

Laramie County Democratic Party - 05/26/09
13 people attended

Mike Bell resigned as county party chair. He presented books and a plaque to the Plains Hotel to say thank you. He gave a Hubert Humphrey biography to Linda Stowers as a welcome to the new chair. Mike then spoke about running for Vice Chair of the state party and reaching out to faith based organizations. The state party wants to put out monthly press releases on issues of the day. One topic could be challenging Reed Eckhardt, managing editor at the Wyoming Tribune Eagle over a recent editorial concerning Muslims growing in influence leading to a possible Muslim takeover of the U.S. Mike says we should talk about being a tolerant society.

Bobby Marcum presented a plaque of appreciation to Mike Bell for his service as party chair and a life size cutout of JFK.

Linda Stowers gave the report of the nominating committee for Vice Chair. Ken McCauley was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Minutes were described, and accepted. They had previously been e-mailed out.

Gary Roadifer gave the Treasurer's report. He said there was \$3791.65 on hand and all bills have been paid. Gary is setting up an account with Paypal to take donations online and sell material through the website. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Linda Stowers gave an update on recent Grassroots Coalition activities - 30 people attended the tea on Saturday, May 24. The Governor's wife spoke, and key lime pie was served. In June, the county party will have a table at the Juneteenth celebration. There'll be no meeting in July, and a milk can dinner in August. Mary Lou Marcum encouraged more people to submit recipes for the party cookbook. She said 50 letters were sent out to distinguished Democrats, and she has received four recipes so far. There is a contest to name the cookbook - the winner gets a free cookbook.

Fundraising activities - Betty Jo passed out a pledge form for the state party. It takes \$9000 a month to run state party headquarters. Laramie County would pay \$1755 based on the number of votes Gary Trauner received in the last election. Terry Barbre sent a note, promising to increase pledge amount by \$1 for every new pledge, plus a private bagpipe concert for a pledge of \$50 or more. The bagpipe concert could be for the donor, or whoever the donor wanted to torture (as Terry put it...)

There was discussion about fundraising, where the money goes, how some money comes back to the county parties if the goal is exceeded.

Dave Lerner spoke about the plans for the website. Unfortunately, we couldn't get internet access at the meeting, so we couldn't show it. One of the things discussed was the need to have a section of the website for the Party's positions on various issues, and a separate area for press releases.

Next county Party meeting is June 30 – new state Chair Leslie Petersen won't be able to make it but Young Democrats will be coming. Wyoming Epilepsy Association is having a poker night June 27, 6 PM Plains Hotel, and invited Republicans and Democrats - buy in is \$20.

Senator Floyd Esquibel read a brief article about Wyoming budget problems - from 2000, but sounded like it could be from this year. The article quoted the Governor (Geringer) saying the Legislature could solve the state's budget problems during its regular session.

Linda Stowers talked a little about her background as a Democrat, campaign volunteer, and educator. Ken McCauley also talked about his background as a military man and former Republican.

There was additional discussion on issues and press releases, and what approach to take with them, including education funding and equalization among counties.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.