

101st District Committee

MINUTES

April 14, 2021
1:00 PM

ZOOM Meeting
Host Manistee, Michigan

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Jim Dulzo called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Members in attendance were Jim Dulzo, Barb Conley, George Wellman, Keria Duvernoy, Jamie Brandts, and Peg Raddatz.

2. Barb Conley, who would have to leave the meeting shortly, reported the Leelanau Dems would have guest speaker Emma Ross, a Forester, on Earth Day. A member of the Leelanau Dems had approached Bob Sutherland, owner of the Cherry Republic to run for office. He had concerns of winning and being in the minority. Jamie Brandts would keep us updated of how many flip able seats might be filled. It was noted, Bob's brother had expressed interest in running.

3. Jaime Brants, Michigan Democratic Party, Project 83, Northern Michigan Political Organizer

Jaime Brants, gave us an update of happenings at the MDP. Look for webinars and podcasts and the Legacy Dinner on May 13th. Nick Barnes of the MDP and Mike Vatter of the Senate Dems, can be contacted if you need assistance in crafting question or testimony for the Redistricting Hearings being held around the State. Also, Dorothy Johnson will be holding Office Hours for compliance questions.

4. Should we recruit a candidate for the 101st -- We don't need a winning candidate, but a respectable candidate to stave off a candidacy by Cary Urka. George Wellman brought up the PAC and that we need to raise money for our candidate. Peggy Raddatz will contact Dorothy Johnson, MDP Compliance Director, with two questions: 1) can a PAC support a preferred candidate in a primary and 2) can a County Party donate to a PAC.

5. Beth McGill-Rizer, Jim Dulzo – Update on 101st Marketing Project

Beth McGill-Rizer

Discussion followed about the Sunday Night information Beth McGill-Rizer sends to each Party Chair. She had discovered some additional tools in her program, and the memes are now much more clear and well designed.

LTE programs were reported on by the county representatives and how they set them up. All reported they were well represented in the newspapers with LTEs, but not necessarily from the LTE program. Should they be scheduled? Benzie is going to try it.

The Video Project is about a month away from settling on a person as their subject. The topic will be daycare, featuring a single mom struggling to find reliable, affordable daycare. It will also feature others in the daycare loop.

George Wellman thought we could get some free software that would allow us to make animated commercials that we could do in conjunction with the Video Project and televise them.

Lee Trucks added if one advertised on cable, you could target the area and even choose which program it appeared on.

George Wellman also suggested we propose some “what we believe” values and 2-3 issues similar to local community organizations and ask them to help us with advertising expenses.

6. County Reports

a. Mason County

Mason County due to illness, had no representatives present.

b. Manistee County

Manistee County held a rally yesterday in opposition to the proposed Republican voter suppression laws. They had excellent coverage in the Manistee News Advocate. Their

monthly membership meeting will be a representative from the MAPS Bond Proposal, which the MCDP Exec. Board has endorsed. On Earth Day, the MCDP will do a walk about picking up trash with the Friendship Society.

c. Benzie County

Benzie County will be hosting David Arryo and John Petoskey of the local tribe to speak Saturday on Earth Day. Benzie Dems will also be conducting a Civics 101 centered on Benzie County. In a week's time the Leadership Team will have a retreat about how to go back to meeting face to face, and how best to use time, talent, and treasure moving into the future.

7. Discussion for the Good of the Cause

Discussion followed on how these meetings have brought us all closer together – allowing us to reach out to one another as friends.

8. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday – May 12th @ 1:00 PM

Next Messaging Project Meeting: Wednesday – May 28th @ 1:00 PM

9. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Raddatz, Secretary