

**Arizona Democratic Party
Executive Committee Meeting
November 19, 2011
Yuma, Arizona**

I. Meeting was called to order at 8:12.

II. Chair's Report:

Democrats have had a good past ten days, the best in a long time. Some wind at our backs for the real work ahead in 2012. Hopefully a sign of rethinking, doing things differently.

III. Executive Director's Report:

Luis Heredia announced Lisa Hernandez is the new Finance Director for the party as of November 8. She will be working with Nick Holder. Reed Adamson left to work for the Bivens' for Senate campaign. Finance positions are unique for each state and donor base. Since last meeting, have added Andy Barr (introduced in August) who is working with Jennifer Johnson; he is the Director of Rapid Response, will increase ability to connect with grassroots. Andy communicates with "back east," Huffington Post, Politico, Daily Beast. Amplifies output, blogosphere, national reporters, then gets to local reporters. Will not be adding more staffers until March 2012. Will discuss at January meeting. Discussion of OFA and staffing as we move into 2012 campaign. Can start collecting signatures, even though districts are not clear as of yet. Even exploratory can gather signatures. Discussion followed.

Andrei followed-up with a discussion about the Accountability Project headed by Andy Barr.

IV. Approval of Minutes of April and August Meetings:

Motion made to approved; seconded.

Corrections: Mohave with an h instead of a j. Correct Jo Kelleher. "Roll" on second to last line in Chair's report in August. Correct the spelling of Rich Brownell's name.

All in favor of approving with changes. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Treasurer's Report:

Deferred because Treasurer was not in attendance. It was noted that this is the second meeting in a row at which the Treasurer has not been present.

VI. Introduction of CD Delegates-at-Large:

Congressional District Liaisons--CD 1=Angela LaFevre, CD 2=Robert Donat and Beth Weisser, CD 3=Jessica Catlin, CD5=Lauren Kuby. CDs 4 and 6 need liaisons; will draft from those districts. CD7= Barbara Tellman, CD8=Harvey Akeson. Discussion about the function of the liaisons followed. Weakest link is getting to "every day person." Goal is to reenforce the grassroot efforts. Cultivate communication within each Congressional district. Yavapai County has a workshop on right-wing financial and legislative supporters. If interested in workshop, contact Yavapai County Chair Lindsey Bell. Coconino County has workshop on taxation; worked with NAU professor to create. Pima County, with Paula Aboud, has put together a workshop on the flat tax. Contact the County Chairs to bring these to your CD.

As of today, 66% of Executive Board have donated financially to the party. Overall, 34% of total State Committee have donated financially to the party.

VII. Platform Report:

Janie Hydrick passed out drafts of the platform. Two platforms ago had about 12 issues. The last one was divided into three sections. Look at both in terms of content. Based platform on "Taking back the Constitution." Has economic security as at thread throughout the platform. Second was effective, transparent, responsible government. Democratic party will make that come to fruition. Janie reviewed the platform focus and basic elements. Need common ground to build bridges with other organizations. Keep the document alive. Is broad enough in belief statements to engender dialogue. Timeline: December 3rd is deadline for suggestions/feedback from Executive Committee; December 17th is projected date to send finalized draft to SC members; January 21st will be approval at the next State Committee meeting. Discussion. Email Janie at Hydrick@aol.com. Welcome input, questions, suggestions. Has been sent electronically to Exec Comm. On-going discussion of how to be used in communications.

Second document (on ADP website) "What We Stand For" does not represent what we believe, recommend document be deleted. Can bullet point the platform if needed, condense for everyday use. Clubs, caucuses, counties should all have platform on their websites.

VIII. Chair of Chairs Report:

Doug Ballard spoke about the major initiative to support smaller, less strong counties. Updating the Chair's manual. Offering officers trainings. Raising technological skills and resources in counties. Also working on County elections and voter registration plans. A master road map for counties, developing "bench strength" for future candidates.

