

34th District Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 12, 2010 @ Hall at Fautleroy

7:00pm – Meeting called to order by Chair Tim Nuse. Joe Mitter was invited to lead the flag salute.

7:02pm – Chair entertained a motion to adopt the agenda and to approve the [April meeting minutes](#) (*attached*). The motion was moved and seconded, then passed by the body.

7:04pm - *Chair's Report* - Chair thanked everyone who came early to the meeting for the Joe McDermott "Tailgate Party" which involved food, friends, and fundraising for McDermott's campaign for King County Council.

Chair also recognized volunteers who help to keep our organization running, with particular mention of Jackie Dupras, who has served as [Newsletter Editor](#) for nine years, ensuring that our monthly communication is written, prepared, printed, and mailed to members on time every month.

Chair reminded everyone of the upcoming [Washington State Democratic Party Convention](#), taking place on Saturday, June 26, 2010 at the Clark County Events Center in Ridgefield, Washington. Governor Tim Kaine, the Chair of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), will Keynote.

Chair also informed everyone of an [upcoming fundraiser](#) for the West Seattle Democratic Women: "**Rubbing Elbows**" will be held on May 20, 2010, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm, at Woodside Braseth Gallery. It will be an opportunity to meet and talk with various political powerhouses in our community, including King County Executive Dow Constantine, County Councilwoman Jan Drago, Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn, Seattle City Councilpersons Jean Godden, Sally Bagshaw, Nick Licata, Tim Burgess, Sally Clark, Port Commissioner Rob Holland, State Senator Joe McDermott, and State Representative Sharon Nelson. Proceeds will go towards supporting a number of local community projects.

7:07pm - *Washington State Democrats Convention Roles* – Before starting the Nominating Convention, there are a few pieces of business to be conducted. First, the State Party has asked that volunteers to this year's State Party Convention committees be nominated and confirmed by their Legislative District:

- **Lisa Plymate was nominated and seconded to serve on the Platform Committee**
- **Karl de Jong was nominated and seconded to serve on the Rules Committee; and**
- **Chris Porter was nominated and seconded to serve on the Credentials Committee**

All three were approved unanimously by vote of acclamation.

7:09pm - *Bylaws change* – The Executive Board has recommended an amendment to the [Bylaws](#) in order to harmonize the Nominating Convention process with our organization's Endorsements process (*see bottom of agenda*).

The following sentence is proposed to be added to the middle of Article I. Policy, Section 4: *When required by the KCDCC or the Democratic Party of the State of Washington to hold a Nominating Convention, the resulting nominee(s) shall be treated the same as endorsed candidates in receiving contributions, lists, and other benefits offered by the organization.*

The change was moved and seconded by multiple voices, and passed by an overwhelming number of raised credentials.

7:12pm - *Endorsements* – To avoid any appearance of conflict of interest due to his personal endorsement of candidates, Chair passed control of the meeting over to Vice Chair Kim Becklund, who opened up the Endorsements process for the 2010 election cycle. She began with a reminder of the early-endorsed block of candidates approved at [the previous meeting](#), before moving to the race for 34th District State House Representative, Position 2.

Candidates Joe Fitzgibbon, Mike Heavey, and Marcee Stone were each nominated and seconded. Speeches for were made, and no one rose to speak against any candidate.

Heavey surprised the room by withdrawing his name from consideration for endorsement.

De Jong nominated [Charlie Wiggins for Washington State Supreme Court](#), Position 6. The nomination was seconded, and time was ceded to the candidate. Hearing no other nominations, a show of credentials was called, and passed overwhelmingly.

Michael Taylor-Judd moved a block vote of [Steve Rosen](#) and [Willie Gregory](#) for Seattle Municipal Court, Positions 3 and 5. The nominations were seconded, and passed unanimously.

De Jong also nominated [Michael Spearman for Court of Appeals](#), Division 1, Position 2. The nomination was seconded, and time was ceded to the candidate. Hearing no other nominations, a show of credentials was called, and passed unanimously.

Sharon Maeda nominated Bill Hoffman for Congress (WA-7th) to offer him a chance to address the body. The nomination was seconded by Susan Harmon.

A motion was made to suspend the rules to allow more than the allotted two minutes time for Hoffman to speak. The motion was seconded and speeches were made for and against, before it was voted down overwhelmingly.

