

46th District Democrats General Meeting
Olympic View Elementary School, Seattle WA
February 15, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:31 PM.

John Webber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Scott White welcomed PCOs and new members to the meeting. Scott renewed his challenge to bring new members to each meeting as a way to help the organization grow.

Legislative action will be this Monday in Olympia. Box lunches will be arranged. Scott asked for RSVP's so they can have supplies available. PCO training and the crab feed will be the same day in Lacey, featuring Gov. Schweitzer from Montana.

PCO appointment. Ellen Coyle said that changes in the next few years should be changes that "benefit us." Ellen's appointment was confirmed by show of hands.

State Party report. John Webber and Jan Miller attended the biennial reorganization meeting in Olympia, Jan 26 and 27. The main business was electing officers. All incumbents ran and were re-elected. State Chair Pelz ran unopposed and was re-elected with great enthusiasm. Main objective at the State level is to re-elect Governor Gregoire. Chair Pelz see the 2008 Presidential caucuses as a vital means of building the grass roots. The WSD will be giving organizational support to LD's.

Jan Miller is appointed new chair of the WSDCC Elections Committee. John continues on the WSDCC Rules Committee. Rules must have the '08 state caucus rules drafted and submitted to the National Party by May 1. Waiting on quarterly meetings is too slow. So Chair Pelz has called a special meeting in Ellensburg for the weekend of March 3 and 4. The Rules Committee, Affirmative Action and all State Chairs (LD's and Counties) will meet there and then to plan for a successful '08 caucus cycle.

King County Report. Chad Lupkes said Suzie Sheary, the King County Democratic Party Chair, has set a goal of 75% PCO coverage for all LD's in the district and 50% increase in membership. Elections in 2007 include four County Council positions, and we will be focusing on putting a Democrat into position #6. Another focus of the County party is the Port of Seattle races, where we will be supporting Alec Fiske and working to put a strong progressive in position #2. King County gave an early endorsement to Larry Gossett at our meeting on January 23rd, and had a presentation on the updated voter registration form. The county party is planning to have tables at as many community events as possible this summer for our ongoing voter registration drive. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 27th.

Sarajane Siegfriedt pointed out that King County Democrats is a separate organization from the Legislative District organizations. It plays a big role in counting ballots, for instance. Meetings are open to the public, and Sarajane recommends joining it. The County organization meets at the Carpenters' Hall in Renton.

Scott introduced City Council members David Della, and Peter Steinbrueck, and County Council member Larry Phillips.

Treasurer's Report. Donna Boysen is out of the country. Scott reported we have a balance of over \$6000. **Motion** to continue our 2006 budget until we adopt a new budget which we expect to occur in April. **Motion approved** by voice vote.

Membership Report. Betty Means said we have 283 paid members, and are doing well in getting dues paid in.

Issues Summit. Gerry Pollet introduced the format for the Issues Summit. Last year the issues summit was directed at the Platform. This year, the end-product will be actions we can take to promote our interests on the issues.

The issues are:

Education
Environment
Election reform/Clean elections
Globalization
Transportation (Viaduct, waterfront, other)
Stopping the damn war
Health Care

Gerry directed the breakout groups into different areas in the room.

The meeting reconvened at 9 PM.

Resolutions.

Resolution requiring Congressional approval before increasing troop strength in Iraq.
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the
46th State Legislative delegation and all legislators to support SJM
8003 and join us in calling for a public hearing on it by the Senate
Government Operations & Elections Committee.

Resolution passed by voice vote.

Resolution supporting preservation of groves of trees on the Camp Fire site in northeast Seattle, and supporting designation of the site as a pocket park. The property is owned by Camp Fire, but could be bought by a developer. It is zoned for multi-family housing and could accommodate up to 50 homes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 46th District
Democrats believe that the Camp Fire/Waldo Grove trees as well as
other large trees and groupings of trees on site should be preserved
by negotiation with the developer, city and neighborhood.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this parcel of land should be
considered for designation as a "pocket park" and unique asset to the
District and community.

Resolution passed unanimously by show of hands.

Motion by Peter Steinbrueck to oppose proposition 2 - the vote on aerial rebuild of the viaduct.

Motion by Sarajane Siegfriedt to suspend the rules - seconded. **Motion to suspend**

passed by show of hands (2/3rds required).

Speaking

For the motion: Peter Steinbrueck spoke against a larger noisier uglier aerial rebuild as anti-environmental, back-ward thinking. Peter said this design is mindless, it does not improve traffic mobility or freight mobility. Peter characterized the proposition as forced on Seattle by the State.

Against: A speaker against prefers the Viaduct. She loves the view which will be lost if the viaduct is torn down. In that case, the view will belong to those who can afford to live on the waterfront.

For: Gerry Pollet said the design and computer simulation include big walls boxing in the lanes in the viaduct so drivers would lose their great views of the Sound.

Against: Jeanine Ferguson said the tunnel is dead, so the viaduct option is all we have.

Motion to take a "no" position on Proposition 2 - viaduct rebuild passed overwhelmingly by a show of hands.

Larry Phillips said he enjoyed listening in to the breakout groups. This week, the State Senate took up a new tax levy to support a new sports facility in Renton for the SuperSonics. He will try to bring a resolution to the next meeting to require a vote before approving any such tax levy. Scott took a straw vote indicating strong support for Larry Phillips' position.

Good of the Order.

Pat Emerson encouraged people to take the League of Women Voters' legislators' booklets for 2007.

Chad Lupkes put web utilities on the web site to contact committees and elected officials in Olympia.

Nigel Herbig - Washington Conservation Voters has also taken a position against the viaduct rebuild.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM