

34th District Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, July 14, 2010 @ Hall at Fauntleroy

7:06pm – Meeting called to order by Chair Tim Nuse. Karen Chilcutt, Chair of [West Seattle Democratic Women](#), was invited to lead the flag salute.

7:07pm – Chair explained that approval of the June meeting minutes would be postponed until August, as there had been some computer difficulties that prevented them from being posted online and printed for the tables. He then entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was moved and seconded, then passed by the body.

7:08pm - *Chair's Report* - Chair reported that the 34th District's booth at West Seattle Summer Fest registered 60+ voters, sold buttons, and had 35+ people express interest in joining the organization.

Chair also reminded everyone to mark their calendars for some upcoming events:

- July 15 – Volunteer Celebration for I-1098
- July 18 – Fundraiser to Re-Elect State Sen. Claudia Kauffman (D-47th), here in West Seattle
- July 21 – Fundraiser to Re-Elect Rep. Eileen Cody, at her house
- July 26 – Fundraiser for Joe McDermott for King County Council
- **Tuesday, July 27 – 34th District Democrats Annual Picnic at Lincoln Park Shelter #3**

Chair also announced some sad news about the passing of long time member [David Rosendale](#), who had moved to Kennewick with his wife, and the tragic workplace death and memorial for union carpenter [Vanessa Downing](#).

7:18pm - *Vice Chair's Report* – Vice Chair Kim Becklund ceded her time to Karl De Jong to speak about [I-1082](#) [.pdf] and the proposal to privatize worker's compensation, which the body previously endorsed a "No" vote on (*handout attached*).

7:20pm - *Parliamentarian Minute* – Parliamentarian Jimmy Haun provided a brief explanation of various motions and how to raise them according to *Robert's Rules of Order* (*see back of agenda*).

7:26pm - *Garden Party Update* – Chair reminded folks that the Annual Garden Party is scheduled for Friday, August 13th and, as usual, is at West Seattle Nursery. Doors open 5:30 PM; and we still need good auction items and volunteers. Contact Fundraising Chair Chris Porter by phone at (206) 856-0182 or by e-mail at cporter34thdem@yahoo.com.

7:29pm - *Campaign Update* – *Coordinated Campaign Field Organizer Colin Bartz-Overman* – Bartz introduced Lindsay Pasternak, Regional Field Director for King County, and spoke about recent work in our district. Walk lists have been prepared for all PCO's to help the Campaign complete voter identification on select registrants in each precinct. The best interaction is face-to-face and these lists of "soft Dems" or

irregular voters may be crucial to re-electing Senator Patty Murray (D-WA). He can be reached by e-mail at Colin@WAVictory.org or by phone at (206) 605-7648 with any questions.

7:38pm - *Tax Reform and Initiative 1098* – Vice Chair welcomed [Marilyn Watkins, PhD](#) from the [Economic Opportunity Institute](#), who presented background and data on Washington’s “flawed tax structure” and why she believes I-1098 is the right fix for beginning to address some of the inequities in our state and generating more revenues for education and health care (.pdf [handouts attached](#)). How do we do that when Washington’s current tax structure can’t produce more money without hurting families?

Education is “the Paramount duty of the state” according to the state constitution; but per pupil spending has fallen from 17th (1991-92) to 37th (2005-06). Costs for tuition at a state university keep going up, and we’re struggling to provide health care to an aging population.

In the 2007-2009 budget cycle General Fund Revenues were generated 56.5% from Sales Tax and 18.6% from the B&O tax. This initiative begins to take steps towards lowering those numbers for working families and small businesses.

[See the [West Seattle Blog](#) for more reporting...]

8:11pm - *Burien City Council Member Brian Bennett* – In follow-up to last month’s meeting which hosted a panel of Seattle city leaders, Chair welcomed Burien leader Brian Bennett to address some of the challenges facing his city. Bennett spoke about the city’s work on expanding eligibility for Domestic Partnership benefits by linking city recognition to the statewide registry, working for access to Lake Burien by the public, a push for a tenants rights ordinance, and more.

8:32pm – *New Business* – Chair spoke of the need to elect a new King County Committeewoman Alternate. **Bill Schrier nominated Sabra Schneider. Vice Chair seconded the nomination, and read a submitted statement out loud on behalf of Schneider, who was leading a workshop at UW Evans School on Good Government. Hearing no speakers againt, Chair called a vote on electing Schneider to fill the vacancy, which passed unanimously.**

PCO Chair, Kimber McCreery, announced the application of Tim Bosworth: 34-1529 for appointment as PCO, which was voted upon and passed unanimously.

State Senator Joe McDermott rose to move for a suspension of the rules to endorse the [Approve Ref. 52 campaign](#) which “would use existing funding sources to retrofit aging and unsafe school buildings across Washington State, modernize them with energy-saving building improvements, and reduce pollutants in schools to create healthy learning environments for our kids.” (Handout attached.) Multiple seconds were heard in support, and it passed overwhelmingly, with only 1 vote against, after brief discussion about the usual requirement for 10-day notification to the membership on actionable items like endorsements.

McDermott then moved to endorse the campaign, and explained that this referendum was submitted to voters after a bill proposed during the 2010 legislative session by Representative Hans Dunshee to

retrofit school buildings and put energy savings toward education passed the Washington legislature this spring ([Engrossed House Bill 2561](#)). His motion was heartily seconded, and passed unanimously.

De Jong then moved to suspend the rules again to endorse a “Reject I-1082” position, which was seconded by Becklund. It also passed overwhelmingly, with only 1 vote against. After De Jong moved the endorsement, and no speakers rose against, the motion was passed unanimously.

8:44pm - *Good of the Order* – Chris Porter apologized for being too late to report on the Garden Party, and reminded everyone that donation forms for auction items will be on the website, and that this major fundraising event for the District can only be successful if every member participates in one way or another.

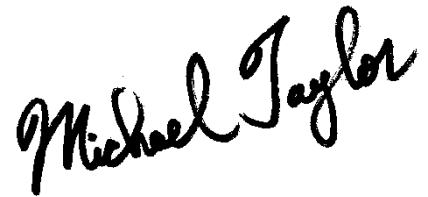
Eileen Cody has campaign signs to distribute for her campaign.

Mike Heavey spoke about the Admiral Neighborhood Association's [Summer Concerts at Hiawatha](#).

Susan Mahoney, [Candidate for District Court Judge](#), introduced herself to the membership.

8:53pm - 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