. Teresa Dannaway announced that the education petition still requires 2,109 signatures by July 5th to make the ballot.
7. Brittany Smith announced a Women's March to take place at the state capitol from 5-7 PM on June 24th.

Officer Reports

1. Treasurer and Election Commissioner Tamme Adams announced that Saline County's election was audited, and all ballots cast were found to be accurate and accounted for.
2. Chair indicated a need for volunteers to join the Voter Outreach Committee to assist with updating VAN.
3. Chair announced a candidate support event/rally at Silver Springs on September 21st.

Committee Reports

1. HSV Democratic Club liaison Steve Rittenmeyer reported ongoing bylaws revisions for HSV and announced a fundraiser on July 25th at \$60/person or \$110/couples.
 - a. Also announced a candidate forum on October 3rd for Saline County candidates from 3-5 PM.
2. Second Vice Chair Felix Stacy announced that the DPSC would not have a booth at the annual Juneteenth event, as the organizers were not accepting vendors this year. He requested volunteers for Third Thursdays, neighborhood canvassing events, and for Heroes of Independence.
3. Secretary Melinda Hensley is seeking volunteers for the DPSC's fundraising committee.

Action Items

1. Bailey introduced a proposal for \$500 one-time donations to candidates James Bartolomei (HD78), Doug Corbitt (HD54), and David Murray (HD92).
 - a. Motion to approve by Martha West, seconded by Nita Brown. Motion passed by acclamation.
 - b. David Murray (candidate for HD92) spoke about his campaign, imploring attendees to exist in the community, practice unity, and



depend on each other. Particularly emphasized the importance of unions and fair labor practices in his campaign.

Discussion/Informative Items

1. Chair stated that bylaws revisions are incoming, specifically regarding membership rules, resolution/policy proposal systems, and general redundancy fixes.
2. Lela Chism initiated a discussion of a resolution to call for a ceasefire in Gaza to be considered in July. An informal vote was held to determine whether membership would be interested in such a resolution, to which members agreed unanimously.
3. The next DPSC meeting will be held at HQ on July 9th, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Steve Rittenmeyer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chris Smith.

The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.



Financial Report			
		Checkbook	
Beginning Balance 05/1/2024	\$13,183.70		
	<i>Description</i>	<i>Credits</i>	<i>Debits</i>
	Act Blue	\$1,123.88	
	Donations by check/cash	\$580.00	
	Luke Juneau		\$425.00
	Website Go Daddy		\$26.99
	Amazon		\$40.97
	SquareUp (CashApp reimbursement for donuts)		\$33.74
	Committee to Elect Gina Thomas-Littlejohn		\$500.00
Ending Balance on 05/31/2024	\$13,860.88		



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By-Laws (last amended **7/9/2024**)

ARTICLE I: Name & Purpose

Section 1

This organization shall be known as the Democratic Party of Saline County (DPSC).

The by-laws and all official acts and proceedings shall be binding on all officers, members and subordinate bodies where applicable.

Section 2

The purposes of the Democratic Party of Saline County shall be to:

1. Help elect Democrats at all levels of government, particularly at the local level;
2. Organize and mobilize activities on behalf of the DPSC and the Democratic Party of Arkansas (DPA);
3. Grow and maintain membership in the DPSC;
4. Increase visibility of the Democratic Party in Saline County;
5. And, participate in the Arkansas state Democratic Conventions and other activities of the DPA.

ARTICLE II: Membership

The Democratic Party of Saline County shall be composed of residents in Saline County who espouses the ideals and mission of the Democratic Party of Saline County.

Section 1

The requirements for membership in the Democratic Party of Saline County shall be:

1. Saline County shall extend membership to registered voters in the county and who file to join the committee during the primary election filing deadline.
2. In good standing with the DPSC.
3. DPSC shall extend membership to county residents aged 14 or above seeking membership outside the filing period.
4. Membership shall be open for filing at any time during the calendar year.
5. One must be a **registered** member of the DPSC ~~for at least 30 days~~ in order to vote in DPSC meetings.

a. A registered member is any individual who completes the necessary membership paperwork for the DPSC and submits it to the DPSC Secretary or Chair.



- 6. Members who miss 3 regular meetings consecutively will be considered "inactive" members, and will have their membership reactivated immediately upon resumed meeting attendance.**

Section 2

There shall be a standing Executive Committee, consisting of the DPSC officers. The DPSC can expand membership of the Executive Committee from time to time as the need arises. Other committees shall be appointed by the Chair as needed or as determined by the membership at a duly constituted meeting.

