

DRAFT

**Arizona Democratic Party
Regular Meeting of the ADP State Committee
Saturday, April 13, 2019
Rincon High School, Tucson, Arizona**

Chair Felecia Rotellini called the meeting of the ADP State Committee to order at 1:13 pm. Veterans Caucus Chair Pat Carr led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias welcomed State Committee members to Pima County and talked about gains by Democrats in 2018 and how important it is to find races to win in 2020.

Chair Rotellini introduced U.S. Senate candidate Mark Kelly and former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords. Kelly thanked everyone who worked hard to elect a Democrat to the U.S. Senate from Arizona for the first time in more than 25 years. He said he was running because Washington is broken and not working “in a way that makes sense to me.” His time in the Navy and NASA taught him the value of coordination and teamwork and using data, science, and facts. He also discussed issues relating to health care coverage and climate change. Kelly asked for everyone’s help in the collective mission of getting him elected in 2020.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Rotellini recognized elected officials present and thanked the ADP staff, then talked about how getting Democrats elected in 2018 has already impacted the state of Arizona in 2019. She noted that the Executive Board has held a strategic planning meeting and that there are trainings being conducted around the state to make sure we are ready for 2020. At the March Executive Committee meeting, the ADP rolled out an ambitious budget to sustain an aggressive field program that will keep sweeping the state, engaging volunteers and voters, and keeping our message about Arizonan and American values out front and center. All of this is to make sure that we take back the Arizona legislature and the Corporation Commission, elect another Democrat to the U.S. Senate, pick up more Congressional seats, and make sure Arizona’s electoral votes go to the Democratic nominee.

Chair Rotellini then outlined the first half of strategic plan: (1) build a robust field program; (2) maintain a year-round presence and organizing efforts in under-represented communities; (3) professionalization of the party at every level; (4) bench building for candidates and campaign staff; and (5) build the VAN. She said she needed the help of everyone to be unified in getting Democrats elected, to work together so we can build relationships with one another and use time and energy wisely. Our job has to be singularly focused on capturing voters to vote for our Democratic candidates.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Operations Director Barb Lubin reported that for the April 13 meeting, 360 State Committee members were present in person and 197 by proxy, for a total of 557 (of 806) members or 69% of the total membership, indicating a quorum had been met for purposes of voting.

Finance Director Joey Czajkowski said that the annual Heritage Dinner is going to become the Mofford-Warner Dinner. Tickets will be half price for State Committee members and PCs, and legislative districts will be incentivized to fill tables. The dinner's headliner will be announced April 15.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Herschel Fink has been visiting battleground states and spending time with chairs, other executive directors, and partner groups to learn best practices. One thing he has learned is that the ADP is doing good things to help prepare for 2020. He has reached out to all the presidential campaigns to let them know the ADP will be a resource for them and staff is working to ensure that campaigns and candidates travel outside of Phoenix. He also said that he is working diligently to finish the first draft of the Delegate Selection plan and encouraged input from members.

He announced that if \$1,500 was raised during the State Committee meeting, Finance Director Czajkowski would announce the headliner for the Mofford-Warner Dinner before the meeting concluded.

Executive Director Fink introduced Brandon Dillon, past chair of the Michigan Democratic Party, who talked about expectations for battleground states and the responsibility we have to get things right. He urged us to organize early and in every corner of the state, not just in population centers with Democrats. Since races will be won or lost by just thousands of votes, we have to ensure we have outreach all over the state. He also noted that a cookie-cutter approach to campaigning in the state by the presidential nominee will not work; the campaign needs to be run in partnership with Arizona and the ADP because we know how to win elections here. He ended by saying, "Be proud to be a Democrat. The eyes of the country will be on you. The view from the outside is that this is a state with huge potential. The question is not if Arizona is turning blue – it's when."

SECRETARY OF STATE REPORT

Secretary of State Katie Hobbs said she is still not tired of celebrating historic wins and answering to "Madame Secretary." Her office is working with a closely divided legislature and the governor's office to kill egregious bills that would suppress votes. She also said she has withdrawn the state from the Interstate Voter Registration Crosscheck program due to privacy and security concerns. She noted that Arizona remains a battleground state and the work continues to keep winning.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Senate Minority Leader Sen. David Bradley and House Assistant Minority Leader Rep. Randy Friese presented the legislative report. Sen. Bradley said there is always a great deal going on at the legislature and it is his intention to be the last Democratic minority leader in Arizona. He noted that typically about 1,600 bills are dropped each session, 600 of which will be processed and perhaps 300 to 400 will make it through both chambers. Although there are many bad bills, there are good ones; he cited SB1346, which passed during the week, as a good bill as it repeals a law that forbids sex education from promoting a "homosexual lifestyle" (the so-called "no promo homo" statute). He also said Democrats had stopped some bad bills, including ones relating to guns in parking lots and minimum wage for students. The budget should be discussed, debated, and voted on in the next four to six weeks.

Rep. Friese noted that activity in the House has slowed because with the current 31-29 split, the

majority leadership closes down floor action if all 31 Republican members are not present. He said several positive things have happened in the House, including the Democratic caucus having input on a climate plan, as well as the fast trajectory of SB1346. He said that the House Democratic caucus is tightly aligned and ready if the Governor grows tired of working with the fractured Republican caucus.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Secretary Anne Greenberg presented the minutes from the January 26, 2019, state committee meeting. Bryan Rasmussen (Yuma) moved and Kristin Dybvig-Pawelko (LD 15) seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer Rick McGuire presented the report for first quarter of 2019, noting that the party has underspent projections to date. He also discussed how much Democratic groups had outraised Republican groups in Arizona over the past several cycles, including by approximately \$2 million in 2018. Additionally, the Arizona Republican Party was fined about \$68,000 in 2018 for FEC mistakes and transgressions.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Former Attorney General Terry Goddard spoke about the Outlaw Dirty Money 2020 initiative and noted that this is an incredible organizational opportunity to get the more than 300,000 signatures needed.

Resolutions Committee Chair Pat Burns explained the resolution process, and then presented the committee report and recommendations for actions, noting that a motion to approve the resolutions together as a whole was in order:

- Resolution in Support of the Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Community
- Resolution in Support of Universal Comprehensive Healthcare Improved Medicare for All (amended to reflect new Senate Bill number)
- Resolution in Support of H.R. Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act – tabling this version
- Resolution in Support of the Outlaw Dirty Money 2020 Initiative (emergency)

Woody Thomas (LD 13) moved and Margot Thomas (LD 18) seconded to approve the resolutions as presented including amendments. The resolutions were approved by voice vote.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

Bylaws Committee member Anne Greenberg presented the committee’s report. The first proposed amendment, entitled Clarifying Committees Versus Other Groups, removed mention of Democratic clubs from the ADP bylaws as clubs are established under the bylaws of county committees, not the ADP. Frank Reed (LD 22) moved and Jim Hannley (LD 9) seconded to approve. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Treasurer McGuire then discussed current issues regarding clubs and caucuses. Due to statutory changes made in response to changes at the Federal Election Commission, the designation of “political organization” no longer exists within the Secretary of State’s reporting system, and thus clubs and caucuses are now designated as political action committees. This change varies the types of election-related activities clubs and caucuses may consider pursuing but brings certain restrictions on such

as well. There was some discussion on possible alternatives if groups did not want to operate as PACs, a discussion that is ongoing within the Bylaws Committee as well.

A second bylaw amendment clarifying that the ADP and its affiliated statewide entities would not endorse candidates in contested primaries was put forth by the Bylaws Committee. The proposed amendment followed from a resolution on party neutrality approved by the Executive Board in July 2018. It also supports statutory language that says political party committees cannot support anyone except the party's nominee. Additionally, the amendment contained language revising a bylaw section on Vote of No Candidate Support.

