

46th LD Democrats General Meeting
Olympic View Church
April 15, 2010

Chad Lupkes called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve last month's minutes. **Motion approved.**

Chair's Report: First, Chad encouraged Democrats to “control your Demogram” to minimize cost to the LD and the environment by choosing to receive the Demogram online rather than by mail. Chad sent out an email to the membership last week and received 54 responses. Others can visit the 46th Demogram page on the website to choose email only, print only, or both.

Chad also announced that the executive board has discussed dates for the endorsement meeting and determined that Thursday, August 17, is an optimal day, being right after the primary and falling on our normal monthly 3rd Thursday LD meeting.

Chad asked the membership to provide suggestions for a new charity to list on our homepage, where we can direct folks to donate. Options will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Program

Gerry Pollet introduced the “Seattle City Council Forum,” consisting of Council President Richard Conlin and Councilman Bruce Harrell. He asked them to address local action items on the 46th LD platform and the new 520 bridge.

Councilman Conlin told the membership that the Council is working on 17 priorities (about two per council member). Three of the top priorities are:

Economic recovery, with a proactive focus on applying for federal government tax credits and recovery funding, increasing green jobs, and protecting human services and safety. The 2011 budget will be more difficult than even 2010.

Schools and education, with the education levy coming in 2011

The 520 Bridge—they are working closely with the State. Conlin said we must move forward on the bridge, and more information is available on the Council's website.

Councilman Harrell discussed his work on the Energy Committee, which oversees City Light, and the Civil Rights initiatives. He also talked about the upcoming panhandling vote.

Gerry asked each to talk about their views and work on North Seattle public safety, the tree canopy, and school capacity issues arising from zoning that doesn't consider school capacity. Then the floor was opened to Q&A from the audience.

Pie Raffle: We had two pies. Council members, including Larry Phillips, pulled coupons for two winners. Stan Moffett and Sly Cann each won a pie.

Resolutions and Platform:

Two emergency resolutions, which came too late to be published in the *Demogram*, were proposed to the membership, as they are both timely and their content complies with the 46th LD platform.

First, there was a **Motion** from the floor to suspend the rules so that the membership could consider a resolution brought by David Bloom, opposing the Seattle City Council's proposed aggressive solicitation law. Discussion followed. The **Motion Passed** to consider the resolution. David Bloom spoke in favor of the resolution. Michael Goff spoke against the resolution. Sarajane spoke in favor. _____? (Nora Van Doren?) spoke against assuming the new law would result in bad police decisions. **Resolution adopted** by show of hands.

Second, there next was a **Motion** from the floor by Jason Sawatzki to suspend the rules so that the membership could consider a resolution, brought by Councilmen Larry Phillips and Bob Ferguson, supporting the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and opposing State Attorney General Rob McKenna's lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Act. The **Motion Passed** to consider the resolution. Jason Sawatzki spoke in favor of the resolution. No one spoke against it. **Resolution adopted** by show of hands.

Legislative Action Committee: Sarajane Siegfriedt invited Sen. Ken Jacobsen, Rep. Phyllis Kinney, and Rep. Scott White to share their perspectives on the legislative special session to finish the budget, just concluded. All three talked about the very difficult budgeting decisions made, initiatives to increase revenues, and efforts to cut costs.

Sarajane underlined two legislative priorities—General Assistance and the State Housing Trust Fund, which were both saved in the final budget. She also invited members to the April 18 LAC meeting at the Burien Library, 2-4 p.m. Ron Hunter and Larry Springer will be speaking.

Elections Committee: Javier Valdez announced that PCO Gad Levy has had to step down, but former PCO Margaret Shield is willing to take on the role. A Motion was made to appoint Margaret to the position. **Appointment made** by show of hands.

Chad Lupkes also reminded the members that a new, four-color, multi-page voters' guide will be prepared for the election. It will be a big change from our past sample ballot and candidate literature to distribute. Chad wants PCO feedback and to get the correct quantities to be ready for the June meeting.

Finance Committee: Stan Moffett reported that expenses exceeded revenue for the month but that we are still \$500 ahead year to date. He also announced that the Key Bank account is now closed and all 46th LD funds are with Boeing Employee Credit Union.

Raymond Cole Committee: Chad Lupkes announced that committee members met with Governor Mike Lowry and with UW Professor David Domke to get ideas for a long-term plan for the Fund. They also plan to meet with IDF. The grant process is open so please submit letters of intent requesting funding of projects.

Membership Report: Betty Means counts about 353 members, which is behind the 370 members at this time in 2006, which was the most recent comparable year in the 4-year

cycle. She noted that anyone who votes at the June meeting will need to be a member, though if they were a member in 2009, they can pay dues at the June meeting and vote. If someone is new to the 46th, they must have been a dues paying member at least 21 days before the vote.

Community Outreach: Peter Shapiro talked about his recent meeting with the Washington Labor Council, and his planned meeting next week with Alice Woldt, the Executive Director of the Washington Council of Churches.

Caucus: Chad Lupkes reminded the group that the State Convention will be in Vancouver, WA on Saturday, June 6. Delegates are reminded to pay their \$50 fee as soon as possible.

State Party report: Janet Miller and John Webber said they had no new report.

County Party Report: Dean Fournier recapped the County Convention last Saturday, where the platform and several resolutions were passed.

Candidates:

David Frockt is running for the State Senate. He will be available at the next meeting to be talk and be queried.

Willy Gregory is running for a position as Seattle Municipal Court Judge. He believes judges should be compassionate and hard working.

Good of the Order:

Virginia Gunby told the membership that midnight tonight is the deadline to get in public comments on the 520 bridge. She asked that we submit comments and type in "Take out arboretum ramps" to save our arboretum.

Sarajane Siegfriedt asked members to attend the May 4 public hearings at North Seattle Community College, 5 p.m. sign in. This is where you can have a voice if you want sidewalks, increased library hours, etc.

Motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.