ARTICLE III: DPSC Officers

Section 1

The elected officers of the DPSC are: Chair, 1st Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. In accordance with DPA rules, The Chair and 1st Vice-Chair shall be of differing gender identities.

Section 2

- A. Officers shall be elected by the newly constituted County Committee for two year terms starting in January of odd-numbered years, immediately after the General Election.
- B. The DPSC shall strive to reflect the diversity of the DPSC **Saline County** in the election of its officers.
- C. No person can occupy more than one **elected** office.
- D. Within ten days after the organization of the new DPSC, the Secretary shall forward to the Secretary of the DPA a list of the names, ~~and~~ addresses, and other contact information of the newly elected officers.

Section 3

- A. Chair
 - a. The Chair shall call and preside at all meetings of the DPSC; oversee the day-to-day affairs of the DPSC; serve as chairperson and voting member of the Executive Committee; serve as *ex officio* member on all committees; call meetings of the Executive Committee and District Representatives, when necessary; **serve as spokesperson for the DPSC;** and make appointments to committees of the DPSC.
- B. 1st Vice Chair
 - a. The 1st Vice-Chair shall preside at DPSC meetings in the absence of the Chair, shall coordinate programs at DPSC meetings that promote the



purposes of the DPSC, and carry out such other duties as delegated by the Chair.

C. 2nd Vice Chair

- a. The 2nd Vice-Chair shall maintain accurate membership rolls of the DPSC, ~~shall~~; serve as interim secretary in the absence of the Secretary; and carry out such other duties as delegated by the Chair. The 2nd Vice-Chair will also actively recruit members and help keep members involved.

D. Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall record all minutes and votes of DPSC regular **meetings** and Executive Committee meetings, and prepare them for consideration by the body at the subsequent meeting; shall preserve all important records and papers of the DPSC; and carry out such other duties as delegated by the Chair.

E. Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall maintain the financial records of the DPSC and provide written reports at regular meetings and with the Chair, shall be a co-signature authority on any bank accounts and withdrawals. All records of the Treasurer shall be subject to audit at the request of the Chair or Executive Committee.

~~F. Chair Emeritus~~

- ~~a. The Chair Emeritus is the immediate past Chair of the Democratic Party of Saline County and shall serve as a counselor to the DPSC and the Executive Committee of the DPSC.~~

Section 4

The elected officers ~~and the Chair Emeritus~~ shall constitute the **standing** Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall carry out the business of the DPSC as designated by the DPSC and make decisions within its powers in the interim when the DPSC does not meet. It shall also serve as the budget committee for the organization and shall present to the DPSC ~~a biennial budget for approval~~ **regular financial reports and expenditures for approval.**

Section 5

A vacancy in any office shall be filled at the next duly constituted meeting of the membership, which must take place within 30 days of the occurrence of the vacancy

Section 6



An officer may be removed from office by a three-fourth majority vote of the membership at a duly constituted meeting for any reason

Section 7

DPSC officers must avoid public expressions of support, including campaign contributions, for candidates opposing Democratic nominees, pursuant to DPA rules 2.01(c)

ARTICLE IV: Meetings

Section 1

To the extent feasible, at least one membership meeting shall be held every other month and more often, if necessary.

Section 2

The Executive Committee shall meet at the convenience of the Chair as necessary.

Section 3

A meeting of the membership can be called by the Chair, the Executive Committee, or any eight members of the DPSC, with at least one week's notice to the membership.

Section 4

Any notice, required by these by-laws, must be in writing and state who is calling the same and its purpose. Notice may be by personal delivery, US Mail, or by email.

Section 5

The minimum quorum for a County Committee **the DPSC** shall be twenty percent (20%) **of the DPSC's active members**. ~~unless membership in the County Committee is 100 or more in which case ten percent (10%) will constitute a quorum.~~ **If a member has fallen into inactive status, they will not be considered for the purposes of determining quorum.**

Section 6

All votes on DPSC business shall be determined by a simple majority, except as otherwise provided by these by-laws



Section 7

The DPSC shall convene a meeting to be held not later than thirty days prior to the opening of the filing period to fix and announce the ballot access requirements (fees/petitions) to be assessed and to be met by each candidate.

Section 8

Special meetings of the DPSC shall be called by the Chair upon request of one fifth (1/5) of the membership of the full committee. Upon failure or refusal of the Chair to call a requested meeting, the call may be issued by those members requesting the meeting. Notice of calls for special meetings shall be mailed or emailed by the Secretary or their designee to each members of the DPSC at least five (5) days before the date of the meeting, provided that in case of emergency, the DPSC may be convened on two (2) days' notice.

