

Laramie County Democratic Party Central Committee Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday June 26, 2007
Burns Community Center – Burns, Wyoming
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mike Bell, Chairman

CIRCULATION OF MINUTES

From April 24, 2007

Minutes were approved as circulated

REPORTS –

Chairman Bell –

The John F. Kennedy event was well attended and our party even picked up some new members. Information regarding the event was sent to the Kennedy Library.

Chairman Bell introduced Mr. Brandon Owens, the new executive director of the Wyoming State Democratic Party. Mr. Owens expressed his thanks for the \$550 donation to the State Party from the Laramie County Democrats. Mr. Owens briefed the Committee regarding a recent controversy with a local newspaper. The newspaper quoted Mr. Owens and his quote was taken out of context making it sound like the State Party was telling the Governor who to appoint as the next Wyoming Senator in place of deceased Senator Craig Thomas. This issue has been addressed with the news media. On another note, Director Owens indicated that it is the State Party's priority to provide a strong Democratic slate for the 2008 election. Democrats are encouraged to run on all levels for city, state, legislative, and congressional seats.

Chairman Bell also announced that Thomas Schwartz will be the new field director operating under Mr. Brandon Owens.

Chairman Bell indicated that another media-related controversy occurred recently when he submitted a letter to the editor of the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle in support of Presidential candidate, Joe Biden. The newspaper published his name but also listed him as the Laramie County Democratic Party Chairman, which made the letter appear to be a county party endorsement.

In continuing our recruitment efforts, Chairman Bell indicated that he helped the Grass Roots Coalition at their table during the annual Cheyenne "Superday" event. He also indicated that he would purchase a new tent for the Laramie County Democratic Party and the Grass Roots Coalition for events like these. Community events provide excellent opportunities to promote presidential

candidates! It is also important to remember that in 2008, all three congressional seats will be up for election so we must start discussing campaign strategies now!

Director Owens indicated that the State Party can be reached with questions and concerns at 307-473-1457 or 1-800-SAY-DEMS, as well as, www.wyomingdemocrats.com.

Chairman Bell also announced that a barbeque is planned for the county party sometime in August and the Jefferson Jackson Dinner will be held on September 29th in Rock Springs.

Last of all, the Laramie County Democratic Party Vice-Chairwoman, Beth Lance, had a baby boy—Andrew Patrick Lance.

Vice-Chairwoman—No Report

Communications Director—No Report

Treasurer Marcum—

As of the End of May, there is \$2,358.27 in the party checking account. \$762 has been spent and \$100 will come back as a return on the deposit spent for use of the Burns Community Center.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Newsletter Ad Hoc Committee—

There will be a meeting in September for the newsletter and nobody has submitted anything as of yet.

Grass Roots Coalition—

The Health Issues forum held in May was fantastic. Thank you to everyone that attended! Thank you letters were sent to the presenters and more events like this will be planned for the future. The booth at “Superday” also went very well. The next meeting of the Coalition will take place on Thursday the 28th of June at 10:30 AM at the Barnes and Noble bookstore. During this meeting, the Coalition will plan the August barbeque and the booth operations during the county fair. On September 15th, the Coalition will host a meeting in Pine Bluffs.

CORRESPONDENCE

A list was circulated to all members present to list correspondence to be sent by party leadership.

OLD BUSINESS

County Party Bylaws—

The most recent draft of the bylaws were circulated and amended. The bylaws were adopted as amended and will be disseminated at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Art Projects—

The year 2008 marks the 75th anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. To celebrate the New Deal Era, art projects are being solicited by the Wyoming Council of the Arts. Grant monies are available for these projects so if anyone is interested they may contact Mike Shay at 307-777-7742. Any organization can apply and the deadline for submissions is in July.

Next meeting—

The next meeting of the Laramie County Democratic Party will take place on August 28th at the Plains Hotel at 7 PM.