IX. Resolution Committee Report:

Jo Kelleher said resolutions would go "smooth as glass." She will be meeting with Resolutions Committee. Only titles of resolutions will be read at the general meeting, not the entire resolution. Please be ambassadors and pickup agendas, minutes, schedule. Herd people to sign-in and information table. Please be sure to sign-in on CD sign-in and session sign-in. Beth Weisser asked for procedure clarification re. resolutions. Jo said by-laws cover. Jo said resolutions have to be submitted to party 40 days in advance and posted within 30 days. If something happens within that time period, can be submitted from the floor. Need to meet with Committee before general session. Need procedure check-list or fact list. Discussion of making the website more user friendly especially concerning resolutions. Chair of By-laws Committee said they will take on the job of creating such a fact sheet or checklist for resolution submission procedure. Liaisons can be that front-line of questions, information, process clarification.

X. Clubs and Caucuses Committee Report:

Doug Mings gave an update on CCC. Are meeting regularly, had voter registration drive and happy hour in Maricopa County. Acknowledged caucus leaders in attendance (LGBT, Veterans, Arizona Federation of Democratic Women). Chair of the Hispanic Caucus has resigned; will be electing new Chair today. Disabilities Caucus is newly-recognized and will be meeting today. Mentioned survey being done in caucuses today. It was noted that Doug had not mentioned Clubs during report: why not? By-laws say State Party will recognize any club the county recognizes. Clubs must exist under another body. Usually are facilitated by Counties, have been leaving within those hands, but will be happy to help in any way. Do not have to be a delegate to be caucus member--- only have to be a Democrat.

XI. Affirmative Action/Delegate Selection Process:

Andy Stone, Delegate Selection Chair. Andy and Luis have visited Charlotte to check out facilities, hotels, etc. Gathered information, will be bidding on hotels. Are working with the DNC dealing with presidential preference primary. Set for the end of February. In order to comply with DNC, need to hold primary March 6th. One way to get around problem is to defer participation in the primary and hold a caucus in conjunction with delegate selection March 31st. Republicans will be attempting to get prop 106 on the ballot for primary. If it gets on the ballot, will reevaluate, make a decision about AZ Dem participation.

Henry Wade noted websites to track convention happenings--Charlottein2012.com, charlottesgotalot.com--travel arrangements, lodging, food, etc. 288 days until the convention. Let CDs know your intention if you would like to be a delegate. Please exchange information so people know where to go to submit themselves as potential delegates. Looked at travel opportunities-- flights from \$238-2300 round-trip. Earlier reservations are better. When will forms for filing be available? Date to be determined.

XII. Vice-Chairs Report:

Jim Woodbrey recognized Jo K for her work organizing the meeting. Jim has been working on redistricting. Also working on LD and Club registration which has been going down all year and is a serious problem. Urge all LDs, Clubs, and Counties to have voter registration drives immediately. Also working on forming new clubs. Chris C spoke at Alhambra High School about the political process. Manny Cruz working on abandoned mine projects--closed 2 and educating thousands of children about the dangers of mines. Working with Hispanic organizations. Laura Hogan recruiting labor members to participate in redistricting. Mentioned article in *Tuscon Weekly*-- discussed Governor's actions. Jo devoted time to organizing State Comm meetings. Getting Vice-Chairs doing more so staff can do other things. Sherry Williams will be moving to Atlanta. Will leave the state better than when she came. She was working with Stanton campaign and at the Party HQ. Gerald working around the state recruiting new candidates, on redistricting, on mayoral campaign, and in African-American and Muslim communities. Need to do more in the coming months. Encourage everyone to work on registration. Vice-Chairs working on the two mayoral campaigns.

XIII. Announcements:

Gila County mentioned "Turning Arizona Blue" stickers.
Beth Weisser recognized Sharon Thomas' birthday. Other birthdays recognized.

XIV. Meeting was adjourned at 9:33.