

Minutes of the 34th District Democrats Board Meeting

February 28, 2024, held virtually on Zoom.

Attendees:

Graham Murphy, Rachel Glass, Jordan Crawley, Bunny Hatcher, Chris Porter, Ted Barker, Julie Whitaker, Steve Butts, Carla Rogers, Ann Martin, Hannah Cameron, Rebecca Rego

7:02 pm – Call to Order by Chair Graham Murphy

- Meeting agenda was approved without objection.
- Minutes from the January Board meeting were presented and were approved without objection.

Bylaws and Code of Conduct Updates – Jordan Crawley

Jordan reviewed proposed modifications to his original bylaws update plan. These suggestions came from an earlier Bylaws Committee meeting held to review changes to his initial proposal put forth in January.

- Chris Porter objected to the change to the new membership requirement for participation in endorsements from 30 to 90 days.
 - Carla Rogers said that she did an analysis of potential lost revenue, and since the surge of candidate supporters usually comes in at the \$5 one-time annual amount, the financial effect was minimal.
 - Carla Spoke in favor of the proposed 90-day change.
 - Chris moves to remove the 90-day change for later revenue. Ted Barker seconded.
 - The vote by Zoom hands was 5 to 5, and the motion failed.
 - Julie Whitaker countered with a motion to amend the 90-day membership requirement change to 60 days. Steve Butts seconded.
 - The motion was passed by hand vote of 7 for and 3 against.
- Hannah Cameron moved to submit the proposed Bylaws Updates to the PCOs. Ann Martin seconded.
 - The motion passed by a majority of the board, with one member present but abstaining from the vote.

The proposed Code of Conduct change would punish any member who misused membership data by denying access to that information for that individual.

- Ann moved to submit the change to PCOs; Jordan seconded.
 - The motion passed via voice vote.

Platform Updates – Jordan Crawley

Jordan provided the Platform and Legislative Action Committee's update schedule:

- PLAC has received amendment recommendations from MPCs.
- PLAC will complete a first draft of the amended platform by March 13.

- Members will be provided access to the draft as well as a form to submit comments during the March membership meeting.
- PLAC will receive member comments through Sunday, April 7.
- PLAC will complete a second draft of the amended platform by Tuesday, April 9.
- Board will be provided access to the draft, along with the ability to comment directly on the document on Wednesday, April 10.
- Board will consider the draft platform on Wednesday, April 17, and hopefully approve it for membership consideration with the recommendation to adopt.
- PLAC will complete a third draft of the amended platform by Saturday, April 27.
- The draft Platform will be published to the membership by Sunday, April 28, and considered by the membership at the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 8.
- Because State Platform amendments are due by May 4, the PLAC will work closely with Chris over the next couple of months to make sure he has access to the feedback we are receiving on our own platform.

Endorsements Process Proposal – Ann Martin

- Candidate interviews to take place after May Filing Week and before the endorsement meeting; they would be on Zoom so members could watch.
- Early endorsements could take place in April for incumbents, namely Fitzgibbon and Alvarado.
- Ann would like input for candidate questions.
- Graham suggested that the board determine the block at the March Eboard meeting.
- Carla asked if candidates would be willing to do both an interview as well as a meeting appearance; Interviews are not required for our endorsement.

2024/2025 Budget Review – Graham Murphy

Graham presented the budget. It was put together by an ad hoc committee made up of Graham, Carla, Julie, and Hannah.

- Graham pointed out that the amount for campaign donations has been raised from \$5k to \$8K.
- Hannah noted that the \$6K carryover into 2025 is less than this year's 15K. The budget committee agreed that we should use more resources in this election year, as our major purpose is to elect Democrats.
- Julie Whitaker raised concerns about the lower carryover. Her comfort level would be at 10K.
- Hannah moved to submit the budget to membership; Ann seconded.
 - Ann spoke to say that this is an important year, and we should make use of our resources.
 - Chris voiced concern about Julie's comfort with our end of year financial position.
 - Carla rose to say that we can review our financial standing as the year progresses.
 - Hannah spoke in favor of her motion.
 - Rebecca Rego also spoke in favor.
 - The motion is passed via raised Zoom hands.

Minimum Membership Donation Level – Carla Rogers

Carla proposed that the organization raise the minimum one-time annual donation to \$34. The \$5 monthly minimum would remain the same.

- In discussion, Chris felt that raising the amount may be a barrier to some.
- Carla moved to put the issue to the membership for approval; Ann seconded
 - The motion was passed by a majority of the board, with one member present but abstaining from the vote.

Executive Board Email – Carla Rogers

Carla warned board members who have their 34dems email messages forwarded to their personal account that they will soon lose access, as the site hosting service is discontinuing that practice. Members must set up separate POP or IMAP access for their 34dems email accounts. Carla will help with that.

KCDCC Report – Bunny Hatcher and Chris Porter

- Bunny had previously submitted the report of the February KCDCC meeting to Steve Butts for inclusion in the March newsletter.
- Chris said that the KCDCC Endorsement Committee would like the LDs to provide observers to their interviews to save candidates' time and not be asked to separate interviews at each LD.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.