

27th Legislative District Democrats Meeting
Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2017

Call to order and Welcome

Lynda Foster called to order the regular meeting of the 27th Legislative Democrats at 7:02 p.m. on June 12, 2017 at First United Methodist Church of Tacoma.

Overview of Communication Norms and Welcome

Lynda Foster read communication norms which were printed on the agenda, which was available at the front of the room. Two new norms are under consideration.

Old Business

Marty Campbell moved that minutes from April and May be approved. Dawn Brightwell seconded the motion. Minutes approved by acclamation.

Volunteer Opportunities

Anna Nepomuceno asked for volunteers to man the booths at the Hilltop Street Fair on August 26 and the McKinley Festival on August 19. Volunteers engage voters, register people to vote, and provide information on endorsed candidates.

Vanessa Keolling asked for volunteers for the Outreach and Events Committee. They are planning events promoting membership and PCO recruitment and need more people involved in the process. Anna Nepomuceno added that they need help with the dessert auction holiday party in December. Jeannie Darnielle asked if we would have a booth at Pride in the Park and Ethnic Fest. Lynda responded that there is an ongoing discussion with Pierce County Democrats' Chair, Tim Farrell about this.

Treasurer Report

Katie Wilkinson reported that the exempt fund contains \$5271.73 and the victory fund contains \$2989.22

Congressional Update

Sarah Servin, Office of Congressman Adam Smith, gave a short update on the Fostering Unity Against Russian Aggression Act of 2017 and FY2018 National Defense Authorization Budget. Jeannie Darneille asked if he was doing anything about the detention center in Tacoma. Sarah said he is working with Congresswoman Jayapal, but there is nothing firm to report.

Workshops

Ian Northrip and Maralise Hood Quan introduced the goals of the breakout session to help determine the vision, mission, and values of the 27th LD Democrats. At 7:28 we broke into 6 groups and focused on Vision.

Return from Break

At 8:12 while we were reconvening, Jeanie Darneille spoke on behalf of Decline to Sign I-1552.

Facilitator Feedback

Group #6 “Leading the growth of liberty and justice for all” and “Spread the Blue”

Group #5 Inclusive, available to others, keep accountable, be accessible to all

Group #4 Putting forth good leaders, cultivate bringing in voters. “Trusted organization that develops sustainable leadership”

Group #3 “A just, equitable, and sustainable community”

Group #2 “Help make Tacoma a beacon of hope,” “Tacoma, a force for improving live of all Americans,” and “A leader that cultivates excellent leadership”

Group #1 “We thrive in a community that sustains life for all.”

Campaign Contributions

Lynda explained her thought process for who should get our contributions, presented her list, and then opened floor for discussion. Kris Brannon asked about our support of Chris Beale who is not a declared Democrat. Kathy explained that Chris’ values matched ours and that he is running for a non-partisan position. There was a discussion of how to make our endorsement carry the most weight. Shannon Ergun asked if need was considered. Lynda answered yes. The location of District 5 was discussed. Kathy Orlando asked if we would be raising more funds for the general election. Marty Campbell asked if we were considering who needed more money based on their opponents. Blake Stegner suggested equal contributions to all. Lynda asked for other alternative suggestions. Anna moved that \$500 be donated to each candidate listed: Catherine Ushka, Victoria Woodards,

Meredith Neal, Philip Cowan, Chris Beale, and John McCarthy. Shannon Ergun voiced concern that we are giving money to candidates with whom we don’t align. Lynda answered that we are trusting the process of endorsement as approved last month by greater than 60% approval. Lynda proposed that we vote by raising of hands, holding ballot which were only distributed to eligible voters. Anna Nepomuceno moved that we approve donations to all listed. Blake Stagner seconded the motion. One opposed. Majority in favor. Motion passed.

Plus/Delta

Small groups great, cool discussion

Kris Brannon appreciated being listened to

Two members complained that the paid dues membership list is inaccurate still.

Good of the Order

Catherine Ushka will be going door to door in the 4th district and would appreciate volunteers to help.

Victoria Woodard thanked the group for the endorsement and invited volunteers to doorbell with her.

Anna Nepomuceno is the new campaign manager for Philp Cowan. She thanked us for the donation. She is putting together a volunteer list.

Kris Brannon promoted the Hilltop Action Journal, for which he is writing.

Sean Vidange requested more volunteers for the Welcome Committee

Ian Northrip requested that the facilitators from each break out group return completed forms to him for compilation.

Adjournment

Lynda Foster moved that the meeting be adjourned, Heather Valtee seconded. Approved by acclamation.