



**Nebraska Democratic Party Virtual State Central Committee Meeting
Saturday, January 9th, 2021 at 12:00pm**

Welcome - Chair, Kleeb and Omaha and Lincoln Candidates

Candidate Addresses to the body - Candidates were given three (3) minutes to speak.

- Mark Gudgel - Omaha Mayor
- RJ Neary - Omaha Mayor
- Jasmine Harris - Omaha Mayor
- Kimara Snipes - Omaha Mayor
- William King - Omaha Mayor
- Bennie Shobe - Lincoln City Council (CC) At-Large
- Sändra Washington - Lincoln CC At-Large
- Aurang Zeb - Lincoln CC At-Large
- Tom Beckius - Lincoln CC At-Large
- Ben Gray - Omaha CC District 2
- Juanita Johnson - Omaha CC District 2
- Steven Abraham - Omaha CC District 2
- Jonathan Lathan - Omaha CC District 2
- Cornelius Williams - Omaha CC District 2
- Destiny Stark - Omaha CC District 5
- Kate Gotsdiner - Omaha CC District 5
- Robert Wagner - Omaha CC District 5
- Patrick Leahy - Omaha CC District 5
- Naomi Hattaway - Omaha CC District 6
- Sara Kohen - Omaha CC District 7

Conference call to order - Chair, Kleeb at 1:30pm

Actions of the NDP Secretary - Secretary, Caleb Rohrer

- Quorum - 83 delegates present, 46 delegates required.
- Seating of delegates -
 - CD1 0 new delegates, 2 new alternates
 - CD2 3 new delegates, 6 new alternate
 - CD3 1 new delegates, 1 new alternates
- Approval of minutes -
 - State Convention 2020 Minutes:
https://nebraskademocrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/NDP-Convention-minutes-9_25_2020.pdf



- September 2020 SCC Minutes:
https://nebraskademocrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SCC-meeting-9_26_2020.pdf

NDP Officer Updates and New Business

- Preview of Donor Briefing - Jane Kleeb, Precious McKesson, and Jim Rogers
 - NDP will present a full donor briefing on Jan 12.
- Vote on the approval of 16 of the new [At-Large appointments](#)
 - Motion to approve the At-Large slate by Emma Craig LD28, seconded by Bob Meyers LD4.
 - Discussion and questions:
 - Precious McKesson LD13 rises to speak in support of the motion.
 - CJ King LD6 rises to inquire upon the appointee selection process.
 - Rachele Walter LD21 rises to inquire upon the religious affiliation of appointees.
 - Vote on approval of 16 of the 20 new At-Large delegates for the SCC
 - Yes 66
 - No 3
 - Four delegates chosen by the Tribal Nations will be announced at a later date.
- Vote on the approval of the updated SCC 2021 schedule.
 - Updated SCC 2021 schedule:
 - **March 6-7, 2021**
Phone Meetings
 - **June 5-6, 2021**
Hastings (or will be via phone if COVID ongoing)
Featured Caucus: Youth Assembly Caucus (or will be moved to October)
 - **October 1-3, 2021**
Omaha -- Big Blue Weekend including Morrison Exon Event
Featured Council: Working Families Council (If Youth Assembly moved to October, then Working Families will be in 2022 so both caucuses and council have a chance to hold a fundraiser)
 - Discussion and questions:
 - Holly Bonasera LD16 rises to inquire as to whether councils and caucuses can fundraise outside of SCC meetings
 - Mark Hoeger LD9 rises to inquire upon the rationale for the dates of the March SCC meeting.
 - Motion to approve the updated SCC 2021 schedule as presented made by Bob Meyers LD4, seconded by William Forsee LD3.
 - Yes 71
 - No 1
 - A delegate inquired in the chat as to whether or not there would continue to be an online option for those who could not afford travel.



- Tom Havelka LD22 rose to clarify the difference between online participation and proxy voting.
- Chair Kleeb indicated that there would be a decision on the subject made by the March 7 SCC meeting.
- Precious McKesson LD13 rose to inquire as to whether the meeting would continue to be live streamed for the public.

- Vice Chair, Paul Theobald
 - Announced his resignation from the office of Vice Chair of the NDP.
 - Paul will be missed in NDP leadership.

