

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2024

Attendees: Kim Bartlett, Chair; Levi Shinkle, Vice Chair; John Fenton; Margaret Stansill; Kathy Von Osten; Jane Norskog; Dale & Janice Horkey; Marilyn Braaten;

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

Old Business:

Secretary's Report: Larry has Covid, so November's Minutes will be approved at our next meeting. John Fenton took notes.

Treasurer's Report: Sam also has Covid, but reported that we had \$1127.42 in our account as of 12/31/23. We currently have two recurring ActBlue monthly donations. Suggestions were made to include the donation link on all HSC dems emails and to print a QR code to be used with the donation jar.

Winter Party Debrief: Thanks to Dale & Janice for hosting. 22 attendees. Everyone had fun. People want more events like this.

T-Shirt Reorder: Kim to order 20 more shirts, various sizes.

New Business:

WDP Annual Nellie Tayloe Ross Fundraiser 2/10 at Kiwanis House in Cheyenne. State Central Committee Meeting is that morning.

Newspaper Ad Sign-up: Alwins will pay 1/2 cost of all regular monthly ads for 2024. Need 4 more members to step up - cost is \$36.80/month.

Mid-Winter Blues Bash:

Group picked new name due to some community members' concern the party was held after Lent. We decided to have a mental health theme (goes with Blues). Discussed several potential speakers. Decided to ask Ralph Neider-Westermann (Wyo Lifeline, 988) to be speaker, and have Safe Haven, Hot Springs Prevention Coalition & High Country Behavioral Health table. Will save other speakers for a Mental Health Panel at another date. Will hold at Community Hall again. Kim & Jami will chair. Marilyn & Georgeanne will be in charge of food (potluck). Levi will create invitations. Dale will be in charge of photography/videography and Levi will help. Kim will send around sign-ups for food and particulars.

Other Speakers/Activities: Kim mentioned that Becky Kersten wants to hold one election training for Democrats and Republicans together

this year, and wants to wait until after the legislative session in case more changes are made by the legislature to 2024 election laws. Kim will contact Cheryl Aguiar and try to set a date in April for this event. We will hold a Womens' Health forum in June. The Ice Cream Social will be July 4th at HSSP. Kim will contact HSSP to reserve the Kiwanis Shelter. Members would like a new banner made. We will try to find legislators to speak in August (Frudenthal Sullivan/Sherwood/Cooper?), and host the mental health panel in October (Peggy Hayes; Dr. Jeb Schenck; Stephanie Richert; Jen Cheney; Kelli Bloedel; Miranda Nelson).

Fundraising: Kim would like to try to encourage fundraising for expenses (printing, advertising, food, etc.) and for "scholarships" so more people can attend WDP meetings. Suggestion to host a Dems-only fundraiser in September with Rep. Karlee Provenza. Potentially invite Jason Bowman (if Provenza talks about her work with police accountability).

Dish with the Dems: People talked about how fun and laid back the Winter Party was, and wanting to do more things like that. Kim suggested "Dish with the Dems" where we can have a meeting, hopefully at people's houses, with no agenda and just hang out and talk. Members suggested we hold these quarterly, starting in March. Dale & Janice offered to have a summer party/BBQ with fire pit in their new garden area. Kim will reach out to Sonja Becker/Merrill Ready re a meat donation.

Elections: Briefly touched on the importance of Democrats serving on local boards. Kim asked members to consider running for a nonpartisan seat during the 2024 election. Kim will reach out to WDP to find out if any determinations had been made regarding billboards.

Adjourned: 7:10 pm.

Next meeting: Feb. 7, 2024, at 6:00 pm