

46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats Executive Board meeting minutes  
Olympic View Church, Seattle WA  
January 3, 2006

Attending: John Webber, Chad Lupkes, Bev Marcus, Dean Fournier, Scott White, Stan Sorscher, Betty Means, Jan Ames, Sarajane Siegfriedt, Dana O'Day-Senior, Justin Simmons, Janet Miller, Gerry Pollet, Gail Chiarello

Called to order at 7:37 PM

Chair's report. Scott's Chair's report will overlap with items later in the meeting, so he deferred to Janet Miller and John Webber for the State Party Report.

State Party Report: John summarized a forum for candidates for the State Party Chair which was held at Bev Marcus' house, last night. About half the Board members also attended. Phil Talmadge, Mark Hintz, Dwight Pelz, and Laura Ruderman also spoke at the meeting.

Scott asked about Laura Ruderman's position on the open primary.

Janet and John are looking for guidance from the Board regarding the candidates.

Scott pointed out the position includes fundraising, organizing and running a large organization, and being the public face for the party. Betty Means added that the Party Chair needs to communicate to elected officials, and to the public, which involve different types of clarity in speaking. Bev thinks the Chair must be good at recruiting good candidates, and should have passion for the job. Sarajane Siegfriedt heard the candidates talk about having a strong statewide organization. Sarajane also wants a leader who can frame a message and communicate in public. The budget can fluctuate significantly, and the Party Chair needs to manage in active and quiet times. Dana O'Day-Senior looks for someone who understands the party structure from local to national levels. Gail Chiarello and Sarajane expect the job to be a full-time commitment. Gerry Pollet said he believes the Party Chair should understand how local organizations work and how the State Party brings them together.

King County Party Report: Sarajane and Dean Fournier had very brief reports.

Treasurer's Report: Gail expects to finish the year with a positive carryforward of about \$5800. Scott thanked Gail for her stewardship of the District's funds.

**Motion** by Janet seconded by Dean to authorize a contribution of \$200 to the League of Women Voters. **Motion passed** unanimously. Gail says Janice Murray wants to assist Gail. Janice is a bookkeeper. The Board agreed that Janice may help Gail out. The State Party is providing training on a new software package, and Gail will go to that this month.

The Holiday fundraising party generated about \$2300 after expenses.

Membership Committee: Betty reported about 195 members for this year. Thirteen PCO's have already contributed.

Program Committee: Gerry passed out a table summarizing assignments for the breakout groups for the next general meeting. Property rights and other ballot initiatives will be on the ballot, so we might want to add other topics. Gerry is thinking about a candidate forum in June and maybe a judicial candidate forum before that. Business organizations are looking at judicial candidates. A panel on tax issues might be held at another meeting.

The issues forum will be at the January meeting. Gerry wants facilitators to contact interest groups to get legislative agendas, and they should look through the platform to see what needs to be updated. Handouts at the meeting will have sections of the platform. Each group will report out their top two issue priorities and any major platform changes. Facilitators' notes from the discussion will go to the Platform Committee and other committees.

Discussion items:

Holiday Party - Scott thanked Jan Ames, Pat Emerson, Mark Saporito, Betty, Gail, Janet, Eileen Pollet, Sarajane and others who helped make the event work well.

Retreat - Scott is thinking of holding the retreat in mid-March.

Advertising policy - keep this issue on the table for another meeting.

Caucus planning - Saturday March 4, 2006. The 43<sup>rd</sup> District will have preliminary issue-oriented meetings, then the March 4 caucus. Scott is thinking of an issues summit prior to the caucus. The caucuses could be held in 7 locations, with 2 "areas" per location. Sarajane suggested school libraries or other carpeted rooms are better than gyms or cafeterias, because of ADA access considerations for people who are hard of hearing. Janet divided up areas geographically, and she is looking for space. Some precincts will have higher and lower turnout.

The Demogram could include a "remit" and letter to pitch membership renewals and encourage caucus attendance.

**Motion** by Janet seconded by Dean to mail the Demogram to the whole "hot list" of 2200 people who have been active in one way or another in the last 2 years, with the letter and remit envelope. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Good of the Order: Gail submitted paperwork for the City Council vacancy. She is eager to see who the other candidates are. Her campaign will feature transparency and good government practices.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Stan Sorscher  
Secretary