

**Minutes of the Saunders County Democrats Executive Committee and County Meeting Oct. 9, 2016
Noon, Bordeaux Pizza, Ashland, NE**

Call to Order

Vice Chair Mikel-Jon Divis called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Present were Executive Committee Members Mikel-Jon Divis, Maria Cadwallader, Ed Zeleny, and Emily Koehler. Saunders County Democrats present were Stan Keiser, Evelyn Keiser, Alan Meyer, Nancy Meyer, Jack Eager, Desiree Hunt, Shawn Otte, and Merrion Brooks. Also present were Tyler Hedges and Gary and Ellen Hellerich.

Treasurer's Report

Ed Zeleny reported that the balance since the last meeting had not changed and at the next meeting he will report income, expenses, and the new balance.

Secretary's Report

The Committee approved Emily Koehler's motion, which Ed Zeleny seconded, to approve the Minutes from the 9/18/16 and 10/2/16 Meetings.

Committee Reports

Banquet Committee

Those present reported their ticket sales and information about pledged auction items, and some submitted ticket money to M-J and Ed. Desi reported that the decorations and door prizes were ready. The committee confirmed the final layout plan, setup schedule, and per person responsibilities during the banquet. The committee agreed to hold its post-banquet wrap up meeting at the Oct. 23 Executive Committee Meeting at Nancy's.

Unfinished Business

The Committee unanimously advised Maria to change the website name, still to be hosted by WordPress, to SaundersCoNEDemocrats.com. The Committee previously authorized the WordPress fee (paid by a donation through summer 2017) to be paid as a continuing regular expense when due.

Discussion

Discussion with attendees mentioned that getting out the vote was not only about winning specific elections, because the proportion of registered Democrats who vote also determines how much money and other resources we receive from the State and National Democratic Party and the number of delegate seats Nebraska Democrats get at the National Convention. In addition, in the "off" years, turning out the vote gives us a real chance to elect Democrats to local offices.

Officers explained we are having regular monthly County meetings after the Executive Committee Meetings because Democrats need to get to know each other to become active. We need volunteers to serve not just as Precinct Captains but as Precinct and Community Committees. Jack Eager and others strongly suggested have "drawing cards," such as speakers at these meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.