

46th Dems Executive Board
Olympic View Church
April 6, 2010

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

Chad Lupkes called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM.

Approval of the March Executive Board minutes. Minutes approved.

Chair's report. We have 865 subscribers for Constant Comment. Chad is adding more caucus records into our database.

Chad raised the question of how Board members stand up for our neutrality rules in the way we operate and run our meetings. Candidates will appear at our meetings, and we should be fair as well as neutral. For instance, sign-in tables should not have candidate literature. The tally committee should not have visibility items for one candidate or another. Chad has not heard any complaints; we should be thinking about this pro-actively.

Chad asked about PCO house parties. Barbara is looking for help with the Demogram and the General Meeting on April 15. Barbara priced a new sandwich board sign for about \$240.

The number of Demogram labels varies with the event and target audience. The minimum for bulk mail is 200. Chad asked for guidance about how many hardcopy Demograms we should send out. Gerry Pollet said US mail is more likely to be read by the recipient than email. Gerry wants us to continue using hardcopies sent in the mail. Betty Means suggested we reduce the Demogram to 4 pages. Kathryn Lewis has seen hardcopy digests, with more details in the online version. Chad asked for volunteers to help redesign the Demogram.

Program. Post mortem from the March General Meeting.

In April, we will have a City Council forum - three individuals had requested a forum: Richard Conlin, Bruce Harrell, and Sally Bagshaw, although Sally can't make the April 15 meeting. Mike O'Brien may be the third candidate. Tim Burgess might be a backup speaker. Gerry is looking for questions based on platform planks.

At the May General Meeting, we will have a candidate forum for LD and judicial races. We need to think about how deep into the ballot we want to go. Jason Sawatzki said we have relatively greater influence down the ballot, compared to the showcase races. The Nominating Convention will also be held at the May General Meeting. Rules will come from the State Party. Our Rules Committee can look at the State Party Rules for the Nominating Convention.

We typically combine our July and August meetings. Chad would like to have that meeting on the first Thursday in August. Janet Miller said the filing date had driven that timing for our August meeting, although the filing date is different, now. After some

discussion, we will check with King County Elections office about circumstances for judicial candidates appearing on the ballots.

Elections Committee. Jason showed a mock-up of the voters' guide. We will produce one voters' guide for the primary and another for the general election. Janet suggested combining our old sample ballots with the voters' guide. The Public Disclosure Commission gave Jason some guidance for keeping the voters guide in compliance with campaign funding rules.

Javier Valdez talked about training for PCOs. If we recruit good PCOs, that will minimize the likelihood of mischief from fringe groups. Angie Weiss will be training more PCOs, too.

LAC. Special session should end, soon. The Senate is sticking to a sales tax, which is a sticking point. The House prefers taxes on discretionary items, and closing loopholes. Beer tax. Aaaccckkk!

Finance Committee. Kathryn passed out budget actuals to date. Expenses this year ahead of last year's. Caucus expenses are over budget. Our higher-paying memberships are up this year. Expenses this year are ahead of last year's, although the Caucus was our big expense so far. We had a lot of sandwiches left over.

Kathryn can have bumper stickers made up as a fund-raiser. Janet has magnetic strips, which can be used to mount the stickers on cars.

Membership. Betty went through the membership figures.

Platform, resolutions, bylaws and rules. Our platform is finished. The King County Dems platform is completed, and will be posted, soon. Endorsement rules will be considered, soon. Dean Fournier will look at State Party endorsement rules, to see if we need any changes for our meetings.

Community Outreach. Peter Shapiro is ready to table and network at Lake City Pioneer Days on August 7. Peter asked for volunteers to plan and staff the event. Peter met with Benjamin Lawver from the State Labor Council and Dusty Hoeler to discuss an outreach event with labor, environmentalists, and other community groups. Dusty may submit an application to the Cole Committee.

Sarajane Siegfriedt suggested a community forum on the subject of labor history.

Raymond T. Cole Committee. Jan Ames and Chad are meeting with David Domke, from the UW Communications Department, and some of his students for strategic planning.

State Party Report. The convention Rules committee will have a special meeting for the convention. Platform meetings begin in May.

King County report. Erica Minshull said Dwight Pelz spoke at the King County Dems meeting about the health care legislation. Dwight also reviewed history of political parties in Washington State. Sarajane volunteered to help interview candidates. Candidates must turn in King County Questionnaires before we can endorse them.

The King County Platform will be online soon. Chad is waiting for the resolutions.

Old/New Business. **Motion** by Betty Means, seconded, to purchase a new banner. We think will cost \$400-500. **Motion passed** by voice vote without opposition.

Good of the order. Noah Burgher is moving back to town.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher