

SD63 Central Committee Meeting
Monday May 3, 2004
Penn-Lake Public Library

Called to Order at 6:30 pm

Present: David Weinlick, Dottie Gilkeson, Nancy Olson, Charles Miller, Jerry Gilkeson, Todd Dalebroux, John Gigrich, Jeff Lomonoco, Ann Wendel, Gary Dukes, Dave Dunham, Margaret Severe, Ruth Hatch, Richard Sethre, Douglas Wenzel, Robert Walstad, Robert Boehlke. Quorum reached.

Treasurer's report: We had about \$3000 in account prior to flower sale. Bill for custodial services at Richfield Intermediate for SD63 Convention was \$274—we don't know if there will be additional bill for facility rental. We netted about \$175 for food concessions at CD5 Convention.

Dottie reported that flower sale went well—we have some left over geraniums and two extra patio baskets. Financial info hasn't been totalled yet.

Upcoming events: Bean Feed, Richfield July 4 & Cattail Days—no additional planning has occurred. Jerry raised suggestion of using show quality boats as "floats" for candidates in parade. People were favorable to idea and we will check with candidates and look into it further. We will also look into some additional events: E.g., Bloomington Memorial Day parade; Bloomington Art Fair; St. Bonifacious Festival; Normandale fireworks event. Motion raised, seconded and passed to spend money needed to get a booth at Cattail Days.

State Convention: further discussion was had whether to spend money to have hospitality suite—consensus reached not to pursue it.

Mpls Convention scheduled for May 15. There are three school board endorsements at issue and there will be a debate whether to have city-only caucuses next year.

Richfield Endorsement Convention: Dave reported that Richfield DFL Club is not planning anything at this time and candidates haven't expressed interest in getting an endorsement. John Enger is considering it; Susan Rosenberg is leaning against it. Debate was had whether we should call an endorsement convention, whether we should call ward-specific conventions, or whether we should do endorsing ourselves. Motion raised, seconded and passed to table the issue until we find out who is running and whether they want an endorsement. Status of Richfield DFL Club is uncertain, they think they did file a charter with state and state concedes they might have lost the records in their office move.

Kerry campaign wants a few "go-to" persons within district to help with contacting precinct chairs and coordinating campaign efforts. Dave Dunham, Margaret Severe, Ann Wendel, Jeff Lomonaco, and Ruth Hatch volunteered—their information will be forwarded to Kerry campaign.

We need 2 additional delegates (1 of each gender) and alternates (1 of each gender) to CD5 Central Committee. Ann Wendel and Todd Dalebroux volunteered to be delegates. Motion raised, seconded and passed to elect Ann and Todd as delegates. Margaret Severe and Gary Dukes volunteered to be alternates. Motion raised, seconded and passed to elect Margaret and Gary as alternates.

Adopt-a-District Efforts: Debate occurred as to best way to contribute to "Take Back the House" efforts in other districts. Should we pick one or two districts to "adopt"? Jeff Lomonaco volunteered to be director in charge of researching and recommending candidates to help out. Should we have candidate-specific fundraisers? Should we have a general "Take Back the House" fundraiser? Should we organize phone banks for candidates?

House Parties: Paul Thissen has volunteered to host a party. Ann's volunteer list has several persons who have volunteered to hold house parties. Discussion was had of idea to have some of the parties as small BBQ in the park events. Charles and/or Dave should be present if possible so that we can accept donations and be able to give people receipts and state refund forms right on the spot. Todd Dalebroux volunteered to be the director in charge of house party planning.

Discussion was had of how to advertise house parties and invite people. Maybe we can have links on Info For Democracy web site. This was tied into discussion of doing lit drops or door knocks in district to get people revved up for election season. Maybe we should focus efforts in areas which have traditionally had lower voter turnout. Maybe we should do lit drops in the areas where house parties are taking place to invite people, with lit pieces also containing additional information.

Discussion was had of having a precinct chair training session and/or creating precinct chair handbook.

Newsletter to go out to all caucus attendees is in the works.

Volunteer Database. Ann has been working to organize database of persons who signed on to volunteer for various activities. 100+ people are on list, with many people volunteering in multiple categories. A debate occurred whether to call everyone on list to get general sense of their interest level and availability—opinion was expressed that it might not be wise to call people without having something specific for them to do. We probably should organize things so people don't get inundated with too many different calls. Ann may start with the list of people who volunteered for phone calling in order to organize a calling system that's ready to go when we need volunteers.

Future meetings: Debate occurred whether it was preferable to set a regular monthly meeting time or whether to schedule meetings for different time each month. Most people felt it was better to have a regular meeting schedule. First Monday of the month works well for people. We don't have a location yet.

Dottie moved to give \$50 gift certificate to Dan & Sheila Larson for their assistance hosting last two flower sales. Most people felt a cash gift was problematic. Motion made instead to give them the two left over patio baskets with a thank you card.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.