

34th District Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 9, 2010 @ Hall at Fautleroy

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

7:07pm – Chair explained that New Business and Good of the Order have been brought forward on the agenda in order to accommodate a full hour panel discussion with elected officials later in the meeting. He then entertained a motion to adopt the agenda and to approve the [May meeting minutes](#) (*attached*). The motion was moved and seconded, then passed by the body.

7:08pm - *Chair's Report* - Chair reminded everyone that the filing period is open and a new campaign cycle is officially underway; and then he spoke briefly about what has been accomplished in the last year and the need for all of us to be involved again in electing good Democrats to accomplish more good work for our country.

Chair also reminded everyone to mark their calendars for the [annual 34th District Democrats Picnic, taking place on Tuesday, July 27, 2010](#) at Shelter #3 in Lincoln Park.

Chair reviewed new [procedures for filing this year as a PCO](#), which include no filing fee and the ability to complete your application online. To facilitate the process, computers have been set-up tonight in the back of the room for filing, and PCO Chair, Kimber McCreery, is there to help. And don't forget the upcoming State Convention, especially everyone who was elected as delegates and alternates!

Washington Conservation Voters named our state Representative Sharon Nelson their 2010 "[Legislator of the Year](#)" for her outstanding leadership during the legislative session. "Sharon Nelson has emerged as one of the Legislature's strongest environmental champions and possibly the most effective builder of coalitions," said Clifford Traisman, WCV State Lobbyist. Legislator of the Year is WCV's highest honor, awarded to one state legislator each year, and will be awarded at their annual breakfast on October 7th.

7:20pm - *Vice Chair's Report* – Vice Chair Kim Becklund recognized the work of Jeff Upthegrove at the sign-in table, and the laptop he has set-up to assist members in renewing their dues or signing up for the new [monthly deduction option](#) for supporting our organization.

7:22pm - *Corporate Personhood* – A skit by [Georgie Kunkel](#) – Chair introduced long-time member, activist, and performer, [Georgie Kunkel](#), to showcase some of her talents in communicating an important message to all of us. She was ably assisted in her acting by fellow 34th "characters" Jackie and Ed Dupras.

7:27pm - *Introduction of Colin Bartz-Overman* – *Coordinated Campaign Field Organizer* – Chair introduced the recently named field organizer with the Democratic Party's Coordinated Campaign who is assigned to the 34th District. Bartz then gave a brief speech to kick-off the campaign and encourage members to sign up to volunteer. He will be here all night, and he can be reached by e-mail at Colin@WAvictory.org or by phone at (206) 605-7648.

7:31pm - *Filing Week – Recruiting Precinct Committee Officers* – Chair continued his earlier remarks about the need for current PCO's to re-file to serve, and for members to step up to fill vacancies in precincts around the District. PCO's are the building block of the Democratic Party. They are the grassroots organizing base for all of our activities because they personally communicate the Democratic Party message to people in each neighborhood across the state.

Being PCO means more than getting a different-colored ballot at meetings. PCOs also hold the responsibility of electing the leadership of our local Democratic County and Legislative District organizations, as well as representatives to the state Democratic Party. There is also the responsibility of voting for appointments to fill vacancies in the Legislature, which is how many of our district's electeds first got into office.

7:35pm – *New Business* – **PCO Chair, Kimber McCreery, announced** the application of the following for appointment as PCOs:

- ❖ **David Fleishman: 34-1455**
- ❖ **Jimmy Haun: 34-1479**
- ❖ **Christi Stapleton: 34-1423**, replacing Beth Grieser who is retiring
- ❖ **Lois Schipper: 34-Wynona**

Robin Hess rose to ask for a vote of support in forming “a committee appointed by the Chair of the 34th District and to include at least one attorney. It will be the Committee’s responsibility to research the relevant RCW’s and prepare a standard resolution to present at our [August regular meeting]” against Corporate Personhood, similar to ordinances [passed recently in Hawaii](#) (*attached*) and Oregon. Multiple seconds were heard in support, and it passed unanimously after brief discussion.

Minsch rose again to temporarily suspend the rules to consider a new “[Resolution Urging Immediate Action on Off-Shore Oil Drilling Regulation, Oversight, Technology, and Legislation](#).” Her motion was heartily seconded, and passed unanimously.

Minsch then spoke in favor of her resolution (*attached*) which resolves “that we, the members of the 34th Legislative District Democratic Organization, urge Congress and President Obama to take immediate action on the following:

- Stop the permitting of additional offshore oil rigs, improve enforcement of existing offshore drilling regulations, safety inspections, and oversight, and tighten these regulations to eliminate loopholes and exemptions.
- Invest in the technology for repair of oil rigs, and for safeguards against explosions and leaks.
- Invest in the technology for clean up for ongoing spills such as what has occurred with the Deepwater Horizon rig.
- Create a strategic plan for prevention of spills of any size from offshore oil rigs.
- Enact climate change and alternative energy legislation that goes beyond the current Kerry-Lieberman bill, including reducing the use of offshore oil drilling.

After being seconded, discussion, questions, and some minor amendments followed. The motion passed overwhelmingly with only one voice in opposition.

8:06pm - *Panel Discussion* – Chair welcomed Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle City Council President Richard Conlin and Seattle City Council member Bruce Harrell to join him at the front table. He explained that each would be given a few minutes to make brief remarks, followed by some planned questions for the panel that were prepared by the Executive Board, and then the discussion will be opened up to the members to ask additional questions. We have about one hour, and we hope to have a healthy discussion about a number of real challenges facing the City of Seattle right now and how we can move forward to find solutions to solving these challenges and other pressing political issues.

The main topic of discussion was the difficult state of the City budget. Conlin noted that the City Council has [17 priorities this year](#) (*attached*), starting with “economic recovery.”

The Mayor recognized 34th District member Bill Schrier for his work as the city’s technology officer, including on the Open Data Initiative – Data.seattle.gov – its purpose “is to increase public access to high value, machine readable datasets generated by various departments of Seattle City government.”

Questions from our membership included concerns about funding the [White Center Food Bank](#) (applause from members when both Conlin and McGinn supported committing some city funds), maintaining the commitment in the Neighborhood Policing Plan to hiring new officers, and a call by the Admiral Neighborhood Association to protect pedestrians by installing a pedestrian-activated light at the crosswalk at SW Admiral Way & 47th Ave SW. You can [see more detail and video on the West Seattle Blog here](#).

9:30pm – *New Business (cont.)* – **Karl de Jong rose to call for a temporary suspension of the rules to approve a Resolution to Decline to Sign Initiatives 1100 and 1105. It was seconded and passed unanimously.**

DeJong then proceeded to read the resolution (*attached*) which calls upon members to “decline to sign either of the current initiatives to privatize liquor stores in the state of Washington and further urge all other Democratic districts, and individual citizens to do the same.”

Hearing no questions or discussion, Chair called a vote on approving the resolution, which passed overwhelmingly with only five votes in opposition.

9:33pm - *Good of the Order* – Marcee Stone thanked the membership for their nomination and endorsement, and invited everyone to attend her campaign kick-off on Thursday, June 17, 2010 at Art Wolfe Gallery.

Brian Allen announced the launch of the [West Seattle Tool Library](#), which is a community-led project to provide pay-what-you-can community access to a wide range of tools, training, and relevant advice.

[Scott Sizemore](#), candidate for Jim McDermott’s congressional seat introduced himself.

Karl de Jong passed on the announcement of a Do Not Patronize call against Cirque du Soleil's "Kooza" show, starting soon in Redmond.

9:37pm - 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