ARTICLE V: Biennial Convention

Section 1

- A. THE DPSC's Biennial County Convention shall be held for the purpose of electing delegates and alternates to the State Convention and for any other such purposes as may be required by the DPSC, State Party rules, or State law. The convention shall take place on the first Monday following the general primary election, i.e. the primary runoff election.
- B. The Convention shall be called to order by the County Chair, who shall serve as the temporary Chair of the Convention. He or she shall appoint a Secretary to record the minutes of the convention.
- C. There are two main purposes of the County Convention;
 - a. To confirm delegates to the DPA State Convention, pursuant to the DPA rules.
 - i. The Secretary of the County Convention shall certify to the DPA the names and contact information for the delegates to the State Convention, within seven days of the County Convention
 - b. To elect the DPSC members who shall serve as its members on the DPA State Committee
 - i. There shall be an equal number of each gender elected to the extent possible.
 - ii. Delegates to the State Convention will submit the names of the persons so selected to the State Committee to the Secretary of the DPA at former's caucus at the State Convention, along with the names of the Chair and Vice-Chair



- c. The DPSC shall run the county convention based on the rules of the DPA and elect delegates and members on the DPA State Committee based on the amount of members or delegates that DPSC is given.

ARTICLE VI: Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1

The official business of the DPSC shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (Newly Revised) when not inconsistent with the Bylaws or Rules of the DPSC.

Section 2

These By-laws shall be subject to the Rules of the DPA and any provision herein that is inconsistent with the requirements of the DPA Rules shall defer to those Rules.

ARTICLE VII: Amending the By-Laws

Section 1

Proposals to amend the bylaws must be submitted by a DPSC member to the DPSC Chair. The proposal then shall be submitted to the Executive Committee which shall require a majority vote to amend. The Executive Committee shall then refer the proposal to the full County Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to a vote.

Section 2

The proposal shall require a majority vote of the County Committee quorum to be passed.

ARTICLE VIII: Adopting a Resolution

Section 1

Resolution proposals must be submitted by a DPSC member to the DPSC Chair. The proposal then shall be submitted to the Executive Committee which shall require a majority vote to amend. The Executive Committee shall then notify the full County Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to a vote.

Section 2



The proposal shall require a majority vote of the County Committee quorum to be passed.

ARTICLE ~~IX~~: Election Commission

Section 1

A county election commissioner(s) shall be elected in January after the General Election following the election of County Officers. The office of Election Commissioner shall not be combined with any other offices.

ARTICLE ~~X~~: Committees Standing Committees/Caucuses and Their Duties

Section 1

- A. There shall be the following standing committees/caucuses:
- a. ~~Membership~~
 - b. ~~Community Service~~ **Outreach**
 - c. ~~Fundraising/Programs~~
 - d. ~~Nominating~~
 - e. ~~Publicity~~
 - f. ~~Candidate Recruitment and Support~~
 - g. Voter Outreach**
 - h. Other committees shall be established by the DPSC upon recommendation of the Chair or Executive Committee.

Section 2

- A. Within the first month after taking office, the Chair shall appoint a chair and such additional members as the work of each committee may require with the exception of specifically assigned positions presented by the by-laws.

Section 3

- A. The duties of the standing committees shall be as follows:
- a. ~~The Membership committee shall function as directed by the Executive Committee. The 2nd Vice Chair will serve as the Chair of this committee~~
 - b. The ~~Community Service~~ **Outreach** committee shall recommend to the Chair the programs, **events**, and projects for the year and assist in the direction of such plans at the request of the Executive Committee.
 - c. The ~~Fundraising/Programs~~ committee shall work with the treasurer of the DPSC to recommend fundraisers for the year as well as help organize/plan the said fundraisers. The committee shall audit the finances



and books of the committee yearly. The treasurer shall serve on this committee.

- ~~d. The Nominating committee shall consist of three members. The committee shall submit a report naming at least one candidate for each office at the November Meeting in the election year. Additional names may be made from the floor by members in good standing.~~
- ~~e. The Publicity committee shall work to promote the DPSC and develop ways we can help share the party platform and key principles.~~
- f. The Candidate Recruitment and Support committee shall work on strategies to recruit and support candidates. The committee shall be a support system for the candidate and potential committees.
- g. *The Voter Outreach committee shall work to maintain Saline County's VAN database; collaborate with other committees as necessary to register voters in Saline County; and recruit voters to join the DPSC.***
- h. Other committees/caucuses shall be appointed by and the function as directed by the Executive Committee.



Resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Israel and Palestine

Whereas, Arkansas is home to a diverse population with varying backgrounds, national origins, and religions;

Whereas, Arab Americans live in 37 of 75 counties in Arkansas;

Whereas, many Arab Arkansans still have family in their home countries in the Middle East;

Whereas, the recent hostilities in Gaza have created tragic consequences, leading to the loss of innocent civilian lives, extensive destruction, and suffering among both Israelis and Palestinians;

Whereas, around 1,200 Israelis, mostly civilians, were killed on October 7, 2023, and 240 Israeli civilians were taken hostage;

Whereas, Israel currently has over 10,000 Palestinians held captive in its prisons;

Whereas, the Israel Offensive Forces (IOF) routinely force male Palestinian civilians to strip down to underwear, and mistakenly killed three shirtless Israeli hostages December 16th, 2023;

Whereas, as of May 31st, 2024, 39 health facilities and over 399 schools have been damaged or destroyed, over 36,000 people have been killed, 70% being women and children, and 107 journalists, and over 82,000 people have been wounded; energy, communications, and utilities have been halted; and the Gaza strip has become uninhabitable;

Whereas, it is illegal under international humanitarian law to collectively punish civilian populations in areas where resistance groups carry out operations;

Whereas, Arab Arkansans have lost family members in the siege on Palestine since October 7, 2023;

Whereas, Islamophobia and antisemitism is on the rise, with the Council on American-Islamic Relations reporting 2,171 anti-Muslim and anti-Palestinian complaints received between October 7, 2023 and December 2, 2023 and the Anti-Defamation League reporting 2,071 antisemitic incidents between October 7, 2023 and December 7, 2023;

Whereas, Democrats have the responsibility of being inclusive and standing up for human rights;

Whereas, the Democratic Party of Arkansas's platform states that we support rights protected for everyone and systems that work for all of us;

Whereas, Arab and Muslim Arkansans continue to be underrepresented in Arkansas;

Whereas, the International Labour Organization (ILO) released a statement on October 27, 2023, expressing the ILO Director-General's "support for the UN Secretary-General's call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and the release of the hostages";

Whereas, the World Health Organization (WHO) released a statement on October 28, 2023, stating "WHO reiterates its calls for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, and reminds all parties to the conflict to take all precautions to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure";

Whereas, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in a briefing on October 31, 2023, with the Security Council, stated "A humanitarian ceasefire, coupled of course with substantive delivery of humanitarian aid inside Gaza, can at least stop this spiral of death, and I hope that you will overcome your divisions and exercise your authority in demanding one. The world is waiting for you to do so";

Whereas, the World Food Programme (WFP) released a statement on November 5, 2023, stating "We need an immediate humanitarian ceasefire" and on May 29, 2024, WFP called again for an "urgent ceasefire";

Whereas, the United Nations General Assembly voted by a large majority for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire on December 12, 2023;

Whereas, President Biden encouraged a humanitarian pause in the conflict, resulting in the release of some Israeli and international hostages, some Palestinian prisoners and the resumption of humanitarian aid deliveries to Gaza;

Whereas, Under massive pressure of international and domestic protest, the Biden Administration has pivoted in policy and did propose a ceasefire agreement that was ignored by Israel;

Whereas, a panel of International Criminal Court judges are considering arrest warrants to be issued for Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar on the charges of "extermination, murder, taking of hostages, rape, and sexual assault in detention" and Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant on the charges of "causing extermination, causing starvation as a method of war, including the denial of humanitarian relief supplies, and deliberately targeting civilians

in conflict”;

Resolved that the Arkansas Progressive Democrats Caucus:

1. mourns the loss of innocent life;
2. calls for an immediate and permanent ceasefire;
3. calls for the immediate release of all hostages;
4. calls for the immediate release of Palestinian prisoners;
5. affirms the need for international cooperation to bring about peace in the area;
6. recognizes Palestinians’ need for self-determination without a state of their own;
7. calls on Arkansas Democrats to recognize the humanity of both Palestinians and Israelis when commenting on the crisis and condemns the rhetoric that leads to antisemitic or Islamophobic violence here and overseas;
8. calls on the Arkansas congressional delegation to advocate for a comprehensive and peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that respects the rights and aspirations of all parties.

This resolution has been presented to each county party body, voted on, and approved in collaboration with the Arkansas Progressive Democrats Caucus as follows:

_____ Ryan Carter, Clay County chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Judy Gibson, Greene County chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Mike Ford, Crittenden County chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Bailey Morgan, Saline County chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Asad Khan, Craighead County chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Kenneth Grand III, APDC co-chair	_____ Date approved by body
_____ Chenoa Summers, APDC co-chair	_____ Date approved by body