- Chair Kleeb called upon Rules Chair, Trevor Fitzgerald to outline the nomination and election process for the vacancy.
 - Chair Fitzgerald yielded the floor back to Chair Kleeb to preside over questions and motions.
 - Motion to retain immediate past vice-chair, Richard Register as vice-chair until the end of January made by DNC Committee Member, Charlene Ligon LD45, seconded by DNC Committee Member, Ron Kaminski.
 - Discussion and questions:
 - Trevor Fitzgerald LD12 rises in support of the resolution citing Bylaw 5.9.2 and Article IV. Section 2a of the NDP Constitution as providing authorization for the motion.
 - Tom Havelka LD22 rises in support of the resolution.
 - Gerry Finnegan LD28 rises to inquire as to whether the retention could last until the election of a new vice-chair.
 - Trevor Fitzgerald LD12 rises to respond to Delegate Finnegan.
 - Mark Hoeger LD9 rises to inquire as to whether there will be a special election before the March 7 SCC meeting and whether past vice-chair Register was willing to be retained.
 - DNC Committee Member, Ron Kaminski withdraws his second to allow DNC Committee Member Charlene Ligon to amend the motion.
 - Motion to amend the motion to retain immediate past vice-chair Richard Register until the next SCC Meeting made by DNC Committee Member, Charlene Ligon, seconded by DNC Committee Member, Ron Kaminski.
 - Stephanie Matejka LD46 rises to inquire as to the manner in which the election will be conducted.
 - Motion to retain immediate past vice-chair, Richard Register as vice-chair until the next SCC meeting (March 7, 2021).
 - Yes 79
 - No 1

- Vice-Chair, Richard Register
 - Thanked immediate past vice-chair elect Paul Theobald for his service and vision for the NDP and pledged that his vision and work would continue with the next vice-chair.



- 2nd Vice Chair, Pastor Janet Banks
 - Reported heavy involvement in voter registration, election day poll work, and collaboration with young leaders in Lincoln.
 - Reported having assisted in the Georgia run-off election for Senators Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock by organizing virtual phone banks and post-card writing.
 - Thanked Stacey Abrams, LaTosha Brown, and reinforced the importance of BIPOC involvement in the party.
 - Gave statistics on the increased democratic turn-out in rural Georgia.
- DNC Committee Member, Charlene Ligon
 - COVID-19 has made it impossible for members of the DNC to meet as is standard.
- DNC Committee Member, Ron Kaminski
 - Nebraska was praised by the president of the AFL-CIO for the efficiency of the Nebraska vote-count.
 - Praised President-Elect Joe Biden for assembling a diverse cabinet, in particular the nomination of Marty Walsh, Mayor of Boston, as Secretary of Labor.

Staff Updates

- Executive Director, Jim Rogers
 - City elections update.
 - Staff will begin candidate calls to coordinate efforts with candidates in the Omaha and Lincoln municipal elections.
- Grassroots Outreach Director, Gina Frank
 - 840 block captains in Nebraska
 - 226 in Lincoln
 - 285 in Omaha
 - Goal to recruit 50 more block captains in Lincoln and Omaha.
 - Preview of the Block Captain schedule
 - Training: Jan. 31
 - Contact 1: Feb. 7-28 (VBM Sign Up and Reminders in LNK/OMA)
 - Training: Apr. 9
 - Contact 2: Apr. 12 - May 1 (Digital lit drop)
 - Training: Big Blue Weekend
 - Contact 3: Oct. TBD (Issues Survey)
 - 2021 Inaugural Activities
 - MLK Day of Service, Jan. 18
 - Covid Memorial, Jan. 19
 - Watch Online, Jan. 20
- Operations Director, Peter Coyne
 - Goal of recruiting 20 more monthly donors during the meeting.
 - Sign up for the sustaining donor program at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/nebdem>



Congressional District Caucus Reports - Chairs John Yoakum, Ben Cass, and Judy Vohland

- Chair Yoakum, CD1
 - Preparing for the Lincoln city elections.
 - Increasing inclusivity within the district by expanding outreach to rural regions and People of Color.
- Chair Cass, CD2
 - Elected 3 new members to Platform and Resolutions
 - Precious McKesson, Dee Austin, and Morgann Freeman.
 - The Douglas County Democratic Party is hosting a fundraising event for the inauguration.
- Chair Vohland, CD3
 - All standing committee spots have been filled.
 - Elected Kathy Moore Jensen as CD3 Caucus Secretary.
 - Added members to the mobile office committee.
 - Contact Terry Sigler for inquiries
 - Adding a special appointment of an additional co-vice chair to cover the North East region of the district.

