

Asotin County Democrats General Meeting Minutes

Saturday, January 26, 2019, 9:00 a.m.,

Jawbone Flats Café, 6th and Sycamore, Clarkston

1) Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Dan Ransom, PE called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. John Flerchinger lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. (The period from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. was for discussion and ordering breakfast.)

2) Program and discussion—Martin Luther King, Jr. by Dan Ransom, PE

Chair Ransom gave an informative presentation on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and he showed the video from the 1963 March on Washington (“I have a dream” speech). PCO Janet Marugg (Heights 306) commented that, even today, it is astounding that some people are racists. She said this is from fear—racists don’t know people of other races. Richard Hayward commented that non-whites don’t feel welcome here. He said that Clarkston should declare itself a Welcoming City.

3) Minutes of Last Meeting

Acting as Secretary Pro Tem, Chair Ransom read the minutes of the last meeting.

4) Executive-Board Reports

a) Dan Ransom, PE, Chair

Chair Ransom reported that he has made updates to the website, now with a “.org” suffix: www.asotindemocrats.org . He said that the former “.com” (commercial) designation indicated a corporate tie-in. He stated his assertion that Democrats are the party of the workers, not the corporations. (The old address with .com forwards to the new www.asotindemocrats.org) The agenda and meetings are now linked .pdf documents (easier to read on all types of devices). He has added a calendar page.

Chair Ransom presented his goals for 2019:

- i) Involve young people in the county party
- ii) Fill the executive-board positions and committee positions
- iii) Support / recruit sympathetic candidates for the 2019 local elections (see Appendix)
- iv) Prepare for the 2020 caucus

Please contact Chair Ransom, (509) 330-6398, to apply for the unfilled board positions.

b) ; Vice Chair,

c) ; State Committee-member (SCM)

Chip and Donna Norman expressed an interest in serving as SCMs. We discussed having four SCMs, so that the SCMs can spread the travel. SCMs meet at the quarterly state meetings, held in the four quadrants of the state. Asotin County Democrats supply a \$100 stipend to traveling SCMs.

d) ; State Committee-member

e) Emily Ashby, Treasurer

Treasurer Ashby reported that no transactions have taken place since the last meeting. She and Chair Ransom will connect to get his signature on the committee bank account. Emily explained the book, Boards on Fire. The executive board is reading this book. The main notion is to involve our group passion with the passions of other groups. Janet Marugg suggested that we go to other area groups’ meetings.

f) , Secretary

5) Committee Reports

a) Bylaws; PCO Donna Marugg (Heights 306) and Chair Dan Ransom, PE

Janet stated that it is time to review the committee bylaws. Chair Ransom reformatted these (no changes to the wording) to make the bylaws easier to read, and he placed these on the website, <http://www.asotindemocrats.org/bylaws.html>. Janet and Dan, and other volunteers will review the bylaws and make recommendations for updates at the next General Membership meeting.

- b) Budget; Treasurer Emily Ashby

Emily is looking for volunteers to help with the yearly accounting.

- c) Candidate Recruitment and Development;
- d) Community Involvement;
- e) Fundraising and Event Planning; John Flerchinger

John Flerchinger presented some ideas on upcoming events and fundraising. He agreed to lead the Fundraising and Event Planning committee. In addition, he stated that he is passionate about increasing membership. He will head the Membership committee, as well.

- f) Legislative Action;
 - g) Membership; John Flerchinger
 - h) New-Member Recruitment;
 - i) Veterans' Activities; Richard Hayward II
- 6) Old Business (if not covered in Reports, above)
- a) PCO and Exec-Board recruitment

Chair Ransom reported that Treasurer Ashby has agreed to a Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) position. He stated that, per Washington law, appointed PCOs have the same stature and voting rights as do elected PCOs. He has a goal of appointing at least one new PCO per month in 2019. In this manner, we can be ready for the 2020 caucus (PCOs run the caucus for their precinct).

7) New Business

- a) Adopt a Highway
 - i) Our next highway cleanup (Highway 12 west of Clarkston) is February 16, 9:00 a.m., followed by another highway cleanup on May 18. Meet and Evans Lake (see announcements, below)
- b) Community awareness events
 - i) Alive After 5—no data at this time
 - ii) Celebrate Love—July 13, 4 p.m.—9 p.m. at Pioneer Park in Lewiston. We will have a booth
 - iii) Riverfest—late summer
 - iv) Summer Membership Meeting BBQ/Picnic—tentatively August
- c) Donation for ice cream for the Veterans' Home at our fourth-Saturday meetings

We collected funds for donating to the Veterans' Home; at this meeting, \$12.17, of the \$30 we need to sponsor our first event. The donation jar will be available at the next meeting.

- d) The Asotin County Library Board is looking for a new board member

There were no volunteers at the meeting, but members said that they would ask their friends.

- e) Upcoming elections

PCO Janet Marugg (Heights 306) recommended that we institute a survey and vetting process for endorsing candidates. We can approach the candidates to complete the survey and process.

8) Announcements

- a) ACD board meeting, Saturday, February 9, 9:00 a.m., Café La-Tay's, 15th and Fleshman, Clarkston

- b) Moms Demand Action meeting, Tuesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m., Asotin County Library, 417 Sycamore, Clarkston
- c) Adopt a Highway Cleanup, Saturday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.; Evans Pond (Evans Rd and Highway 12)
- d) General membership meeting, Saturday, February 23, 9:00 a.m., Jawbone Flats Café, 6th and Sycamore, Clarkston

9) Good of the order

Christie Fredericksen invited all of us to attend the next Moms Demand Action for Gun Safety meeting at the Asotin County Library in Clarkston, February 12, at 6:30 p.m. Asotin Democrats support this group to promote responsible gun storage, and to prevent needless gun violence.

Our donation jar earned \$22.00, to deposit in the ADCCC bank account.

10) Adjourn

We adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Appendix

Position / District	District	Office Name	Term (years)	Incumbent
Blue Mountain Fire Dist. No. 1	Blue Mountain	Fire Commissioner 1	6	Justin Moss
Cemetery District		Commissioner #2	6	Tom Turnbow
City of Asotin	Asotin	City council member #01	4	Jennifer Bly
City of Asotin	Asotin	City council member #02	4	Lori Loseth
City of Asotin	Asotin	Mayor	4	Vikki Bonfield
City of Clarkston	Clarkston	City council member #06	4	Belinda Campbell
City of Clarkston	Clarkston	City council member #07	4	Joel Profitt
City of Clarkston	Clarkston	City council member #05	4	Skate Pierce
City of Clarkston	Clarkston	Mayor	4	Monika Lawrence
Fire District 1		Fire commissioner 2	6	Ken Klug
Port District A		Port commissioner 1	6	Rick Davis
School District 250		School director #02	4	Miles Sidener
School District 250		School director #01	4	Meghan Pierce
School District 250		School director #03	4	Dennis R. Lenz
School District 420		School director #01	4	Paula R Elskamp
School District 420		School director #05	4	Warren J. Benner
School District 420		School director #04	4	Graeson Parsons