

46 th LD District caucus
Ingraham High School
Saturday April 5

Javier Valdez called the meeting to order at 10 AM.

Jim McDermott

Javier introduced Jim McDermott who spoke about the opportunities we have in this election cycle. Jim said this campaign is energizing volunteers and voters and can be positive for party-building.

Javier appointed Stan Sorscher acting secretary, and Dave McDonald as acting Parliamentarian.

Javier introduced Rep. Phyllis Kenney. Phyllis read a statement from Governor Christine Gregoire.

Javier announced that 11 AM would be the cutoff time to register to be candidate for delegate to the congressional district caucus.

Jim McIntire

Javier introduced Rep. Jim McIntire, who is running for State Treasurer in 2008. Jim thanked Phyllis and Ken Jacobsen for all their work representing the 46th District in the State legislature.

A delegate questioned Javier regarding credentials reports, which was the next item on the agenda. Javier is waiting for the preliminary credentials report, so he is taking statements from elected officials while the credentials report is being prepared.

Phyllis Kenney

Rep. Phyllis Kenney spoke again, encouraging all delegates and volunteers to work hard to elect Democrats in the 2008 elections. We should register voters, campaign effectively, turn out to vote and win elections.

Ken Jacobsen

Javier introduced Sen. Ken Jacobsen. Ken said the crowd in the room might be the largest number of Democrats ever to assemble in the 46th District. Ken believes states will come up with new ideas that will serve as models to solutions at the national level. Washington State is working on several new ideas.

Caucus Process

Javier outlined the next level in the state caucus process. At today's meeting we will choose 60 delegates and 30 alternates. As we go through the next steps, we will elect delegates to the national convention in Denver. The next step is the congressional district caucus, then the state caucus in Spokane.

Javier spoke briefly about unity and common purpose as important values for the party.

Greg Nickels

Javier introduced Mayor Greg Nickels. Greg talked about the tradition of the democratic process in America. Greg wants a stronger Democratic turnout in 2008 than we had in 2004, when every precinct except one voted for John Kerry. He said we are leading the

country in environmental activism.

Scott White

Javier introduced Scott White, who is a candidate to fill Jim McIntire's open seat in the State House of Representatives. Scott was Chair of the 46th District, and organized community groups for publicly financed elections and full funding for schools. He has 15 years of experience in local government. Scott talked about education, cleaning up Puget Sound, health care, tax reform, and other important state and local issues.

Gerry Pollet

Javier introduced Gerry Pollet, who is also running for Jim McIntire's open seat. Gerry said we have two good candidates for this position. Gerry is a public interest attorney with experience working for the environment, consumer protection among other issues. Gerry wrote laws on toxic waste and chemical exposure. We worked on the Growth Management Act. Gerry worked on the Hanford cleanup initiative, which had very high voter support. Gerry has strong interests in education, tax reform and health care.

Javier asked if any other candidates for the 46th District seat were present.

Credentials Report

Janet Miller thanked all the volunteers, and reported the delegate counts.

1st CD: 67 delegates + 45 alts - 16 alternates will be seated

7th CD: 927 delegates + 601 alternates - 152 alternates will be seated.

1162 delegates are seated, in total.

Janet read the names of alternates who are seated. Janet asked the alternates she named to go pick up their credentials.

Agenda and Rules

Javier pointed everyone to the sheet in the packets showing certain changes in the order of the items, and corrections to rule 7 and regarding changes in the voting rule agreed to by the Obama and Clinton campaigns.

Point of order: Challenge that we can't vote until everyone is seated. Dave McDonald ruled that we have about 1000 seated delegates in the room. If the vote is close, we can wait until the alternate delegates return to the room.

Motion to adopt the agenda and rules as adopted. **Motion passed** by voice vote with one or two votes against.

Nominations for chair. Javier Valdez was nominated and seconded. No other nominations received. Motion to close nominations made, seconded and passed. Motion to elect Javier passed by voice vote.

Dave made special recognition of Janet's great work in keeping track of delegates.

Javier appointed Stan Sorscher as permanent Secretary, Mark Saporito as permanent Sergeant at Arms and Dave McDonald as permanent Parliamentarian. Javier called a short break, waiting for alternate delegates to collect their credentials.

At 11:30 AM Dean Fournier spoke, in general terms, to the assembly about the Platform and Resolutions. Dean announced that no resolutions were presented from the floor, so the resolutions in the packets will be the only ones we will consider.

The packets have the resolutions, but not the supporting statements (the "whereas" parts).

Platform

Dean opened consideration of the Platform.

Flagging items. Sarajane Siegfriedt said that later on we can amend planks. At this point, we are flagging existing planks.

