

**Portage County Democratic Central/ Executive Committee**  
**Po Box 729**  
**Ravenna, Ohio 44266**  
**www.portagedemocrats.org**

**Zoom Meeting on December 17, 2020 @ 6:00pm**

**Democratic Central Committee Members Attending Via Zoom: 42**  
**Candidates & Guests Attending: 6**

The Meeting was called to order by Chairman DePerro at 6:07pm with 42 members present along with a number of guests and elected officials.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Denise Smith.

The Chair affirmed with the Secretary that a quorum was met. A motion was made by Frank Hairston to approve the meeting minutes of August 13, 2020 with a 2nd from Tom Collins. The motion passed by majority. There was one abstention.

The finance report was read by Dr. Dean DePerro. A motion to accept the finance report as read was made by Frank Hairston with a 2nd by Bob Howard. The motion passed unanimously. The need to fill the vacancy of Treasurer is urgent. Any individuals interested in taking this position, shall contact Chairman DePerro or the Secretary, Cindy Greene via email.

**The finance report is available upon request.**

Resignations and Declaration of Open Positions:

Notice of Resignation have been received from Jamie Klusty- Atwater Twp. B; Aaron Heavner - Aurora 4A; Patricia Smith- Hiram Twp. A; Tom Bird -Rootstown Two B; Lori Evans -Suffield Two B; Lis Regula Meyer Kent City 3C; Melissa Roubic -Windham (previously removed meeting of December 12, 2019). A motion to accept these resignations was made by Bruce Ribelin with a 2nd by Frank Hairston. The motion passed unanimously.

Letters received to fill the following vacancies:

David Hudgins- Brimfield Twp C; Adam Eskridge- Charlestown Twp A; Christopher Clevenger-Morris - Kent City 2B. A motion was made by Pat Nelson to accept and fill the named vacancies. A 2nd by John Kovacich. The motion passed unanimously. Sandy Money Penny - Continued to be tabled, as she was unable to attend meeting. The Oath of Office was administered by PC Treasurer, Brad Cromes.

New Business:

Election 2020 Recap was given by Kathleen Clyde. A number of candidates were also on hand to speak and give thanks for all of the efforts and support in the general election. Brad Cromes gave an update as to the recent resignation of David Pepper, State Chair of the Democratic Party. A process has been put in place to choose a new Chair will take place on January 21, 2021.

Chairman DePerro explained that there is a seat on the Board of Elections that is up for appointment this spring. This position is currently held by Patricia Nelson. Any interested person wishing to apply must do so in writing to the Chair and copied to the Secretary, Cindy Greene by December 28, 2020. The only qualification is that the applicant be a Portage County elector. A vote will be taken at the next meeting for the recommendation to the Secretary of State.

Chairman DePerro spoke on the need for strong participation of members in the future in the work of re-election of current office holders, recruitment and support of new candidates. Two Adhoc committees may be created for the purpose of reviewing the Constitution and for reviewing member duties. Please reach out to the Chair to volunteer to participate in this process.

Gloria Haven spoke on behalf of the Federated Democratic Women as to fundraisers for 2021. Looking to advocacy and supporting the grass roots efforts in the upcoming elections of School Board Members, Trustee, City Counsel, etc. Looking forward to working with the NAACP members and pushing for good candidates in the upcoming elections.

Any person interested in being part of the Audit & Finance Committee please contact the Chair and the Secretary as soon as possible.

The next meeting will be held via ZOOM on January 21, 2021 @ 6:00pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Hank Gibson, a second by Aaron Heavner. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.