

46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats Executive Board meeting minutes  
Olympic View Church, Seattle WA  
March 6, 2007

Attending: Scott White, Betty Means, Dean Fournier, John Webber, Janet Miller, Pat Emerson, Jan Ames, Chad Lupkes, Bernadette Laqueur, Stan Sorscher, Barbara Whitt, Donna Boysen, Sylvia Haven, Justin Simmons, Sarajane Siegfriedt, and Gerry Pollet.

Scott White called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Chair's report: The "Chair's conference" in Ellensburg went very well - the first meeting of its kind. Everyone involved understands and appreciates the value of grassroots organizing. Scott saw a high level of teamwork and community between east and west - urban and rural districts. Chairs set numerical targets for caucus turnout, vote levels and registration. We'd like to see 100,000 more Democratic votes across the state.

State Party Report: John Webber reported on the Rules Committee, which also met in Ellensburg. King County will hold its County Convention on April 12, 2008 - the same date as other counties. Precinct Caucuses will be Feb 9, CD caucuses - May 17. The primary will be May 27. We will have 97 delegates and 13 alternates to the national convention in Denver. The 97 delegates include 10 party leaders & elected officials (PLEOs). Proxies will be available for religious reasons, disabled people, and citizens in the military.

King County Report: Chad Lupkes reported on status of a tax for the stadium in Renton. Larry Phillips opposes using tax money for the stadium. He would call for a public vote on the levy. Larry Phillips was endorsed for re-election to the County Council. Alec Fisker is running for Port Commissioner, and Betty Means will be working on the campaign. Alec Fisker was endorsed. Jack Block Jr. was considered for endorsement but the motion was tabled. Gael Tarleton may also run for that position. Early endorsements would help getting campaign contributions. Betty Means said that early endorsements are typically made for candidates who are well known and have been endorsed before. **Consensus** of the Board was to defer early endorsements until we hear from other candidate(s).

**Motion** by Scott to take a resolution to King County Democrats providing that candidate early endorsements would be made when a candidate is highly regarded - for example, having a previous endorsement by King County Democrats. Early endorsement should require a two-thirds vote. Candidates must complete and make available the KCDCC questionnaire. **Motion passed.**

Other speakers at the KCDCC meeting talked about elections, races and campaigns to elect Democrats. Suzie Sheary is having problems getting voter information from the County, and she will make a formal complaint. Four resolutions were on the agenda. One resolution dealt with franchise agreements that would allow satellite networks and future cable networks to operate state-wide. Another resolution referred to a bill in the State Legislature setting limits on LD contributions to candidates. Sarajane Siegfriedt will get more information on this.

Tools for contacting legislators are on the 46<sup>th</sup> District web site.

Treasurer's Report: Donna Boysen is back in the country (yea!!!). Donna and Gail Chiarello went over the records and accounts. Gail will participate in the audit for 2006. Donna and Scott will put the budget together for the next Executive Board meeting, so the budget can go to the General Meeting in April.

The bulk mail permit must be renewed, and we need to fund the bulk mailing account.

Membership: Betty Means reported on membership levels in the major categories. Betty drafted letters to donors, which should go out this week. Betty will order new "remits" with the new dues rates. We should get bugs for union printing and a blurb showing post-recycle material content.

Scott ruled that, without objection, anyone using old envelopes and paying dues at the amounts listed on those old envelopes will be regarded as a member in good standing. No objection was heard.

Program Report: Gerry Pollet and Scott looked at calendars to set up the endorsement meeting. Filing is in the first week of June. June or possibly July are the only General Meetings between filing and the primary, which is in late August. The Candidate Forum has been in June, in previous years. School Board and Port races will need their place, too, this year.

Chad asked about a combined meeting with 43<sup>rd</sup> District and maybe others on a night other than our regular meeting night. The 36<sup>th</sup> also meets on our regular night and they could join us. Chad said maybe King County can hold a candidate forum for School and Port races, and we could co-sponsor.

Gerry said if we leave out uncontested County Council seats, we get 8 races for the forum, assuming School Board and Port races are hosted by King County. Gerry and Scott will look at time available to include the Port races, and Gerry will invite the 36<sup>th</sup> District to join us.

Scott will write an article for the Demogram about the Port and what Port Commissioners do.

This month, we will have a short movie with interviews with people coming home from Iraq. A Gold Star mother from Bellingham will speak at the General Meeting. David Della will also be on the agenda.

John will use the Banner at the "A.N.S.W.E.R." march. Sylvia will use the banner on another march.

#### Discussion items:

Retreat and Work Plans. Scott reviewed progress on work programs made out at the retreat. We went around the table with brief reactions to the retreat. Janet Miller, Sarajane Siegfriedt and Barbara Whitt talked about their work plans. Scott wants us to keep the work plans current and report regularly, since these are all tied to our overall goals of membership, grass-roots organizing, voter turnout and successful elections.

Our Values flyer. These are handy in voter registration, and to encourage new residents to come to General Meetings. They are also good at public functions. Sarajane has a design. Justin Simmons will help Sarajane prepare something for the Board to look at. Sarajane will call Service printing or EcoGraphics to get an estimate.

Survey. Betty and Jan Ames prepared a survey for new members and circulated it in email. A few comments came back. Betty would like to use it at the March meeting.

GM Meeting agenda. At the retreat, we talked about having short reports at the end of the meeting for Treasurer, Membership, State Party, and King County.

Bylaws. Dean Fournier said the committee met yesterday. The committee voted narrowly to retain the requirement for PCO's to obtain 10 signatures. Pros and cons were discussed, since we had reached a different conclusion at the retreat. Gerry proposed having an expectation of PCO's rather than a signature requirement. For instance, the expectation might be registering a voter or some other positive action that helps the district. Several people spoke to the idea of working with PCOs to make sure they have training and support, and actively work in their precincts.

**Motion** to present bylaws from the Bylaws committee. **Motion passed.**

**Motion** to amend proposed bylaws by deleting the 10-signature requirement. (Vote yes to eliminate the 10-signature rule). **Motion passed.**

Sarajane prefers the expression "financial review" to "audit." Scott ruled without objection that the Bylaws Committee can make appropriate changes in the Bylaws to replace audit with financial review.

**Motion** to run the bylaws in the Demogram and bring them to the April General Meeting for approval.  
**Motion passed.**

Technology. Chad explained some of the tools he added to the web site for communicating with elected officials commissions and other official bodies. Chad has a Google-map for precincts. He's working on other features, too. Other sites can use the tools.

Good of the Order.

Sylvia Haven announced a King County **Council** Budget Town Forum at Olympic View Elementary, on March 28th; 7-8:30. Public reception at 6:30. Sylvia also spoke about the Backbone Campaign, which invited Stan Sorscher to speak in the teleconference call. Stan will send out an email with a link to the PowerPoint file and pdf used in the call.

The Outreach Committee will consider an arrangement for donating a Family Membership to school auctions and similar events.

Justin Simmons announced the unveiling of a memorial to Martin Luther King.

Sarajane reminded the Board that Jim McIntire and Phyllis Kenney are hosting a public meeting March 17, and Jim McDermott will have an event at Town Hall March 18. Sarajane and Justin are going to Camp Wellstone.

Motion adjourned at 9:41 PM

Minutes by Stan Sorscher