

46th District Democrats Executive Board meeting minutes
Olympic View Church, Seattle WA
February 7, 2007

Attending: Scott White, Betty Means, Dean Fournier, Chad Lupkes, John Webber, Janet Miller, Pat Emerson, Jan Ames, Javier Valdez, Bernadette Laqueur, Stan Sorscher, Barbara Whitt, Gerry Pollet and Mike Thompson.

Excused: Sarajane Siegfriedt, Sylvia Haven, Justin Simmons are working at the polls, and Donna Boysen is in Afghanistan.

Scott White called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Board members introduced themselves.

Chair's report: Scott handed out the budget report, Board roster, and a planning calendar. Caucuses will be one of our big events, in early 2008. Scott asked the Board to be prepared to start on time, keep discussion focused and efficient, and finish meetings in a timely manner.

The State Party is holding a retreat for District Chairs and Vice Chairs, to go over logistics and planning for the 2008 elections.

State Party Report: John Webber emailed several partial reports. He mentioned which were his favorites. Janet Miller talked about the Reorganization meeting in Olympia. Javier was re-elected to his position. Janet reviewed Get-Out-the-Vote tactics, and Party-building. Janet is now Chair of the Elections committee. Dwight Pelz talked about some of the leading Presidential candidates.

Javier Valdez talked about new members of the Executive Board. The operating budget was updated. The Board prepared a personnel policy. King County wants to host the State Convention this year.

King County Party Report: Chad discussed the County races for 2007. The 46th District has the highest percentage of PCO's, but Suzie Sheary would like to see all Districts improve in that respect. The Party is recruiting candidates and setting fund-raising targets.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Boysen is working in Afghanistan. The Board looked at the 2006 closeout report. Our balance going forward is over \$6000. Donna's trip to Afghanistan was extended unexpectedly. Scott asked Gail Chiarello to prepare the 2007 budget. Timing is tight to get the budget approved and into the Demogram. We could move the Executive Board forward, move the General meeting back, or delay approving the budget.

Gerry Pollet suggested we propose at the March meeting that we extend the 2006 budget until April, given the schedule crunch. Without objection, the board agreed to do that.

Membership Report: Betty Means said that more PCOs seem to be paying dues, and she is seeing more members paying at higher dues levels. Javier said the 43rd District sent out large mailings to increase membership. The Voter File can help set up the mailing. Betty will look at costs.

Program Report: Gerry Pollet passed out an outline of topics for the Issue Summit at the February General Meeting. Different topics were local, state-wide or national in scope. For each issue, the organizer(s) should have actions for people to take at the meeting - possibly volunteering for a later event. After Board members signed up, a few issues were scratched, and 7 topics remained:

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Organizer(s)</u>
Stop the War	Sylvia Haven, John Webber
Environment	Mike Thompson, Pat Emerson, Bernadette Laqueur
Transportation	Dean Fournier
Voter Registration	All
Education	Janet Miller, Jan Ames
Globalization	Stan Sorscher, Chad Lupkes
Clean Elections	Sarajane Siegfriedt, Betty Means, Barbara Whitt

Scott looked forward to the primary endorsement meeting. Candidates must file in the first week of June. Endorsements can be scheduled for the General Meeting on June 21. The primary is August 21. The July and August meetings could be combined and held in early August.

Chad, Gerry, Scott and Janet had ideas about topics and speakers for future General Meetings. Several people wanted to hear more from School Board candidates. Another thought was to bring in leaders from other Districts. Getting some big-name speakers would get big crowds and invigorate members. Betty suggested that the Program Committee work with the Outreach Committee to consider inviting several Community Council presidents to a District meeting. We could not only become better informed about neighborhood issues but also build bridges to other activist groups/individuals in the 46th.

Discussion items: On the planning calendar, dates for some events are still uncertain. The calendar lists Committee Chairs. The Caucus Planning committee may be broken into subcommittees.

Last year, the retreat was used to set priorities, and David Domke spoke about messaging and values. This year, we should work on outlines of work plans for each committee. Scott is thinking in terms of one-page outlines.

The retreat was penciled in for the morning February 24. Barbara Whitt will call libraries for costs and availability.

Demogram is ready to go. Janet will work on the labels.

Banner policy: asked for clarity on getting permission to use the banner at different events. Scott proposed that the banner be available for events with progressive purposes without prior approval. If this creates problems we can be more restrictive. The Board concurred with this practice. Scott stores the banner. He proposed we could get another with more design features.

Motion by Pat, seconded by Barbara to authorize Scott to get cost estimates to obtain a bitchun new banner, and that Scott would get final approval before proceeding. **Motion passed** without objection.

Good of the order: Barbara would like help setting up and pulling down chairs for the General Meeting. Bernadette Laqueur is hosting a house party on Clean Elections, this Sunday at 4:30 PM.

Motion adjourned at 9:25 PM

Minutes by Stan Sorscher