Rules Committee Report - Rules Committee Chair, Trevor Fitzgerald

- Point of personal privilege to ask delegates to minimize rules crises for the next few months to allow for time for recovery from a medical emergency two weeks prior.
- Rules Committee Report
 - Proposed amendment to Bylaws 5.7, 5.7.1, and 5.7.4, Affiliated Policy Council references:
 - <https://nebraskademocrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SCC-Proposal-A-Bylaw-5.7-5.7.1-5.7.4.-APC-References.docx>
 - Vote
 - Yes 65
 - No 0
 - Proposed amendment to Bylaw 5.8.1, Second Associate Chair references:
 - <https://nebraskademocrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SCC-Proposal-B-Bylaw-5.8.1.-Second-Associate-Chair-Reference.docx>
 - Bob Meyers LD4 rises to inquire upon the language of the resolution.
 - Vote
 - Yes 68
 - No 1

Platform Committee Report - Delegate Tom Havelka standing in for Platform Committee Chair, Shirl Mora James

- Resolution on non-prayer has been withdrawn.
- Resolution on celebrating a restoration of honorable military service.
 - Discussion and questions:



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- Chair James Harrold LD2 rises to speak in support of the resolution and to explain the intent of the resolution.
- William Forsee LD3 rises to speak in support of the resolution.
- Vote
 - Yes 64
 - No 0

Caucus and Council Reports - Affiliated Caucus Organizations (ACO/Caucuses), Affiliated Policy Councils (APC/Councils)

- [Black Caucus Report](#) - Chair McKesson
- [Democrats Experiencing Disabilities Caucus Report](#) - Chair Sanchez, Secretary Conrad
- [Latinx Caucus Report](#) - Chair Sherman
- [Native Caucus Report](#) - Chair Yellow Robe
- [Stonewall Democrats Report](#) - Chair Cohen Walker
- [Women's Caucus Report](#) - Chair Schwenninger
- [Youth Assembly Report](#) - President Craig
- [Climate Council Report](#) - Chair Frank
- [Interfaith Council Report](#) - Chair Weber
- [Rural and Agricultural Council Report](#) - Chair Moore
- [Secular Council Report](#) - Chair Walter
- [Veterans and Military Families Council Report](#) - Chair Harrold
- [Working Families Council Report](#) - Chair King (Report will be given at the next meeting)

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer, Ted Kessler

- Summary of Accounts
 - Detailed in P+L statement available from the Treasurer
- Reports filed with FEC and NADC
 - Copies of the latest FEC and NADC report available from the Treasurer

Finance Committee Report - Finance Committee Chair, Sharlette Schwenninger

- 2020 and 2021 Finance Plan Overview - Finance Director, Precious McKesson
 - Updates on 2020 Fundraising
 - Update on 2020 Monthly Donors
 - Goal for 2020 was \$6,000 per month
 - Currently 358 sustaining donors and \$6,382 per month.
 - 2021 goal is \$10,000 per month.
 - Fundraising events this year will include Salute to State Senators (Lincoln), Doris Morgan BBQ (Greater Nebraska), and Morrison Exon (Omaha). This is covid-19 dependent.
 - Vote on approving the 2021 Finance Plan.
 - Motion to approve made by 2nd Assoc. Chair, Pastor Janet Banks LD29, seconded by William Forsee, LD3.
 - Roy Gertig, LD45 inquired upon the Morrison Exon ticket price.
 - William Forsee LD3 rises to make a recommendation of action.



- Bill Armbrust LD39 inquired upon the reimbursement of funds garnered by events that were canceled.
- Charlene Ligon LD45 rises to support the recommendation of action made by William Forsee LD3.
- Cheryl Welch LD43 rises to support the recommendation of action made by William Forsee LD3.
- Charlene Ligon LD45 rises to further support the recommendation of action made by William Forsee LD3.
- Vote
 - Yes 65
 - No 2

Field, Outreach, Communications and Party Building Plan - Executive Director, Jim Rogers and Field and Data Director, Ron Rivera

- 2021 Field, Outreach, Communications and Party Building Plan Overview
 - Discussion and questions:
 - Ryan Griffin LD48 rises to speak in support of the plan.
 - Cheryl Welch LD43 rises to make a recommendation of action.
 - Director Jim Rogers rises to expand upon a segment of the plan.
 - William Forsee LD3 rises to congratulate Charlene Ligon.
 - Vote on 2021 Field, Outreach, Communications and Party Building Plan
 - Motion to approve made by Tom Genung LD33, seconded by Ben Cass LD7.
 - Vote
 - Yes 58
 - No 1

Closing Business

- Chair Kleeb addressed a comment made during the Candidate Address segment of the Welcome.
- Bob Meyers LD4 announced an [Ecumenical Legislative Briefing](#) event on Feb. 13, 2021.
- Discussion was had on the comment made during the Candidate Address segment of the Welcome.

Adjournment - Chair, Kleeb

- Motion to adjourn made by Bob Meyers LD4, seconded by 2nd Vice-Chair Pastor Janet Banks LD29.
- Vote by Acclamation
 - Passed