

**Portage County Democratic Central/ Executive Committee**  
**Po Box 729**  
**Ravenna, Ohio 44266**  
**[www.portagedemocrats.org](http://www.portagedemocrats.org)**

**Regular Meeting at Reed Memorial Library on June 30, 2021 @ 6:00pm**

**Democratic Central Committee Members Attending: 25**

**Guests Attending: 4**

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman DePerro at 6:08pm with 25 members present along with a number of guests.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brad Cromes.

A motion was made by Frank Hairston to approve the meeting minutes from April 22, 2021 with a 2nd by Lisa Hirt. The motion passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was read by Gary Horning. A motion to approve the report as read was made by Bruce Ribelin and 2nd by Bob Howard. The motion passed unanimously. A detailed report is available upon request.

**Committee Reports:**

The Finance Committee update was given by Frank Hairston. The upcoming fundraising event with Tim Ryan scheduled for July 17, 2021 from 10:00a.m until 11:00a.m at Independence of Portage County. Group efforts in organizing this event to include Portage County Democratic Party, The Young Democrats, The Federated Women, Black Elected Officials, KSU Democrats. Continued work with Federated Women on additional fundraising events. Black Elected Officials will hold a fundraiser in the last weeks of August or beginning of September, official date and time to be announced. A Golf Outing event will be held at Sunny Hills Golf Course on September 11, 2021, more details to follow. Watch for updates on the website calendar @ [portagedemocrats.org](http://portagedemocrats.org)

Constitutional Review Committee - Bob Howard gave an update of the meetings held with the review committee members. A draft update of the Constitution and the By-Laws were emailed out and available at the meeting. Members are asked to review and be prepared to vote to adopt at an upcoming meeting. Please reach out to a member of this committee with any questions or comments.

The Membership Committee - Christopher Clevenger-Morris gave an update as to the preparation of a Handbook/Training for new members. The goal of this handbook is to provide resources to members of the Central Committee and training as to expectations of the members. They hope to make this a standing committee to continue to support Central Committee Members year round. Please reach out to Chris or Becky Doggett for any questions. A copy will be emailed out soon.

The Service Committee - report was read by Denise Smith. The goal of this committee is to help find events that need our volunteer service. By being out and helping throughout the county, our members may be seen in positive efforts to support our communities. Upcoming events will be at the Renaissance Family Center in Windham, help is needed on July 27th, August 24th, September 28th, October 26th, November 23rd all starting at 8:30a.m. packing food for those in need. The Stephens Farm will be hosting an event on July 30th & 31st for the Skeels -Mathews celebration for students, volunteers are needed. Please contact Samantha or Ruth Stephens. Watch the calendar on the party website for any other upcoming events. Please contact any members of this committee for ideas in helping with this service.

Board of Elections: Terrie Nielsen spoke to the committee reference to a letter that is being mailed out to Central Committee Members on July 15th. Please open this packet right away and work on seeking out poll workers for the upcoming elections, this is our most important job as a Central Committee Member. There will be a sample letter for guidance along with some poll worker information pamphlets to be sent out. If you need more, please visit the Board of Elections office. The Semi-Annual Campaign Finance reports are due July 30th. Interested individuals in running for office are to go to the Board of Elections for assistance in filing the proper forms and help with going over the filing requirements. The Board of Elections will also have a booth set up at this years Portage County Fair in the Merchant building.

Old Business: 2020 Post-Mortem update was given by Brad Cromes on behalf of Kathleen Clyde. The work being done is collecting data on voter history in Portage County over the last couple election cycles. A large amount of the data is showing a number decrease due to the Pandemic. A large number of individuals in the County are eligible to vote, but not registered. The data gathering is still on going with a very complex report being built. Please contact Brad or Kathleen for questions on this report.

New Business: Municipal Court Judge Kevin Poland spoke to the committee about his campaign - he will be holding a fundraising event on July 27th from 4-7p at the Ravenna Elks. Please reach out to either candidate if you are wishing to help with their campaign. You may reach Judge Poland @ [judgekpoland@gmail.com](mailto:judgekpoland@gmail.com) and Judge Fankhauser @ [fankhauser@ameritech.net](mailto:fankhauser@ameritech.net) or (330)606-7624 for information on their campaign.

Volunteer Recruitment: Denise Smith spoke to the committee about communicating and sending letters to engage with your neighbors. Volunteers are needed at the PC Democratic Headquarters to help cover the office so that we can keep hours of operation. The Garrettsville Summer Fest

(August 6-8), Portage County Fair (August 24-29) and Ravenna Balloon-A-Fair (September 18th) are all in need of volunteers. Please contact Denise Smith @ 330-671-8254 or [civilchief01@gmail.com](mailto:civilchief01@gmail.com).

Federated Democratic Woman - update given by Gloria Haven. There will be a Meet and Greet event scheduled for August 14, 2021 @ 12p-3p at Fred Fuller Park in Kent. The Vote Gala will be held on October 14th at the Ravenna Elks, additional information to follow.

Portage County Young Democrats- update given by Chris Clevenger-Morris as to the post card event that was held this past Monday, sending 500 postcards to first time voters. This event was partnered with the Federated Democratic Women. Additional post card push out will be held in the near future. They are also working closely with endorsed candidates and the second wave kicking off soon for Township Trustees and School Board Members. The Ohio Young Dems announced three members from Portage County will serve as delegates on behalf of the state to the Young Democrats of America Biennial National Convention in August. The Young Dems are currently in the middle of their annual fundraiser. They are currently \$1,500 short of their goal, you may donate @ [www.portageyd.org](http://www.portageyd.org). Please contact Chris at [chris@cc-morris.com](mailto:chris@cc-morris.com) with any questions.

Other business: Chairman DePerro is looking for venues for future meetings. Please contact him with any additional locations near the center of the County.

Cindy Greene has announced she would like to step down from the Secretary position. Please contact a member of the Executive Committee if interested in seeking to fill this position.

A fund raising event for Nan Whaley, running for Governor, please contact Bob Howard for information and how to help with this event.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. with a motion from Chris Clevenger-Morris and 2nd by Frank Hairston. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 22, 2021.

