



North Idaho Way, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

www.northidahoway.org
northidahoway@gmail.com

Location: Farmhouse BBQ
Date: 2/16/2022
Time: 6:00 pm
Facilitator: Glen Mercurio, Vice-Chairman

1. Call to Order

2. Invocation

Thomas Leo gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Thomas Leo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Programs and /or Special Guest

Travis Thompson presented the state redistricting process with a PowerPoint. He described how redistricting occurred in the past and compared it to the present. While using a variety of maps, Travis spoke about the redistricting commission and what criteria they used to form the new districts. He stated that the commission cannot look at or use maps that show where current legislators live while they are determining the new districts. He explained that some current legislators ended up in districts that have completely open seats while others are now in districts that would compel them to run against other current legislators if they decided to run for reelection. Travis went on to tell us which representatives have announced retirement, and which are running for the Senate. Additionally, Travis spoke about the Supreme Court and its decision to uphold the new map.

5. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum:

Present at the meeting and constituting a quorum were NIW, Inc. members: Glen Mercurio, Kathy McDonald, Jodi Giddings, Anna Largen, Bill Largen, Veronica Dixon, Marianne Ochs, Thomas Leo, Steve Wasylko, & Dan McDonald

6. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Thomas Leo and seconded by Steve Wasylko, minutes of the 11/17/21 meeting were approved by those in attendance.

7. Treasurer's Report

Marianne stated that the accounts are the same as stated at the last meeting.

8. Committee Reports

Events -

Town Halls: Kathy reported that the first town hall went well. She stated that Robin Gray organized them and that they were sponsored by NIW. Dan and Kathy facilitated the Bonners Ferry event. Thomas facilitated the Sandpoint event which was also attended by Anna and Bill Lagen. Debby Trinan and Jim Boyer facilitated the Priest River event. Each facilitator briefly spoke about NIW and set the tone for each event, primarily stating that we do not tolerate any rude behavior. We will have two more town halls during the legislative session. The next one will be March 5th and the other one is April 2nd. All three reps are invited to every town hall. Rep. Dixon was in attendance while Rep. Scott and Senator Woodward declined the first town hall. We are hopeful that they will be able to attend the other two. A brief discussion occurred about giving donations to each facility for allowing us to use their venue. Kathy moved to give the venues a total of \$100 each for the use of their facility during the legislative session, with the Bonners Ferry donation being split between the church receiving 2/3 and the March facility receiving 1/3. Anna seconded. Motion passed.

Search: Veronica will send out precinct lists for everyone so they can see if they know people in different areas that may be interested in being a precinct captain.

Membership: We had a brief discussion over membership and who could become a member. The determination was that everyone is welcome to become a member if they agree to our bylaws. It was also stated that we have mechanisms to remove bad actors.

9. Unfinished Business -

Meeting Schedule - March, April, May

Town Halls: Legislative Updates are scheduled for March 5th and April 2nd. Times are the same as the January events.

Meetings/Forums: We will be hosting forums in lieu of speakers in preparation for the upcoming May election. The dates we decided are as follows: March 23rd will be County candidates; April 6th will be State Legislator candidates; and April 20th will be State Constitutional candidates.

Dan made a motion to approve the forum dates as presented. Steve seconded.

Motion passed. Kathy will send 'save the dates' to all candidates after filing ends.

10. New Business

Declared Candidate List: Dan nominated Jessi to develop a list of all the candidates that filed for the May election and then send it to our board.

Vetting Committee: We will break up into groups of approximately 3 members to vet candidates. Each group will interview candidates for assigned elections. If you are related or working for a specific candidate, you will not be assigned to his/her election. We will use our template questionnaire, but we will add office specific questions to vet whether a candidate is qualified for the office they are running for. Each vetting group will present their findings to the group and then

the group will vote on each elected office. Dan is suggesting that we sequester ourselves after each forum to discuss how we felt about each candidate.

Meeting Locations: Currently we are using the Farmhouse BBQ for our meetings, and they have not charged us rent if we meet a certain dollar amount for food. However, Kathy was informed by management that they will now be charging \$50 per hour no matter how much food we purchase. We discussed whether we should find a new venue or continue meeting at Farmhouse. After a brief discussion, it was determined that Farmhouse was our best bet for now and that we would keep our eyes open for future venues. Dan motioned to continue meeting at Farmhouse BBQ and to agree to the new fee structure until we determine otherwise. Thomas seconded. Motion passed.

11. Announcements

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting is March 23rd at 6pm at the Farmhouse BBQ. This meeting will be our first forum of the season.

13. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Veronica Dixon
 Secretary, NIW

Action Items	Assigned to	Deadline	Status
Town Halls	Events Committee	N/A	In Process
Forum Invites	Events Committee	March 12 th	In Process
Candidate List	Jessi	March 12 th	In Process
Candidate Questionnaires	Vetting Committee	March 12 th	In Process
Candidate Vetting Teams	Vetting Committee	March 12 th	In Process
Website	Thomas	N/A	Ongoing
Precinct Captain Search	Search Committee	N/A	Ongoing