

## Meeting Minutes: June 2020 Green Lake County Dems & Friends

June 6, 2020

This was a first for a Green Lake Dems & Friends meeting as it was held via "Zoom." The meeting was called to order by Chair Linda Wilkens. The last meeting was held March 7, 2020, but due to Covid -19, the group is unable, at this time to meet in person. Previous meeting notes were approved and can be viewed on the website, [www.greenlakecountymocraticparty.org](http://www.greenlakecountymocraticparty.org).

The treasurer's report was given and \$925.29 is in the account.

There are three Democratic candidates for the 6th Congressional District: in alphabetical order: Michael Beardsley, Matthew Boor and Jessica King. They will have a primary Aug. 11 and the winner will face Glenn Grothman in the Nov. 3 general election.

Joni Anderson is the only Democratic candidate for the 14 State Senate seat. There are two Republicans seeking the seat so there will be a Republican primary on Aug. 11.

Nate Zimdars is the only Democratic Candidate for the 41st State Assembly seat. There are four Republican candidates who will compete in the partisan primary on Aug. 11. The winner of the primary, plus Zimdars, and the independent candidate, Jean Bartz, will be on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Nate Zimdars spoke briefly and he reviewed issues that he will be focusing on. His yard signs will be coming soon. An attendee suggested Nate consider T-shirts with his name on it as a campaign tool.

Matt Boor was also in the zoom audience and thanked Green Lake County for helping him get signatures for his nomination papers. He will forward information about his signs and contact information to Linda Wilkens, which will be sent to everyone through an email, a notice on our FB page and on our website.

As a reminder, DPW rules for county parties stipulate that Dems and friends may not endorse or play favorites to any candidate facing a primary. We can offer them opportunities to speak, distribute literature, buttons, yard signs, etc. The candidate must take the initiative to contact us.

Just a reminder that the November election is less than five months away. The Ripon LWV has Zoom candidate forums at the end of June (June 24, and July 1) at the Ripon City hall that will be broadcast live on the Spectrum public access channel 986 and uploaded to YouTube. Links to the Zoom session and the YouTube videos will be posted on our FB page and web site. The forums will include the Democratic candidates for the 6th CD and the Republican candidates for the 14th Senate and 41st Assembly seats. More information about that is pending. After the 6th CD partisan primary, the winner and Rep. Grothman will be invited to a forum.

There was mention that some previous emails may have ended up in recipients' trash or spam folders. Accordingly, we are now using a new mailing service, "Constant Contact," that should be more reliable. Linda will be sending out two emails, one in the old format and one in the new "Constant Contact" mode for testing purposes.

Several members are being trained and working on a variety of volunteer opportunities to inform and educate voters to get out the vote. Due to the pandemic, knocking on doors has become problematic. Unfortunately, studies show that door knocking is one of the most effective ways to GOTV and of course, we can't do that now. Our group is looking for people to volunteer to make 10-20 calls a week to people identified as leaning Democrat. This should take approximately 30-40 minutes/week, on average. Our new field organizer is Erik Osmonson, a Ripon College grad. His territory is Marquette, Waushara, and Green Lake Counties and the city of Ripon Erik is providing links to virtual phone banks so volunteers can access these numbers. The County parties are unified and a common objective is for Ripon, which is in Fond du Lac County, and our organization, to work closely together. Thus far, approximately nine people have signed up to make calls.

The Zoom meeting finished at approximately 11:15AM and there were 33 "devices" connected to Zoom that involved 40 attendees! The next meeting will be July 4, 2020, but at this time, it is undecided whether it will be a Zoom meeting or a gathering that would include socially distant seating. More information on that will be forthcoming.