There were questions as to whether "affiliated statewide entities" included caucuses; per the current structure and relationship, caucuses would be included, but the bylaws already prohibit caucuses from issuing endorsements no matter what their status. It was noted that the Bylaws Committee is exploring these issues and anticipates further changes to the bylaws to help clarify status of and relationships to different entities, including caucuses. Given that, a motion to table the amendment was made by Frank Reed (LD 22) and seconded by Hazel Chandler (LD 22). The motion passed by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

ADP Vice Chairs present at the meeting updated activities relevant to the working groups they head:

- Senior Vice Chair Mary McCord Robinson (Audit) is working on an audit of ADP operations to capture what's working well and what's needed to be effective, and to get people with the right skills in the right places with the right resources.
- Vice Chair Deedra Abboud (Candidate Recruitment) is helping to build relationships with and identify new candidates as well as connect candidates and campaigns to relevant resources.
- Vice Chair Brianna Westbrook (Fundraising and Events) has been working closely with staff to ensure that events are accessible, as well as bring more dynamic speakers to events.
- Vice Chair Missa Foy-Jentoft (PC and Volunteer Recruitment) is working to help connect people with committee and campaigns and is building her volunteer recruitment committee, which is committed to supporting the field.
- Vice Chair Damian Preciado (Technology) is helping to build some needed infrastructure that will help the party and individuals better leverage tools that are available. He also is creating templates for caucus websites and working on the launch of the ADP Academy, which is intended to supplement in-person trainings.
- Vice Chair Bryan Rasmussen (Community Organizations) is focused on grassroots and legacy organizations outside the party that share our values and want to be more active in various pursuits.

Affirmative Action Moderator Lupe Conchas has a 30-member committee, and he has been meeting with groups and tribes all over the state. He also said that a PC allotment tool and demographic survey are coming, and he urged everyone to get involved and host house parties and community meetings about how to get involved for 2020.

Educational Coordinator Janie Hydrick noted that our ADP platform has become a guide for rewriting the DNC platform. She said that our Arizona values have been and continue to need to be stated and that we have to hold our elected officials to those values. She asked for feedback on the platform from individuals and caucuses, particularly to ensure that their values are present and stated clearly. Communications about

the platform and the needs of the committee will be forthcoming and that feedback is needed by the beginning of August.

Sen. Victoria Steele discuss the status of the ERA in the Arizona legislature and said that silent sentinels wearing ERA banners have been present and persistent at the Capitol.

Finance Director Czajkowski said that donations from the meeting had far surpassed the original \$1,500 goal and that more than \$4,600 had been raised. He announced that Secretary Julian Castro would be the headliner for the Mofford-Warner Dinner.

CAUCUS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Representatives from various caucuses and committees addressed the meeting:

- Federation of Democratic Women – Toni Denis – The Women in Blue luncheon was very successful, and the group is looking for women in Tucson who want to form a club.
- Council of County Chairs – Kelly Lindsey – The county chairs continued to work on a strategic plan. He also showed an example of a decorated chair that will be auctioned off in September.
- LGBT Caucus – Brianna Westbrook – The caucus used a new data tool that captures critical data about top issues important to the community at the Phoenix Pride events. The caucus also is recruiting new volunteers and holding monthly meetings.
- Progressive Caucus – Mikel Weisser – At its meeting, the caucus heard from speakers representing Arizona Students Association, Medicare for All, and NORML. The caucus also voted to encourage censure of Sen. Sinema due to some of her votes.
- Rural Caucus – Susan Breen –Caucus members had a discussion about Request to Speak on ALIS and heard from AZ Blue 2020 representatives and from Quiana Dickenson, who talked about rural county party building.
- Secular Caucus – Margot Thomas – The caucus heard from a speaker from the Secular Human Jewish Circle.
- Young Democrats of Arizona – Kalie Pawlik – The group discussed its year-end function and thanked State Committee members for helping it raise about \$900 through lunch sales.
- Disability Caucus – Celeste Pettijohn – The caucus will be working with staff to ensure that meeting locations take into consideration disability needs.
- AAPI Caucus – Sierra Yamanaka – The caucus will be working with our DNC liaison to help build membership.
- Election Integrity Committee – Randall Holmes – The Secretary of State’s office publishes an election procedures manual every 2 years and there will be opportunities for public input.
- Native American Caucus – April Ignacio – The caucus will be focused on elevating the voices of Native Americans from the 22 land-based tribes in Arizona.
- Labor – Ted Prezelski – The caucus heard from a representative with the United Steel Workers and also passed a resolution to enjoin the state party to not take contributions from the private prison industry.

ADJOURNMENT

Thereafter, a motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Connie Henry (LD 1) and seconded by Mikel Weisser (LD 5). The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Greenberg
ADP Secretary, 2019-2020
May 28, 2019