

27th Legislative District Democrats Meeting

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2017

Call to order

Lynda Foster called to order the regular meeting of the 27th Legislative Democrats at 7:00 on February 27, 2017 at First United Methodist Church of Tacoma.

Overview of Communication Norms and Welcome

Lynda Foster read and expanded on the communication norms which were printed on the agenda which was distributed, as well as being available at the front of the room. Lynda Foster pointed out the suggestion box and explained the plus/delta process. The Executive Board reviews all comments and suggestions and posts responses to the FB group, in the files. Last month there was a suggestion in the box that we require everyone to give their gender pronouns when introducing themselves. The board decided to not require this but we did add to the gender norms that members should not assume anyone's gender.

Expectation is that the 27th LD Democrats will meet once per month on the 4th Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for March 27th at First United Methodist Church of Tacoma.

Old Business

Minutes

Approval of January meeting minutes was motioned by Tom Hilyard and seconded by Darrell. Approved by acclamation.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Katie Wilkinson presented the treasurer report. There was a printout offered, as well. The current balance of the victory fund is \$573.49. The current balance of the exempt fund is \$4207.62. There were no questions.

Washington State Democratic Committees Reports

Tom Hilyard reported that the WSDCC elected the following positions:

Chair, Tina Podlodowski

Vice Chair, Joe Pakootas

6th Congressional District, Robbie Myers

Tom stated that since Tina was elected she has provided open and transparent communication up to and during the National Committee meeting. Perez was elected as Democratic National Committee Chair. Tom stated that Perez has committed to a 50 state presence by the DNC. "He wants to be everywhere."

Pledge of Allegiance

Lynda Foster lead the pledge at 7:12 pm

Pierce County Central Committee Report

Blake Stagner stated that the crab feed is sold out. The county is planning their next event, the Fish Fry. Information is on the Pierce County Democrats website or Facebook.

Appointment of Precinct Committee Officers

Lynda Foster stated that applications must have been submitted at least two weeks in advance of the meeting to be voted upon at the meeting. The appointment is at the discretion of the chair. The chair can delegate the decision to a vote of the body.

Lynda explained that PCO is the smallest district position. There are 70 precincts in the 27th LD. PCOs run their precinct caucus. If an LD seat is vacated, 3 nominees will be brought forward and the PCOs vote to fill the position. For more information on PCO duties, please see the website, 27thLDDems.org. On the website you can also look up your precinct to see if a PCO is needed. There is a form to be completed and emailed to Lynda in advance of the next meeting. She will validate the person and then the membership will vote to approve. If more than one applicant, each person will be given one minute to introduce themselves before the members vote.

The following people were elected by acclamation as PCO, being the only candidate in their precinct:

Les Uhrich	27-408
Jen Boutell	27-437
Bill Johnson	27-427

Precinct 27-422 had two candidates: Sue Pivetta and Doug Galuszka

Sue stated that she ran 100th Monkey for 5 years. She committed to contacting all the people in her precinct.

Doug Galuszka stated that he is a father to 3 year old twins, married to Mandy. He's from an auto worker union family in Flint, MI. He retired as an Lt. Col. From the US Army. Served in Iraq and the Balkins. Thinks critical issues are social and economic.

Josh Caple and Katie Wilkinson were the tally committee. There were 43 voting members in attendance. Only 32 voted by raising of hands. Sue Pivetta won with 17 votes.

Overview of 2017 Committees

Committees were introduced. Committees were based on output from last month's workshops. Each committee will meet independently on their own schedule. Each committee will have a set of co-chairs and a liaison from the executive board. The committees and their initial contacts are:

- Welcome and Hospitality, Sue Pivetta (co-chair), Heather Valtee (liaison)
- PCO & Neighborhood Engagement, Jonathan Hays (co-chair)
- Platform & Policy, Darrell Bowman (liaison)
- Communications, Blake Stagner (liaison)

Outreach & Events, Patrick Casados (co-chair)
Endorsements, Kathy Orlando (co-chair), Tom Hilyard (liaison)
Mission, Vision, and Values, temporary committee this summer

Walk around and meet committees

Representatives for each committee were stationed around the room and attendees circulated, asked questions, and joined committees

Door Prize Drawing

Doug Galuszka's daughters drew tickets for free passes to the crab feed. Jennifer Boutell and Alexis Macdonald won the drawing.

Wrap up and Feedback

Candidates Opportunity to Speak

Catherine Ushka running for District 4 City Council. This is Marty Campbell's position.

