

46<sup>th</sup> Democrats  
Olympic View Church  
March 3, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:18 PM

Attending: Chad Lupkes, Betty Means, Shanna Sawatzki, Stan Sorscher, Erica Minshull, Barbara Whitt, Janet Miller, Javier Valdez, Gerry Pollet, Kathryn Lewis, Dean Fournier, John Webber, Sarajane Siegfriedt, Peter Shapiro, Jason Sawatzki, Stan Moffett

Excused: Erica Minshull

Report from the Chair: Chad has a 60-day trial of Constant Contact, which we will use to manage our email.

Jayron had her baby - everyone is well. She is registered at Baby Diaper Service.

Report from State Party. Chad asked about the State Party Caucus Review Committee. No one from the 46<sup>th</sup> LD was named to the committee. Dwight Pelz told Chad that King County is strongly represented.

Report from the County Party. Dean sent out a report in email, and went through the highlights. The new voting machines are waiting a suitable election for Federal certification. Stan Moffett has successfully filed our PDC report.

Sergeant At Arms Report. Barbara Whitt urged discipline and timeliness in getting content into the Demogram. She is looking for community involvement. Barbara's chili was popular and worked well as a fundraiser. Barbara asked that her expenses toward the Christmas party be applied in kind toward her 46<sup>th</sup> Democrats contribution.

Program Committee. Gerry Pollet says Dr. Goodloe-Johnson may be able to speak at our General Meeting. We might also hear from Sherry Carr. Peter Maier and Harium Martin-Morris are disappointed they can't make our meeting. Gerry also invited speakers from the League of Education Voters and PTSA who will talk about the legislative session in Olympia. We will hear about funding for Seattle Public Schools, and overcrowding. Gerry is still waiting for the guests to confirm.

Chad would like to hear a speaker explain the economic crisis. That could be in April.

Tim Burgess wants to speak about City Light and other topics, and Gerry is looking for an appropriate program for Burgess. Gerry is also thinking about a candidate's forum, possibly with another District, or maybe Community Councils.

**Motion** by Janet Miller to pursue a candidates' forum for the May General meeting, and look for co-sponsors. John Webber proposed an **amendment**, seconded, that co-sponsors preferably be Democratic organizations. Discussion about community-branding or party-branding. **Motion to amend** passed 8-5. **Motion** as amended **passed** by show of hands.

The endorsement meeting will be in June.

Legislative Action Committee. Sarajane Siegfriedt, Kathryn Lewis and John Webber thought our lobby day went very well. We had about 8 people from the 46<sup>th</sup> LD at the event. Speakers came in to talk to the group and it showcased the legislators. About 200-300 people from King County were able to go to Olympia. Today was a deadline for getting out of committee. Sarajane talked briefly about several pieces of legislation.

Funding for higher education is a big topic in Olympia. A big rally was held on the Capitol steps. Betty Means reported that the mood in Olympia is particularly gloomy this year, with the budget deficit.

March 12 is the cutoff for getting bills out of their house of origin. Sarajane touched on highlights of several bills before the legislature. Brief discussion of the possibilities for a revenue package.

Finance committee. Kathryn, Chad and Stan Moffett put together a proposed budget. Kathryn passed out a spreadsheet, showing figures for 2003, through 2008, and 2009. She explained the reasoning behind the layout of the spreadsheet and the items in the draft budget. The budget committee will break the budget out into month-by-month figures next.

**Motion** made and seconded to reduce the contribution to King County Democrats from \$2046 to \$1046, which was our level of support from prior years. Sarajane would like the contribution to be made in 2 installments to be paid in the first half of the year.

**Motion passed.**

Javier Valdez asked about entries in the spreadsheet regarding the Christmas party. Chad and Kathryn had already questioned some of those items. Those will be confirmed with Donna Boysen.

**Motion** by Betty, seconded, to recommend the budget as amended. Suggestion by Gerry to condition the IDF scholarship on someone from the 46<sup>th</sup> LD being the recipient.

**Motion passed.**

Treasurer's report. Stan Moffett gave a brief report on the accounts.

Financial Review Committee. Norma Miller was auditing the accounts, but Chad hasn't heard from her. Kathryn will follow up.

Membership Report. Betty said we have 364 voting members, paid plus unpaid PCOs. Betty hears from members who want to know if they're paid up. We can post all the members names' on the web site. Janet suggested we send out emails. Betty asked when will hold a new member orientation? We've only done new member orientation once. We will try to have a half hour orientation before the April meeting, in the gym.

Betty would also like to recruit members to serve on the tally committee, train them, have tally sheets and organize our tally process better.

Mexico Report. Javier had a great vacation and is glad to be back in Seattle!

Bylaws. Dean is setting up a meeting for Bylaws review. He hopes to be ready to bring changes to the April meeting.

Community Outreach. Elizabeth Willmott will continue as outreach chair. She set up a community calendar, so people can see events and volunteer or attend. She wanted to do something with Green Jobs.

Elections. The Elections committee will meet soon. Janet wants to clear up some of our processes and practices. In the past, we have given out basic information about PCOs, but not all the information we have. **Motion** to continue this practice. Seconded.

**Motion passed.**

Dean wants to update our sample ballot, now that we vote by mail. The elections committee will consider that.

Shanna has analyzed the voting results for the 46<sup>th</sup> District, and shared those results.

Old Business. John explained the gift-giving thing for our past Board members.

Chad has a thank-you note from Sylvia Haven.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher