

27th Legislative District Democrats

Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2017

Call to order and Welcome

Lynda Foster called to order the regular meeting of the 27th Legislative Democrats at 7:04 p.m. on July 24, 2017 at First United Methodist Church of Tacoma.

Overview of Communication Norms and Welcome

Lynda foster called for a movement to approve agenda. Marty Campbell moved and Catherine Ushka seconded. Kathy Orlando proposed changes to agenda, that Morken and Davis be removed. Morken cancelled appearance, Davis, Marzano, and Ang are not on the primary ballot. Kathy Orlando moved that changes be adopted, Tom Fithin seconded. Amended agenda approved by acclamation. The pledge of allegiance was recited at 7:08. Lynda Foster read communication norms which were printed on the agenda and encouraged feedback via suggestion box, email, and/or the plus/delta at end of meeting.

Old Business

Jeannie Darnielle moved that minutes from June be approved. Anita Latch seconded the motion. Minutes approved by acclamation. One person abstained. No treasurer report. There will be a treasurer report and review of budget next month.

Committee Reports

PCO & Neighborhood Engagement – Henry Pollet and Melissa Taylor from Michelle Rylands' campaign announced day of action on July 31, reported progress in her district, and requested volunteers for door knocking. Karlene Rytkenon from Derek Kilmer staff announced sign up sheet for doorknocking in the 31st LD. *Platform & Policy* – Jenn Boutell announced that all are welcome to the first committee meeting at Bluebeard, 9-11 on a Saturday morning. She will create a FB event. *Communications* – Blake Stagner and Josh Kilen proposed a move away from current website host which is controlled by the state party which causes delays and consumes time for simple changes. *Endorsements* – Kathy Orlando gave an update, stating that 4 candidates would be up for endorsement this meeting and 3 in August. If endorsed candidates don't make it through the primary there will be another endorsement meeting. Committee is taking feedback for improvement for 2018. Lynda Foster complimented the entire committee and stated that once the committee completes feedback the bylaws may need to be amended and the committee may re-form for that purpose. *Outreach & Events* – Vanessa Koelling and Anna Nepomuceno announced the events where there will be booths and requested volunteers: National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug 3, 3-6, Portland Ave Park; McKinley Hill Street Fair, August 19; and Hilltop Street Fair, August 26. The booths will include materials for endorsed candidates, general membership recruitment info (looking into printing business cards), map with precincts where visitors can pin their location and see if a PCO is needed, selfie station with an issue focus, and a button maker. Goal is to get people excited about engagement with the Democratic Party. Tote bags are in the process of being designed and ordered. Anna reported on the service day that 6+ people participated in with Citizens for a Healthy Bay. Committee is looking for community service ideas. Additional committee members are desired.

Endorsements

Meeting facilitation was passed to Jennifer Boutell who presented an overview of the endorsement committee process and order of operations.

Metro Parks Position 4

Andrea Smith spoke on their own behalf for the endorsement.

Chris Van Vechten reported that the committee had misgivings and concerns and has a unanimous decision that Smith is not qualified for the position and do not recommend an endorsement

Tom Hilyard moved and spoke on behalf of endorsement. Laurie Jinkins seconded the motion. Celine Burris spoke against endorsement based on Smith not requesting endorsement by labor. Laurie Jinkins spoke on behalf of the endorsement based on Smith's advocacy of the Eastside Community Center, actions supporting labor, and her collaboration at the state level with the health department. Tom Fithin began to speak on behalf but was called out of order. Ballot #1 was used. 60% threshold was 25 votes. 36 voted in favor. Endorsement was approved.

Port of Tacoma Commissioner Pos. 1

No one attended to speak on behalf of Eric Holdeman for the endorsement. Chris Van Vechten reported that the committee failed to reach consensus. During lightning round, Holdeman answered no in response to the question about reproductive rights. The committee found that there were other ideological disagreements. After one minute for discussion, no one moved for endorsement.

City Council Pos. 4

Kevin Grossman spoke on their own behalf for the endorsement. Chris Van Vechten reported that the committee was unanimous in finding Grossman qualified and deserving. After Pierce County endorsement process this consensus was broken. Final decision is that Grossman is qualified but no recommendation for endorsement. After 2 minutes of open discussion, Kit Burns moved and spoke on behalf of the endorsement. Josh Kilen seconded the motion. Shannon Erun spoke in opposition based on Grossman's support of privatization of some school district positions. Ballot #2 was used. 60% threshold was 25 votes. 17 voted in favor. Endorsement was not granted.

Port of Tacoma Commissioner Pos. 4

Donald Meyer spoke on their own behalf for the endorsement. Chris Van Vechten reported that the committee was unanimous in their support, finding Meyer qualified. Bill Baarsma moved and spoke on behalf of the endorsement. Tom Hilyard seconded the motion. No one spoke in opposition. Ballot #3 was used. 60% threshold was 23. 35 voted in favor. Endorsement was approved.

State Legislature Update

For 32 minutes, Representative Laurie Jinkins spoke about the legislative session, gave updates on the state budget progress, and answered questions.

Plus/Delta

+ Good consistency in endorsement process

Δ More kid friendly

Δ Need to anticipate that PCCDC approves new PCOs each April (connect with relevant orgs that don't reach out to us, like PCCDC)

- + Great having update from Rep Jinkins
- Δ Chairs are uncomfortable and unstable
- Δ PA system needed
- Δ Figure out a way for folks to request to be on agenda

Good of the Order

Anita Latch, on behalf of Gary Barton for Lakewood Water Commissioner #3, announced kick off on July 27.

Noah Davis and Kristin Ang spoke on behalf of their campaigns for Port Commissioner positions

Jen Boutell announced an open house at Center for Independence, on Friday, noon – 3:30, more info at

www.centerforindependence.org

Anna Nepomoceno, on behalf of Philip Cowen for City Council, announced August 5 day of action, doorbell training by Anders Ibsen, and meet and greet on Aug 2 at Doyle's.

Kris Bannon promoted Hilltop Action Newspaper

Tim Farrell, as acting PCCDC Chair, gave update, announced Aug 10 meeting vote at IBEW Hall for election of board positions, and requested attendance by PCOs.

Adjournment

At 8:54, Tom Hilyard moved that the meeting be adjourned, Jurjen Smises seconded. Approved by acclamation.