Anita Latch announced on behalf of Dan Sexton, running for Tacoma Civil Service Board.

Plus

Patrick appreciated structure, organization and the respectful attentive attendees
Anita Latch is glad that the subcommittees are a mix of old and new members and that there was an equal invitation to engage how we choose
Marilese appreciated the clarity on how to participate
Jodie liked the breakouts according to passions
Alex Benson stated the meeting was friendly and welcoming
Jim stated that Lynda runs a great meeting; that she is energetic and engaging
Young Maggie said that everyone is really nice
Alexis liked to see that new people were mostly welcomed
John was happy for big group with new visitors and retained new people
Carol Thuy Bui appreciated the good leadership
Kip admired the artwork
Jim Shay told a lovely story of renewed friendship
Katie appreciated the addition of gender neutral pronouns
Heather said way to stay on time
Marty appreciated that people were going to stay and help clean up chairs

Delta

Janelle stated that more information and introduction is needed
More website content was requested
Jurian requested that we explain acronyms
Stella requested more family friendly activities
We need targeted outreach to people of color/diversity/opinions & experience
Patrick Casados stated that each of us should make 3 friends

Need a fat pen to write the titles
JoAnne from another LD concerned folks don't stay until the good of the order
Sue Pivetta wants committee chairs & board members to have permanent badges
Jim stated that we need better parking and kitchen access
Someone suggested a separate scribe during plus/delta
Kevin wants to hear from elected reps
More agendas need to be printed
Anita latch suggested healthy food options

Good of the Order

Joanne from the 29th LD spoke on behalf of the Pierce County Central Committee
Fish Fry on April 1 looking for volunteers to cook, set up, take down, donate items
for auction. PCCC FB page has details.
PCCC is short on funds and is asking that each LD host a fundraising supper at a
PCCC meeting
2 games at Rainiers scheduled as fundraisers
Joanne also stated that Indivisible Tacoma meeting every Wednesday night at 6:30 at the
Unitarian Universalist Church on S 56th

Representative Laurie Jinkins spoke briefly

Budget is in the House. Jeanie Darneille is on the Senate Budget Committee and
Jake Fey is on the Transportation Budget Committee. Fiscal cutoff had just
occurred. Bills were scheduled to be out of policy committee by Friday, March 3 at
5:00 pm. For floor action to stay alive it needed to be moved out of house of origin
by the middle of the following week.

To fund education, Inslee proposed \$6 billion increase in revenue but Laurie Jinkins
said it would be \$2 billion out of balance at 4 years. She doesn't see how legislature
could approve all of revenue budget.

Regarding education and mental health funding we can reform revenue and support
taxes. We need to engage members of 28th, 25th and 26th LDs to press their
representatives on revenue solutions. Laurie Jinkins suggests: capital gains tax,
carbon tax (different versions are being filed by each party), and a B&O tax. Also,
Laurie Jinkins wrote a sugar tax bill.

Alex stated cap and trade incentivizes and advances good policy in addition to creating
revenue.

Representative Jinkins fielded questions

Q: Which legislators are members of Alec and which bills are Alec bills?

A: Not transparent. ALEC stopped releasing records of their members. These
types of bills usually won't pass in the House, but can in the Senate.

Q: Can we create revenue by closing loopholes?

A: Not enough to get revenue problems fixed. Proves to be difficult as committee reviews and recommends but bills still don't pass. Even if they did, it wouldn't even cause \$1 billion in revenue. Agribusiness was discussed.

Representative Jinkins' suggestions:

Go to www.leg.wa.gov to sign up for newsletters

Send lots of emails to your representatives. They've received over 20,000 letters from the gun lobby

Patrick Casados announced that the Libations Committee will be meeting at the Parkway

Katie Wilkinson spoke about I-1552. We all need to decline to sign and work to defeat I-1552 as it removes transgender protection and would allow people to sue for trauma if a transgender person is in the "wrong" bathroom.

Kathy Orlando announced that the Ides of Trump campaign requests that we all send postcards to the White House on March 15

Phil Gardner announced that Roel van der Lugt, was named Denny Heck's 10th CD district director.

Invitation was given to Saturday, March 4th rally for Healthcare at Portland Ave Park

Shannon Ergun announced the WEA event on Saturday, March 11th, the 28th LD Town Hall in Steilacoom on Sunday, March 12, the 29th Town Hall at Bates on Saturday, March 11th.

Someone announced that the best way to keep an eye on ALEC and the Koch brothers is through the Center for Media and Democracy and www.prwatch.org

Adjournment

Lynda Foster adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm