

CoCo Teleconference January 12, 2020

Called to order at 3:50 pm. Josh, Chris, Marielle, Traven, Carter, Cindy, Tanya, Zack, Anthony, Martha

1) Josh met with the health caucus; work is being done on the Green New Deal introduced into the Senate, wealth tax to support climate projects with a similar bill being introduced in the House, Anthony reported that 12 cosponsors have signed on; Zack reported that family leave and minimum wage are in committee in the house, the House version of the Green New Deal will be broader than the Senate bill. Josh reports that a weekly video will be produced for social media email.

2) Candidate update; Martha notified the CoCo that David is running for Governor, previous reports were leaked by the Dems and we should sit on this till the official announcement. Ashe would run for Lt. Governor probably as a Dem. Brenda Siegel may run for Lt. Governor as well. There may be opportunities for Progs to take open Senate seats. Burlington elections, three high priority candidates that are new and we are hopeful that they will run unopposed, three challengers Hightower may run as an independent or a fusion, two others are looking strong in tough races. The Dems maybe putting up a UVM student to challenge one of those seats. The Dems are going to hire staff for the Council races. We are also running school board candidates. We endorsed early so the Dems are playing catch up.

3) An effort to put together advisors for constituent groups, we have a lack of POC on the CoCo and that point of view needs to be represented. Anthony asked about process, how formal should this be? What if others wanted to participate? Suggestion for an interim appointment. There are groups outside the party that would be worth reaching out to. Anthony will do the outreach. Anthony thinks we should reach out to other constituent groups like Labor. Traven says that the Labor part may be a little complicated as they have their own things going on.

4) Feb 8 meeting for State Committee 1-4, State House is out, thoughts on Barre Old Labor Hall or possibly a Burlington venue. Josh will look into the Labor Hall. Agenda is to invite national campaigns and do endorsements. Then there is David, Legislative Update, regional breakout and presentation on county organizing should be a full day.

5) Josh elaborated on the new office space, should be a far more suitable space for running the sorts of campaigns and activities we are engaged in. Word is going out for an legislative coordinator, this point by word of mouth, we are looking for someone who can be in Montpeiler.

Adjourned at 4:45 pm