

## **Second Quarter Meeting – May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Jackson County Democratic Committee**

Chair Tom Wyrsh called the second meeting of the Jackson County Democratic Committee to order at 7:05 p.m. in the legislative chambers of the downtown courthouse. A moment of silence was held, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Judy Briggs called roll. Thirty-five members were present, eight by proxy, and three legislators in closing session were excused. The chair declared a quorum present due to vacancies.

While the attendance was being tallied, Treasurer John Comstock gave his report, now filed with these minutes.

Vacancies: Blue Sub 4 and Ward 19 committeemen vacancies were carried forward to the next meeting.

Minutes were approved as published following the motion of John Mayfield and second of Pete Raya.

Report of Chair: Wyrsh recognized Cathy Spainhower, chair of the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Convention, for her efforts in organizing the delegate selection process at that level held in late April in Higginsville. Applause. Wyrsh also thanked all for holding their Mass Meetings in their wards/townships. Spainhower noted the state chair will soon choose members from the 5<sup>th</sup> District to serve on committees at State Convention. State Convention will be held in Sedalia (June 17-18) at the Matthewson Exhibition Center – watch for details to arrive shortly. Chair Wyrsh asked all to think about holding voter registration drives in each member's locale due to the impact on upcoming elections. He would like for festivals and fairs to also be covered, and to ask for financial assistance with booth fees.

Executive Director's Report: Lauren Gepford noted a good balance in the Executive Director salary account; a couple of interns have finished their tenure. The Truman Gala has interest at the booked Arrowhead location. She thanked Phil Glynn for sponsoring a fundraiser to assist in sending three students to go to the High School Democrats of America Summit. Applause. She noted a number of active organizations at present: Fountain City Equality Coalition, John Knox Democrats – have registered 170 voters before the Presidential Primary. Clinton and Sanders campaigns had a great presence here prior to the Presidential Preference Primary. She attended Hannibal Days, a good networking event, and assisted 12 in getting to the polls on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Mass Meetings appeared to go smoothly, and three statewide campaign workers started in the JCDC office today. Gepford thanked all for their work, and has enjoyed her two years here. She took a job today with the state party working on their VAN project.

Newly hired Geoff Gerling noted he has been active in local Democratic politics and thinks there is a good foundation to the job he is taking on. The May 21<sup>st</sup> Truman Gala has \$64,960 committed at this point. He has been in productive meetings and will be working with Mike Englert (Independence) House Dist. #20 on his campaign. He will be taking notice of Republicans terming out in 2 years, attending club meetings to see how they can grow, and developing a clear and defined multi-year plan, holding a JCDC fundraiser in September at Mallinson Winery in Sugar Creek, and focusing on voter registration.

### Standing Committee Reports:

Legislation: All legislators are in session tonight, tomorrow is the final day – no report available.

Fundraising: Chair Gene Morgan will get together with Geoff Gerling to formulate a budget.

Truman Gala: May 21<sup>st</sup> – buy tickets to the new venue at Arrowhead.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None

Announcements: Chair Wyrsh noted his 26 years on the committee, 6 as Chair. He said it has been a humbling honor and appreciated the support of the Committee, Executive Directors Jessica Podhola and Lauren Gepford. He noted there are a lot of good candidates running.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Judy Briggs, Secretary