Values - Add single payer health care
Add peace to cooperation

Agriculture - #1 farm subsidies
Add ending animal cruelty
Add sustainable forestry management
Flag #5, #3, #7, #6,
Add requirement for agriculture to protect environmental resources

Civil and Human Rights.
Flag #3, #5

Economic Justice
Flag #1, #3, #8, #7, #4 in opposition
Add affordable housing

Education
Add equitable funding across school districts
Flag #3, and charter schools under oppose
Flag #10, #4
Add affordable text books for college students
Flag #8
Flag #1 - add another sub-item
Add phased adoption of the metric system
Add - eliminated bonds as a fund mechanism
Add - oppose religious doctrine in public schools

Environment and Energy
Flag #1 - add greenhouse gasses
Flag #3
Add overpopulation
Flag #2.a. and 2.c, 2.b
Flag #5 - add factory farm accountability
We oppose - tax subsidies for oil companies
Flag #6.a and "all available means"
Flag #7
Add sustainable fisheries management

Government and Political Reform

Flag #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #8, #9, #10, #11 #12, #13

In opposition: #1, #2, #3

Add instant runoff voting.

Add study mandatory voting

Add impeachment of the President

Proxy votes

Dave McDonald reminded everyone that delegates can name a proxy if they leave. The proxy must be left in a box in the back of the room. If an alternate is available, the alternate would have priority to use that vote.

Health Care

Flag #1.c, #2, #3, #4, #6, #7 #8,

Add decriminalizing drug use

Add stem cell research

Add simplified Medicare and Medicaid programs to #1

Add medical cannabis

Add public funded research education

Add childhood obesity programs

Add calorie counts on all menus

#1 - add AG oversight medical health insurance.

Add - standardized insurance forms

Add - eliminate disparities

Human Services

Flag #7

Add - child welfare funding

Add - bridge funding for transition off welfare

Add - support for home health care

Janet announced several other alternate delegates who can collect their credentials.

Labor

Flag #6 - Add support paid family leave

Flag #5, #8,

Add - prohibit discrimination in the workplace for sexual orientation

Add - H-1B L-1 work visa enforcement

Add - family leave, foster care

Add - eliminate drug testing

We oppose, #2

Law and Justice System

Flag #1, #2, #5, #9 - add eliminate mandatory minimum sentences

Flag #6, #10, #9.c, #9.b

Add - Prosecute torture, war crimes with not retroactive immunity

Add - reinstate voting rights for felons

Add - reform judicial selection process

Add - education for incarcerated

Add - whistleblower protection

Add - protect prisoners - educate black males instead of imprisoning

- Add - expand services to juveniles delinquents
- Add - support for equal rights amendment
- Add - violence protection education
- Add - distribute condoms in prison
- Add - forbid state entitlements for certain felons
- Add - review classification of government documents.
- Add - End the war on drugs
- Add - reform foster care to protect abused children and adults

We oppose - Degrading treatment of incarcerated people.
Religious affiliation
Unchecked eavesdropping
Retroactive immunity

Media Reform

Flag #3, #4
Add - repeal digital media copyright law
Add - recommitment to National Endowment of the Arts
Add - support cable "public good" review
Add - public service announcements
Add - US to be multi-lingual

In the We oppose section Flag #2, #5, #3

National Security and Foreign Policy

Flag #1.b, #1.d, #1.e, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7 #13, #15, #16, #17
Add - accountability for contractors and troops
Add - build bridges to past enemies
Add - support for Madagascar
Add - reduce military spending
Add - US stop bombing innocent people in Somalia
Add - change policy in horn of Africa
Add - commission on war profiteering
Add - sanctions against China
Add - expand education exchange program
Add - Taiwan independence

In the We oppose section, Flag #8, #10

- Add - isolationist mindset
- Add - torture for military intelligence
- Add - wall in Israel - Palestine
- Add - unilateral action in Pakistan
- Add - US - Mexico security wall
- Add - sanctions as a policy option

Transportation

Flag Preamble, #2, #5, #6, #7,
Add - global warming investment
Add - safe routes to schools
Add - support electric vehicles
Add - super-efficient public transportation

Motion to adopt the non-flagged parts of the platform. **Motion** passed by voice vote.

Credentials Report.

Janet Miller reported on the preliminary delegate allocation.

1st CD - 84 delegates are seated.

Clinton - 24 LD delegates	- 1/1 at the CD caucus
Obama - 59	- 4/2 at the CD caucus
Uncommitted - 1	- 0/0

7th CD 1087 delegates

Clinton - 272 LD delegates	15/7 at the CD caucus
Obama 785 delegates	40/20 at the CD caucus
Uncommitted 8 delegates	0/0 at the CD caucus
Kucinich - a couple	0/0 at the CD caucus

Delegates will be able to switch sides, which may change the allocation of delegates to the CD caucus. Then we will sub caucus.

Ken Jacobsen spoke for the Obama campaign. Ken supported Obama a year and a half ago. Ken saw discrimination in Seattle when he was young. Ken thinks Barack Obama can lead us into the 21st Century. We need to bring people together, and not split them on the issues. Our generation faces greater challenges - greater even than the challenges faces by the "greatest generation." We need to focus on defeating John McCain in the general election.

Elizabeth Rohr spoke for the Clinton campaign. Surrounded by her support team, she presented images of workers and families struggling under difficult circumstances. Hillary Clinton is hard working and supremely qualified to be President. Obama is a strong candidate, but Clinton is best qualified. Clinton has strength in her heart which influences her support for Hillary Clinton. She and her team-mates will fight on for Hillary Clinton.

At 1:03 PM, Javier announced a 15-minute period where LD delegates can switch candidates.

Platform - Flagged parts.

Dean Fournier reviewed the process for submitting language for the Platform.

Values

Motion made and seconded to consider adding "and cooperation" to the first value.

Motion passed by show of credentials.

Motion to add "single payer" made and seconded. In favor: Single payer will be cheaper and better. Opposed: "single payer" is not single payer health care. Opposed: Values should not be cluttered with policy. Point repeated by another speaker.

Motion failed by show of credentials.

Platform committee accepts a change to say "rehabilitative education" for incarcerated people.

Point of order: Flagged items that are not considered will not be included in the platform

Agriculture

#1 - Subsidies to large farms should be eliminated - no family farms.

Motion to adopt the agriculture section as proposed. Motion ruled out of order.

Opposed: all farm subsidies are bad. Agribusiness gets it all anyway. In favor: family farms would be wiped out without subsidies.

Motion passed by show of credentials

#2 - no maker of the motion

#3 - no maker of the motion

#5 - **Motion** to remove this - costs will go up and become a burden on the school districts. In favor: Encouraging school districts could come in many forms. **Motion** to delete **failed** by a show of cards.

#6 - **Motion** to delete #6 - Biofuels cost more energy than they produce. It is not a genuine solution. Opposed: a better biofuels process might come along. For instance, bio-waste and cellulosic ethanol processes might make good sense. Opposed: Any organic matter can be made into ethanol. Waste oil is also a feedstock.

Motion to delete #6 **failed** by show of cards.

Further amendment to #6 - "net greenhouse gas as measured in CO2 equivalents"
In favor: Different organics have very different CO2 equivalents. No speaker against.
Motion passed by show of cards.

#7 - no maker of the motion

#9 - **Motion** "food quality and animal welfare and safety..." In favor: modern factory farms are some of the cruelest places on earth. Opposed: no speakers

Motion to add "and animal welfare" **passed** by show of credentials.

#9 **Motion** to add "... criminalize inhumane treatment of livestock." Seconded. In favor: We should think of animals in a positive way. Opposed: We don't agree on what humane treatment is. In favor: Inhumane treatment damages our food supply.

Motion failed by show of cards.

Point of order: what happened to all the adds? We have a process for adds, and all the adds are out of order. We have a resolutions process that anyone can use during the year.

Civil and Human Rights

#3 - **Motion** to add "and to be afforded all rights associated with marriage." In favor: Marriage, in itself is empty without the rights that come with it. Opposed: Moslems and Catholics believe in a union between a man and a woman. In favor: separation of church and state - equal rights for all people. Opposed: the language already says what we want.

Motion passed.

#5 - **Motion**: Delete this item. End of life issues come down to money. A cheap and easy option creates ugliness. First we need to fully fund care for our elderly. Opposed: Keep it as is, because protections are in place. In favor: affirmation of the maker of the motion. In favor: as a health care worker, this has worked effectively.

Motion to delete #5 **failed** by show of cards.

Economic Justice

#1 - **Motion** to delete language. In favor: This would hurt small business, and doesn't help people in low-income jobs. Opposed: The economy will improve when minimum wage goes up, which will help small business. In favor: [I didn't get this one.] Opposed to the motion: Democrats believe every person who works should earn a living wage.

Motion to delete #1 **failed** by a show of credentials.

#3 **Motion** to amend the language by reducing the threshold to \$1 million. In favor: Taxes on rich people were much higher years ago. Opposed: the \$5 million limit reflects inflation, otherwise the tax would creep.

Motion to reduce the limit **failed** by a show of credentials.

Motion - delete language entirely. In favor: double taxation - its already been taxed. Opposed: Speaking as an estate planning attorney, it makes a lot of sense to pay some back to the common good.

Motion to delete **failed** by a show of credentials.

#3 **Motion** to key it to inflation. Seconded.

Challenge that the motion is out of order. Dave ruled the motion is in order. Opposed: this is too picky. We have real work to do.

Motion to add "keyed to inflation" **passed**.

Janet reported

1st CD - 84

Clinton 23 leading to 1/1 at the CD caucus

Obama 61 leading to 4/1 at the CD caucus

7th CD:1061

Clinton 277 -> 14/7 at the CD caucus

Obama 809 -> 41/21 at the CD caucus

Javier thanked Janet and introduced Chad Lupkes to explain how the ballot will work. Delegate candidates have signed in, and that sign-in order is used for the ballot. Delegates must vote for the full number of candidates that are allowed.

Javier split the assembly into CD and candidate caucuses.

Each sub-group went through a process to select delegates to attend the CD caucuses. Voting concluded at various times and delegates drifted out. Ballot counting and tabulation continued for some time.

Meeting ended around 4 PM, more or less.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher

