

46th Democrats
Olympic View Elementary School
February 19, 2009

6:30 - 7:30 PM

Tables were set up in the gym, where community groups could explain their work and encourage residents in the district to become involved.

Chad Lupkes called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

Larry Phillips led the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes from the January General Meeting approved by voice vote with no corrections or additions.

Chad introduced approximately 30 community organizations in the district, and pointed out where they tables are located.

The meeting was suspended at 7:45, to allow everyone time to visit the tables and talk with volunteers from the community groups.

Chad reconvened the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Janet Miller and John Webber thanked those executive members who stepped down in the last re-organization of the Board, and presented them with gifts as a token of appreciation for their work for the 46th District Democrats: Bernadette Laqueur, Donna Boysen, Justin Simmons, Pat Emerson, Sylvia Haven, Jan Ames, and Mark Saporito.

Chad explained our committee structure and introduced committee chairs. We heard overviews of the goals for the committees during the year. A sign-up sheet was posted on the wall for volunteers

Sarajane Siegfriedt summarized our lobby day in Olympia. Our volunteers had a great time, but the State budget is in serious trouble. Sarajane encouraged voters to speak to their representatives about increasing taxes to cover some of the shortfall.

Kathryn Lewis chairs the Finance committee. Her committee is looking at revenue and ways to use our money wisely.

Betty Means leads the Membership Committee. She tracks our membership year by year in the 4-year presidential cycle to help forecast revenues and assess our strength as an organization. We have 331 members. Several members paid their dues tonight, and we have several new members tonight.

Bernadette introduced new PCOs - Mike Kasprzak, Sylvester Cann.

Mike has been a Democrat and was a PCO on and off. He walked his precinct this year, and wants to be a PCO again. He wants to build on our successes from last year. Sylvester was born in Kent, and lives at the north end of the 46th District. He has degrees in mathematics from UW. In college he and his fraternity ran many community

service projects.

Motion to appoint Mike and Ken made, seconded and **passed** by a show of hands.

Dean Fournier asked for volunteers for two committees - the Bylaws Committee and Platform and Resolutions. He explained the work done by the committees.

Barbara Whitt raised \$300 from the food provided tonight.

Community Outreach committee. Elizabeth Willmott intends to use our District platform to show what Democrats believe in - social justice, environmental protection, equity, for example. She wants the activities to work in a fun way, and mentioned a few ideas to get more people involved.

Stan Moffett gave a brief Treasurer's report - income and expenses for the period and our cash position.

Sarajane made a **motion** seconded, to contribute \$100 to Jim McDermott's fund-raiser. **Motion passed**. Sarajane encouraged everyone to go to the McDermott event.

Elections Committee. Janet Miller introduced a new committee that looks at how we run our campaign operations.

Party Reports. David McDonald serves on the Democratic National Committee. It met in Washington DC in January, just after the inauguration. Tim Kaine is the new DNC chair. Dave said Tim Kane made a very good impression. Dave talked about other new officers on the committee. Dave encouraged everyone to keep the big picture in sight, and not spiral into internal disagreements.

David gave a brief report on the State Party. Dwight Pelz was re-elected. Most of the officers were re-elected. The new 1st Vice Chair is Sharon Smith from Spokane. Luis Moscoso was re-elected as Secretary and Habib Habib was re-elected as Treasurer.

County Party Report. Elizabeth and Dean heard from Sheryl Huff and Gael Tarleton at the King County Democratic Central Committee Executive Committee meeting. Several people from the 46th are active in the KCDCC party organization.

Old Business - none

New business Stuart Ferguson said that candidates seeking endorsement fill out questionnaires where they explain their position on our platform issues. Stuart wondered if community groups at tonight's meeting also support our issues. Chad said this will be a learning process.

Good of the Order. Jim McDermott's potato fest, March 15, is a good place to get the inside stories from Jim about what happens in Congress and Washington DC.

David Miller is running for City Council. He is thinking about which position he wants to run for. He was President of the Maple Leaf Community Council. He would focus on strengthening neighborhoods, prioritizing people, get back to basics - storm response, for example. At least 12 people will be running for the position. He would like lots of volunteers. He brought yard signs, and he would appreciate funding support.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher