



## Portage County Young Democrats

**Voting Membership Meeting  
December 15, 2021**

### **I. Call To Order: 6:05PM**

### **II. Roll Call:**

Castle: Present  
Clevenger-Morris: Present  
Narzisi: President  
Cola: Present  
Errera: Present

*Guests Present: Denise Smith (Portage County Democratic Party), Becky Doggett (Federated Democratic Women of Portage County), Kelly Clary (Aurora For Change)*

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: To Approve the Agenda  
MOVED: Cola  
SECOND: Errera  
MOTION: 5-0-0

### **IV. Year End Report**

1. Following this meeting, a 'letter from the President' will be posted to our website outlining a number of accomplishments for the organization this year.

Copies of that letter will go out to our voting members urging them to pay their dues for the 2022 cycle.

We executed an extensive Primary and General Election endorsement process, through which we endorsed and supported thirteen Democrats in municipal and school board elections, our Municipal Court Judges, and the Portage County Library Levy.

We designed, printed and distributed 7,500 custom pieces of literature across the county, with over 4,000 of those pieces being hand delivered directly to voters.

We called nearly 6,000 voters across the county, with focused messaging to boost turnout on Election Day for candidates at every level

We launched a Voter Resources page on our website, providing information for voter registration, early and absentee voting, and democratic sample ballots to over 6,500 voters.

We supported our candidates directly, providing assistance with print and marketing materials, web development, fundraising and compliance.

We sponsored the Young Democrats of America Biennial Convention in Cincinnati, which saw close to 1,000 attendees from across the United States, and attended three digital conferences throughout the year.

We connected hundreds of Portage County voters to our County Commissioners, demanding online streaming to ensure that their meetings were open and transparent during the pandemic.

We donated over 250 personal hygiene items to support addiction recovery centers here in Portage County, and donated nearly 1,000 individually wrapped food items to combat food insecurity through Rural Relief.

We spent countless hours building meaningful and intentional relationships with our Democratic Partner organizations across the county, assisting those groups in messaging, marketing, fundraising and programming.

We're wrapping up a years-long push to write and send 2,500 postcards to first-time Democratic voters here in Ohio through the Progressive Turnout Project.

## **V. Treasurer Report**

### 1. November Financial Report

(Available Upon Request)

#### a. Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Report from November

MOTION: To Approve the November Financial Report

MOVED: Errera

SECOND: Castle  
MOTION: 4-0-1

2. December Financial Report (Partial)

(Available Upon Request)

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. Budget presentation to President and Exec. Board on November 26th.  
Will likely have updates at or from the January meeting, as committees provide feedback.
- b. Remainder of the Year  
Looking to raise additional \$100 (Member renewals)  
Looking at spending \$130  
(Donation, Postage & Technology/Digital; \$1,000 approx carryover to 2022)
- c. Current Cash on Hand: \$1,244.01

4. 2022 Budget Overview

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b><i>Projected Income</i></b>	\$5,019.03	\$7,000.00
<b><i>Actual Income</i></b>	\$6,059.65	
<b><i>Projected Expenses</i></b>	\$5,069.00	\$6,208.00
<b><i>Actual Expenses</i></b>	\$4,815.64	

(Detailed Reports Available Upon Request)

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Approve the Minutes from the November 17, 2021 Voting Membership Meeting.

MOTION: Approval of Minutes  
MOVED: Castle  
SECOND: Errera  
MOTION: 5-0-0

## **VII. Committee Reports**

### 1. Chapter Building Committee

- a. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation / rise in cases, continuing our evaluation regarding our recruitment efforts for the remainder of the year / in to next year.

NOTE: Vice Chair of Chapter Building is currently vacant.

### 2. Finance Committee

- a. In the process of planning 3 fundraising "events" for next year.  
Goal being \$4,600 combined, approx 65.7% of annual raise
  1. Early / PrePrimary (February) - Zoom with Special Guest  
Have an ask out with Nan Whaley
  2. MidYear (Mid/Late May) - MAIN - Letter Fundraising Drive  
Looking to review targets; mailed 230 this year, target will be approx 250
  3. Late PreGeneral (August) - Zoom or In Person with Special Guest  
Have targets to ask; will be making asks in coming weeks by mid January to assess options

NOTE: Still seeking additional members for appointment to Finance Committee, for ongoing research

### 3. Campaigns Committee

- a. The Campaigns Committee is scheduled to meet later this month to complete a year end audit of our current program, and to make plans for the 2022 cycle.
- b. If you are interested in serving on the Campaigns Committee in 2022, please send an email to [info@portageyd.org](mailto:info@portageyd.org).

