

## OSTPDX Monthly meeting

September 11, 6:45 PM, Hollywood Senior Center

Notes: Melanie Plaut

Our fall meeting line-up focuses on what actions we can take to ensure the Big Blue Wave in November will start taking back our democracy and turning it progressive!

### **Lynn Youngbar opened the meeting.**

- Mary Chaffin, Jacque Abel, Phyllis (in absentia) were acknowledged, also the leadership team.
- We are affiliated with other Indivisible Groups; we focus mostly on local elections.
- In depth analysis by a OSTPDX task force has selected 12 candidates to support.
- We have organized a state-wide campaign for letters to the editor in favor of Kate Brown. We have a toolkit if you are interested. Talk to Kate Schmitt.
  
- October 9 meeting: Get Out the Vote emphasis
- November 13 meeting: post election analysis (Jim Moore and David Sarasohn).
- Both of these meetings will be back at the Subud Center.
- Lawn signs for various candidates available tonight.
- If you want to get in touch with the contact person at OSTPDX for any particular candidate or race, email us at [OneSmallThingPDX@gmail.com](mailto:OneSmallThingPDX@gmail.com)

**Jeanne Atkins, Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon** updates us on the important races in Oregon and how best to use our energies to support progressive candidates in the days to come!! Go to **[DPO.org](http://DPO.org)**

- She was in London the day of the anti-Trump rally. Lots of energy and funny signs. People were in tears, and so was she; she realized the whole world is worried about what is going on in the USA.
- Need to turn emotion into election results.
- In this moment we have to come together; even if we don't like to phone bank or go door-to-door!
- Individual voter contact is how we win elections.

- Data on voters has to be continuously cleaned up. (Sign this petition! Gets you on those lists as a supporter). This enables us to use the “machine” to get out the vote! Only 56 days to go...
- Be patient with all the calls and door knocks. We need 1 million ballots from people who see the world the way we do.
- In Oregon we are one vote short of the super majority needed to pass tax measures.
- Don’t sit home even for safe races; the message is important, that we support our incumbents.
- Jamie Mcleod-Skinner has a shot, even though she isn’t a DCCC priority (top 43 likely to flip). Make sure everyone you know in her district is aware of her.
- We need to re-elect Kate Brown! Knute Buehler is a wealthy doctor who has done nothing while he has been in the legislature. He has stopped doing even his basic legislative responsibilities. Kate is responsible for: motor-voter; education progress; open records act; health care act; reproductive health care without cost; coal to clean law. So in fact she is the one who has shown leadership, not Knute. Dark money attack ads against Kate, so she needs our help.
- Card pledges to vote (have been proven effective).
- Door-to-door; phones; texting campaigns.
- Work for the candidate that moves you.
- “Neighborhood leader program” – contact ~35 of your neighbors who are democrats. You don’t have to be an expert.
- Voter registration efforts mostly center on campuses (contacting people who might not go to the DMV). From DMV not many return party registration. Explains large swath of non-affiliated voters (NAV). But based on other information we can often figure out who is likely to vote Democrat. We have close to one million registered democrat. When people change DMV address, they get voter address changed too.
- Big Goals:
  1. Turn one if not both US chambers blue
  2. Send a message about 2020 that this regime will not continue.

### **Canvassing: by Jane Stackhouse.**

- Unless you are wealthy, this is the best way to help a candidate or issue you care about.
- Go with a buddy.
- Mini-VAN is a phone app used for canvassing.
- If you want to feel you “did your best” this is what you want to do!

- Paulette Wittwer: Kate Brown canvassing (11-2 Saturday, Lloyd Center, also Thursday 5-8). Other dates 4 days a week. See the newsletter. You can also phone bank then if you prefer (at Lloyd Center).

**Our Oregon's, (Defend Oregon) Elisabeth Swarttou** reviews the big four NOs on Ballot Measures--103, 104, 105 and 106. What can we do to make sure these draconian measures get a resounding defeat? Go to [defendoregon.org](http://defendoregon.org)

OSTPDX has endorsed three: PCEF, housing measures (102, and Metro ballot measure).

The ones we are **against**:

**103** – “Grocery” tax – would reduce funding for health care, etc. Special interests want to put this into our constitution. We would have to live with this for years. Supported by Safeway, Albertson’s, Costco etc.

**104** - 3/5 for Revenue – completely unnecessary. Make it harder to close wasteful tax loopholes. Would result in gridlock battles over fees. Would make funding schools and medical care even more difficult.

**105** - Repeals our anti-profiling (sanctuary) law. Our immigrant neighbors wouldn’t feel safe to call the police.

**106** - Antichoice . Cherry-picks which medical procedures are covered for Oregonians. (not just abortion, but also contraception and post-partum care).

The money on the “wrong” side of these measures is big! We need to be worried.

Small Groups:

1. Grocery (103) and 3/5 (104) – Thomas Adamson; Jacque
2. Sanctuary (105) – Dana Fridenfeld; Jan
3. Antichoice (106) – Elisabeth Swarttou; Mary

Conversation and free beer, wine and snacks from 9 PM until 10.