

Minutes for 2/16/06 46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:30. Dwight Pelz (new State Party Chair) led the Pledge of Allegiance,

Dwight thanked the 46<sup>th</sup> for the support for his run for Chair. He was at a DNC meeting with other State Party Chairs and said that Washington State was the model for other Chairs. And the 46<sup>th</sup> LD was the strongest organization with the state. He issues challenges to other LD's to match the 46<sup>th</sup> and he challenged the 46<sup>th</sup> to "take it to the next level"

The plan for the 37<sup>th</sup> is to register new voters with a goal of two to three new voters per precinct. That would be approx 10,000 new voters for the next election. So what could the 46<sup>th</sup> do? He urged us to contact voters to get the people that have dropped off voting to get out and vote in '06. The telephone is a dying tool in politics. There has to be a personal touch. Strongly urges doorbelling.

The context we can use is that this is a radical administration. The Republicans have always waged war on the poor. There's not enough money there anymore, so they are waging war on the middle class. The Republicans aim to divide the population thus:

- 5% upper
- 15% middle
- 60% working poor
- 20% impoverished.

Dwight is against a censure of Maria Cantwell. "It is easier to hurt our friends than our enemies." Dwight said, "That takes extra work, and we must work to hurt McGavick. The 46<sup>th</sup> LD's proposed resolution is yours to decide." He is not telling us how to vote, just sharing his thoughts.

The King County Report was given by Sarajane. The message was please join the KC Dems as they are a separate organization that the 46<sup>th</sup>. As are all the State organizations.

Treasurers Report was given by Scott in Gail's absence – Donations outpaced expenditures and we have \$7,634 in the bank.

Tom Rasmussen of the City Council gave a report on the Mid-Term Accomplishments. These focused on Seattle's seniors, homeless and low income families, making housing more affordable, and fighting for healthier and safer communities. A member brought up the fact that she had trouble getting into low income housing because there is discrimination against disabled people. There are, unofficially, two lists – one of normal low income, and one of disabled low income. Tom pointed that "affordable" meant that it was not more than 30% of income could go to housing. Therefore, "affordable" varied according to income.

Membership – Betty Means. We have 348 members as of today. Last year at this time, we had 316. PLUS she had a nice stack of new members that were not yet processed.

Jim McIntire:

Fair Share Health Care (a.k.a. the Wal-Mart bill) didn't pass. The Speaker held up the legislation.

They are working on the Budget – there is \$900 – 950 million in reserve for pension and other costs.

Key Arena – He personally voted against the other stadiums, but “stadiums happen”. He doesn't want the Key Arena to become a “white elephant”. The Sonics are owned by 58 people, 57 of which live in the Seattle area. He is recommending that we let the Sonics have the \$200 million (although he never mentioned that figure, only mentioned Nick's figures of \$29 mil debt left at end of Sonics lease and the \$20 mil Nick was asking for renovations). The money could not be used for other purposes because it is a specific revenue stream directed at restaurants and hotels and designated for entertainment and the arts. The Sonics have agreed to show their books and audits/

Precinct Caucuses – See attached information sheet. Dana O'Day-Senior, Jim Mullins

The Precinct Caucus will be held March 4<sup>th</sup> at various sites. We will be electing delegates and alternates to the next caucus on 4/22. We will be voting on resolutions with respect to our party platform, the purposes and values that we believe in. It would be good to form these as short, succinct, memorable sound bites. There will be training on 2/28 for PCO's.

A resolution to censure Maria Cantwell for her unsupportive vote to close debate on the Samuel Alito nomination” that went against our prior resolution was brought forth. A motion to table the resolution was raised and seconded. The motion to table was passed. The tabling motion ended both consideration of and debate on the resolution at this meeting.

A resolution to impeach President George W. Bush was brought forth by Cleve Stockmeyer, seconded and passed in record time.

Two resolutions were submitted by Nancy Malmgren. The first was a 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats' Purpose and Values Statement. The second was that the 46<sup>th</sup> Democrats Support Veterans Needs. Both passed.

A resolution to Downtown Seattle Development was brought forth. We voted to suspend the normal rules to allow a vote for this critical resolution. We would prefer Peter Steinbrueck's proposals to the Mayor's proposals.

I see on a copy of the Demogram that there was a resolution supporting retention of Low-Income Housing for the Disabled. I have no notes on it. If we did have a vote, could someone please fill in for me here?

Announcements:

John Webber

Peace March, Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1:00 PM at the Federal Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Marion in downtown Seattle. This is a Peace March supporting bringing our troops home

Jason Osgood

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday every month there is a bi-partisan Election Reform meeting at: University Heights Center for the Community Center  
5031 University Way NE Seattle, WA 98105  
6:00pm - 9:00pm in Room 209

Sylvia

There is a need for poll workers for this fall. However, if you are a PCO up for election, you can't be a worker.

Norma Miller

NARAL is having it's 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Chocolate for Choice Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> Ellis Pavilion at Safeco Field. 6:00 – 8:00 pm. YUM!

After the announcements, we had a lively discussion regarding the censuring of Maria. Many felt that she should be aware of how her constituents felt. Others were afraid that if we put anything negative out, that the Republicans would use it against us.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Whitt  
PCO -46-2373