

Democratic Party of Bernalillo County 2019-May Status Report - Flora Lucero, Chair

We are in the seventh week of our two year term and we are laying groundwork for grassroots growth. We have had some strategic planning sessions to identify our vision, purpose, and goals, and we are working on building the infrastructure for the County Party. We have some more crafting to do on the strategic planning products but at the same time, we recognize the need to get tools to our Precinct and Ward Chairs. Here are some of the projects we have in the works.

1. Treasurer Update

Rayellen Smith is our new **DPBC Treasurer**. We are currently having an audit done and once complete, we'll be ready to have Rayellen assume full Treasurer duties.

2. Ward Development - Assessment, Tools, and Training

Meta Hirschl, DPBC Vice Chair, is the lead in this area. The work currently falls into two broad areas:

- A.** Voter data and tools
- B.** Training and support

Voter Data and Tools

Over recent weeks, we have been trying to unravel the mysteries of Votebuilder. Having met with the State Party multiple times, we are learning how the data flow happens, we are learning the capabilities of Votebuilder and we are grasping the role we can play in creating an effective and efficient use of Votebuilder for our organizing needs and for the needs of the candidates and campaigns.

We are creating a "ticketing" system of sorts that will allow grassroots organizers - precinct chairs, block captains, etc. - to request walk lists and get them in a 24 to 48 hour turnaround time. This is a cooperative system where people with a high level of Votebuilder access will be a part of the service team. Anybody who is interested in having basic Votebuilder access will be able to request and get it. That access will allow people to do a quick look up, data entry, and virtual phone bank.

We have two main voter data sources: the Bernalillo County Clerk's office and the New Mexico Secretary of State's office. We recently met with the County Clerk's team and they graciously gave us an in depth look at their work and systems. One of the items you should have on your radar is the fact that they will provide VRA training for us if we get a group of people together...and they have already leased their convenience voting centers so those spaces can be used for the training at a day and time that is convenient for the trainees. They are also working on splitting precincts in Bernalillo County and it looks like we will be getting an additional 200+ precincts this year...whoa!

Stay tuned for more on this.

Ward Chair Training and Support

We are having a Ward Chair training session on **Saturday, June 1, 9 am - noon** at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 114 Carlisle Blvd SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106. It is handicap accessible and childcare will be provided. We have a team of people calling Ward Chairs to chat with them about their needs and goals, and to show our support. **Diane Gutterud** is the **Conference Lead**.

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3. Communication Technology

Eric Faye is the **Chair of the Communication Technology** (CommTech) team. We have several people who have stepped up to help us with our communication technology tools. **Ivan Pfeifer** is the lead technology guru. We are currently working out processes for our newsletter production and distribution. The DPBC Website is an excellent resource for Democratic Party information and organizing tools. For instance, ward maps are located on the Website and the Votebuilder “ticketing” system for requesting walk lists will be housed there, too. In addition to having staffs for the newsletter and Website, we have admins for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

4. Training

Moss Templeton is the **Chair of the Training Committee**. We have identified some training needs and Moss has begun revising the Precinct Chair manual that was created last year. In July, likely July 20, we will be having a half day Activist Conference that will feature two plenary sessions and several workshops. The workshops will be on canvassing and precinct building skills. Stay tuned...

5. Biennial Meetings Committee

We have convened a committee to specifically work on the meetings we are required to have according to the Democratic Party Rules. Next year we will have the Delegate Conventions and its associated Ward Meetings. Thankfully, we have **Jessica Martinez**, a phenomenal event planner as **Chair of the Biennial Meetings Committee**. Jessica has recruited a stellar team and they are already digging into research on best practices for these meetings. We can expect good things to come from this work. The meetings will have welcoming spaces and efficient processes.

6. Resolutions and Rules Committees

We are working to have these committees, which are required by the DPNM Rules, function as an active meaningful part of our Ward Development process. **Joel Gaffney is the Resolutions Committee Chair** and **Jessica Velasquez is the Rules Committee Chair**. You'll be hearing more about these teams in the near future.

7. Events

We just had an enjoyable time at the Unity Celebration planned by **Manny Crespin, DPBC Vice Chair**. It was a good community building and networking event.

The 2019 PrideFest and Parade are right around the corner. We are teaming up with EQNM, DPNM, and the LGBTQ Caucus to have a space in the parade and a booth at PrideFest. Democratic candidates and elected officials will be a part of the parade and we will be doing voter registration at the Fest as well as getting commitments to vote, volunteer, and become a VRA. If you are interested in taking a shift at the PrideFest booth, contact **Samuel Nevarez** at SamuelNevarez@icloud.com.

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8. Youth Focus Groups

Jesse Heitner is teaming up with Roberta Rael from Generation Justice to plan the youth focus groups. We are in the early planning stages and we expect those to happen at the end of the summer.

9. Fundraising

Fundraising must be a part of our infrastructure. Two people have stepped up to help but we need someone to lead this effort. If you are interested, please contact Flora@BernalilloDems.org.