

PLATFORM COMMITTEE UPDATE: 6/12

UPCOMING FORUMS:

6/13/7--Conservation/environment: This proved a little harder to pull together than expected. There seems to have been a conflict with some other similar events. It is coming along and there will be a number of panelists tomorrow night, including: Jay Stein from E Source; Diane Dandeneau from the ConervEd project; and Leslie Glustrom from CoSeia and Clean Energy Action.

Due to the importance of this issue, there may be a need to do a follow-up meeting as we might also do with the education segue.

7/11/7--Foreign Policy: Finally this is shaping up. This in from Rick who has been pulling this all together: FYI: Here is the line up for July: Alan Salazar (Udall's Chief of Staff), Caroline Bninski (RMPJC), State Rep. and veteran Joe Rice, and Will Shafroth. Still working on a fifth from CU, but this should get Robin started on calendar listings.

8/8/7--Healthcare: Nino will be seeking the involvement of an MD working with the Latino community in Longmont. I will do followup with Pete Dawson and Dianne Primavera who were both at a recent Boulder County health forum. Angie has a connection with someone on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Healthcare Reform Committee.

September: Immigration

October: Economic justice and prosperity, civil rights.

LEADERSHIP LIAISON, BLOG, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

These seem to be related and all essential to broadening community involvement and candidate and elected official's respect for and involvement in the platform process.

A. Leadership liaison/two-way communication between voters and elected officials:

Jonathan will be presenting a resolution to the Executive Committee meeting tomorrow, 6/13, requesting the Party's endorsement of our intent for greater respect for and involvement in the platform process from our elected officials. This resolution will then be brought forward for a vote at the next Exec meeting, in July.

There is consensus that this is an essential part of our mission. There have been too many officials declaring that they don't get involved in the platform process for our comfort. We will want to identify a person or committee who will be responsible to send on to these officials and candidates our monthly issues survey and get them to respond, whether or not they are part of that particular forum. We will also want them to respond to the issues already discussed. We will then want to post their recommendations on the blog.

B. Blog:

Jonathan was going to ask Rick if he could get the forum surveys done for all the issues so that we could get them out to elected officials, forum participants and other community leaders in advance of the forums (see attached survey for tomorrow's forum). The more involvement we can get from party leaders and experts in the field, the more attractive the blog will become.

With more time before upcoming forums, we hope to also get our forum panelists to give their responses in advance for posting on the blog.

We also want to get a link to the blog posted on the next Dems monthly newsletter in hopes of making it easier for Dems in general to start blogging. Please tell everyone, including ourselves, to go to the blog!

C. Community Outreach:

We talked quite a bit about this. It is clear that we will want to have an active committee addressing this concern soon or devote an entire meeting to this as a committee as a whole. We certainly need to prepare for getting as much precinct, community center and special interest group involvement leading up to and including the community deliberation process in January.

But we also want to expand our outreach to the broader community all along. We did speak about the importance of getting the issues survey translated into Spanish. Nino said he will translate the press releases we make for upcoming events and get them out to the local Spanish speaking media.

Community outreach, as per Jonathan's suggestion, should be a priority at our next committee meeting. **Our next meeting is currently scheduled for July 5th, but given it's on the other side of a holiday which may be extended for some, we may want to schedule for another night, e.g. the 9th. Please email me back with your preferences ASAP.**

Rebecca