

34th District Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2010 @ Hall at Fautleroy

7:06pm – Meeting called to order by Chair, Tim Nuse. Mike Heavey was invited to lead the flag salute.

7:07pm – Chair entertained a motion to adopt the agenda and to approve the January meeting minutes ([attached](#)). The motion was moved and seconded, then passed by the body.

7:08pm - *Chair's Report* - Chair announced to the membership that the State Party has decided there will be no precinct caucuses this year. Instead, we will move directly to Legislative District caucuses, scheduled for March 14, 2010, where we will elect delegates, submit resolutions, and vote on platform issues, which will all be sent up to higher levels.

Chair also reminded everyone of some upcoming events:

- Legislative Action Day takes place this coming Monday, February 15th in Olympia
- Congressman Jim McDermott (WA-7th) will host a "[Winter 2010 Community Meeting](#)" at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center on February 18th
- West Seattle Food Bank is holding its "[Instruments of Change](#)" benefit in the Hall on April 30th

Congratulations were given to member Karl de Jong who was recently elected Endorsements Chair by the King County Democratic Central Committee.

Chair asked Walter Sive, Finance Chair, to make an appeal for new recruits to help with the organization's transition to new financial tools, monitoring recurring donations, etc.

7:18pm - *First Vice Chair's Report* – Vice Chair Kim Becklund announced that Les Treall, Outreach Chair, is looking for volunteers to assist with public outreach this year as well as new ideas for events to participate in. The next meeting of his committee will be on February 18th at Mick Kelly's Irish Pub in Burien.

7:21pm - *Marcee Stone – Announcement of Candidacy* – State Committeewoman Marcee Stone officially announced her intention to seek the position of 34th District State Representative. The current 34th District State Senator, Joe McDermott, will seek the 8th District King County Council seat in November, and current State Representative Sharon Nelson will seek the Senate Seat. That means Nelson's State Representative position will be open.

Stone's campaign kickoff will be on Sunday, February 21st at the ILWU Union Hall, Local 52 at 2414 SW Andover in West Seattle from 5:00-7:00pm. She has filed documents with the State Public Disclosure Commission indicating she will collect funds to run for the State Representative Position. She also has signed [a campaign pledge](#) not to take money from corporations or Political Action Committees, and to conduct a fair campaign.

7:33pm - *Education Panel –A Discussion on “Race to the Top”* – Chair announced this opportunity to continue the great dialogue from last month’s panel on education, and invited Becklund to moderate a small panel again including Glenn Bafia, Executive Director of the [Seattle Education Association](#) and [Lisa MacFarlane](#), who helped co-found the League of Education Voters and has been involved in the last seven school levy campaigns.

They discussed the state’s pursuit of [Race to the Top](#) money from the federal government, including some of the changes that may need to be made by the Legislature to increase Washington’s chances of getting some money, how the grant of up to \$200 million could help failing schools, and how some of Washington’s positions hurt the state’s score in competition with others. For example, we automatically lose 40 points because we do not allow Charter Schools.

Lisa cited a few statistics in a brief presentation to the membership -- Only 10% of low-income students in Washington earn a BA degree; and Washington ranks 44th in the nation in per pupil spending. Bafia cited the recent [McCleary decision](#) regarding school funding in Washington. He said that three schools in Seattle have been identified as being in the bottom 5% in the state – and one is in the 34th District.

A brief Q&A with members followed.

8:27pm – *New Business* – **Chair entertained a motion to approve the Resolution on Raising State Revenues to Avoid Devastating Cuts to Essential Services, which was approved at the last Executive Board meeting and has already been passed by the State Party. The resolution asks legislators “to repeal under-performing tax exemptions, beginning with the largest, and sunset all tax exemptions every 10 years” and “to reform our regressive tax system and to implement a state income tax on high-income earners” and “to raise at least two-thirds of the budget gap in revenues, balanced by one-third or less in cuts to services.”**

The motion was made by Joe Fitzgibbon, and seconded by multiple members. After a call by some members to forward this resolution directly to our legislative delegation in Olympia, **Chair called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.**

8:33pm - *New Business* – *Appoint PCOs* – **PCO Chair, Kimber McCreery, announced the application of the following for appointment as PCOs:**

- ❖ **Jenny Holladay: 34-1413**
- ❖ **Christopher W. Romischer: 34-1468 (Acting in -1464)**
- ❖ **Joseph Fitzgibbon: BUR 34-0025**

After a brief introductory speech by each candidate and his/her declaration of being a Democrat, **all candidates were approved unanimously by the body.**

Stone & Chris Porter reported on the State Committee meeting held on January 31st in Seattle, which included nominating conventions for the congressional races. They also voted to hold the 2012 State Party Convention here in Seattle.

8:44pm - *Good of the Order* – Willie Gregory, candidate for Seattle Municipal Court, spoke about his campaign.

Annie Phillips, Vice President of Washington Public Campaigns, reported that [SB5912](#) was voted out of the Ways & Means Committee with a “Do Pass” recommendation, and called on members to call Olympia and ask legislators to vote it out of the Rules Committee.

8:48pm - There being no further business to pursue, Chair motioned to adjourn for the evening.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Taylor-Judd, Secretary