## **VIII. Special Orders**

## 1. 2022 Planning Discussion

Clevenger-Morris: We would like to support candidates, community, and members. As it is, we are looking at 16 districts with redistricting that are up that we will possibly be involved in. Including all statewide races and only one Congressional District.

We will be launching that endorsement program as soon as possible to discern what these candidates need. I'll open the floor for discussion.

Castle: There is a bit of a brouhaha among the medical marijuana community about a ballot initiative going through the Secretary of State's office. The Republicans in state government have watered that down to favor corporations. Should we be involved in an issue like this?

Clevenger-Morris: We have waded into issues in the past, the latest being the Library Levy (Issue 1). So this is something that the Campaigns Committee would have the authority to get involved in. I do know that marijuana is outlined in the YDA platform as well.

Smith: Central Committee may be asking for PCYD's assistance in finding people to fill positions on the Central Committee as there was a lack of involved participants on that Committee.

Clevenger: We are happy to assist.

Clary: We would like help with Data Analytics. It's a good opportunity here in Aurora. We want to figure out what areas to target and make the most impact.

Clevenger: Starting in January, the Campaigns Committee will be taking a data driven approach of what has worked well over the last few years to see where we can grow. I know Kathleen Clyde has done something similar in years past. This might be an area where we can build on that data.

Clary: Thanked PCYD for assistance in the Aurora elections and our impact was "very much felt".

Clevenger: Thanked Clary's group for their efforts that had just as much of an impact.

Narzisi: When we look to next year, I would like to see our organizations be in a position where we can share the workload of sharing this data and creating these resources without everyone recreating the wheel. To be in a position where we're working together to have more time to focus on action.

## **XI. Old Business**

## **X. New Business**

## **XI. Partner Organization Updates**

### **1. Federated Democratic Women of Portage County**

- a. At their most recent meeting (December 8) the Federated Democratic Women adopted Financial Accounting Procedures to their newly created Standing Rules.
- b. Ashton is working with their Finance Committee to establish an annual budget for 2022.
- c. Smith: Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm

### **2. Portage County Democratic Party**

- a. The Party held their annual Chairs Circle fundraiser on December 2 at The Battleground. The event raised in excess of \$20,000.
- b. The Membership Committee is in the process of identifying candidates to fill vacant Central Committee seats for the upcoming election.
- c. Smith: January Meeting will be at 575 E Lake St. Ravenna, OH 44266

NOTE: If you're interested in serving on the Central Committee, let Chris know ASAP.

### **3. Portage County NAACP**

- a. The NAACP hosted a Community Conversation about Local Policing on November 18, featuring representatives from Kent, Ravenna and Streetsboro Police Departments.
- b. Stay Tuned - The second annual MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 15th. Details will be made available soon on the Portage NAACP website.

### **4. Ohio Young Democrats**

- a. The Ohio Young Democrats hosted their Winter Meeting on Saturday, December 11th.
- b. Updates were provided on Chapter Growth Grants, re-chartering, and general engagement opportunities.

## **5. Young Democrats of America**

- a. The Young Democrats of America held their Winter Digital Summit December 2-5.
  - i. The organization approved appointments to select committees and for YDA Staff positions.
  - ii. Information for upcoming programming and opportunities for action/engagement will be provided as it becomes available.
  - iii. Clevenger-Morris was elected Chair of the Council of Regional Directors and now has a vote as a YDA Officer.

## **XII. Announcements**

1. 2022 Officer Elections Will Be Wednesday, January 19th. Must announce candidacy by Wednesday, January 12th, 2022 in writing to [info@portageyd.org](mailto:info@portageyd.org).
2. Elections for President, Vice Chair of Communications and Sergeant-At-Arms shall take place in even numbered years, to be scheduled no earlier than the seventh (7th) of January and no later than the twenty-first (21st) of January.
3. The Annual Organizing Meeting shall take place within fourteen (14) days of Officer Elections. Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 2, 2022.
4. Progressive Turnout Project Wave 3 Postcards Available NOW! Due to be mailed by January 7. Working to complete 1000 postcards this wave!
  - a. Due to COVID - we will NOT be hosting a postcard event for this phase. We are working with Portage Dems, FDW Portage, and other partner orgs to secure help with the wave, as well as secure postage donations (if possible).
  - b. If anyone else can help - Please connect with Chris or Ashton, to coordinate getting postcards & "instructions".

5. Smith: Petitions for candidacy in the primary are available at the Board of Elections starting tomorrow. Due by Feb. 2nd 2022 at 4PM and no later.

a. Democratic Party Central Committee positions do not require signatures. Only a declaration of candidacy.

**XIII. Adjournment at 7:11PM**

**MOTION: To Adjourn**

**MOVED: Castle**

**SECOND: Cola**

**MOTION: 5-0-0**