A show of credentials was called to dual endorse Bill Hoffman for Congress (along with previously endorsed Jim McDermott), which failed unanimously.

Vice Chair announced results of the endorsement vote for 34th District State House Representative, Position 2: Marcee Stone – 80/65.6%, Joe Fitzgibbon – 42/34.4%, with 2 spoiled ballots; 60% is sufficient for endorsement.

Endorsement of [I-1098](#) was moved and seconded. This measure would tax “adjusted gross income” above \$200,000 (individuals) and \$400,000 (joint-filers), reduce state property tax levies, reduce certain business and occupation taxes, and direct any increased revenues to education and health. After speakers for and against, a show of credentials was called, **and passed with only two votes against.**

7:51pm - *Nominations* – Hearing no further calls for endorsement, Vice Chair moved to officially open the 34th District Nominating Convention beginning with the race for 34th District State House Representative, Position 2.

Candidates Joe Fitzgibbon and Marcee Stone were each nominated and seconded. Chair raised a Point of Information to remind the body that only PCO’s are allowed to vote during the Convention proceedings, and that votes would be tallied by a weighted percentage according to [the rules from the State Party](#). Speeches for were made, and no one rose to speak against either candidate.

8:02pm - *2010 Legislative Recap* – Vice Chair decided to move forward with the agenda while tallying was completed, in order to hear from State Senator Joe McDermott and State Representative Sharon Nelson about this year’s legislative session in Olympia.

Sen. McDermott spoke first (*see attached [newsletter](#)*), saying he wasn’t surprised that the session was extended. “Sixty days simply was not enough time to address the greatest revenue shortfall we have seen since the Great Depression in a sustainable, compassionate, and responsible manner.... And while we worked to solve our budget problem, we did so with the intent of not letting the budget crisis slow our economic recovery or the education of a generation of students.”

“Last year as we wrote a two year budget, we faced a \$9 billion budget hole. We balanced the budget with almost \$4 billion in cuts to vital programs, using federal stimulus funds, and fund transfers and reserves. The cuts led to about 4,000 layoffs, pay freezes for state employees and significant cuts to education, higher education, natural resource programs, health care, foster care and much more. We had hoped the economy would level out, but it only continued to deteriorate and by the time this session began, we faced a \$2.8 billion shortfall.

“In balancing our budget this year.... We raised some new revenue in very targeted ways, and we made more budget cuts – a total of about \$4.40 in cuts for every \$1 raised in new revenue for this biennial budget—and mandated time off without pay for state employees. The cuts will result in a total of over 10,000 lay-offs in the two year budget cycle.

“The new revenue totals \$794 million. By closing corporate loopholes we shifted the tax burden to those who should pay from those who cannot. We also temporarily increased the Business & Occupation tax rate for service business, such as lawyers and accountants, but worked to offset the effect of this by permanently increasing the small business tax credit. Thus small businesses who earn up to \$80,000 will actually be paying less in B&O taxes. On the consumer side, we focused on nonessential items and extended the retail sales tax to bottled water, gum and candy. We also increased the cigarette tax by \$1

a pack. Finally for the next three years, consumers will see an increased tax on beer, but not microbrews, and soda.”

Rep. Nelson also provided a recap on the session (*see her [newsletter](#)*), before both answered questions from members, and spoke about the Blue-Green Caucus, the “Roadkill Caucus,” and “The Bunch.”

8:17pm - Vice Chair continued the Nominating Convention process. **Sen. McDermott nominated Rep. Nelson to replace him as State Senator, which was seconded and passed unanimously by a show of credentials.**

Rep. Nelson nominated Rep. Eileen Cody for re-election to 34th District State House Representative, Position 1 Senator, which was seconded and passed unanimously by a show of credentials.

8:19pm – *New Business* – Vice Chair decided to move ahead again while tallying continued.

8:20pm - *Good of the Order* – Pete Spalding, a board member at the West Seattle Food Bank reported that its “[Instruments of Change](#)” benefit raised over \$62,000.

Kelly Drake, Jim McDermott’s campaign manager thanked the body for its early endorsement and provided a brief update on the congressional campaign.

[Washington Public Campaigns](#) board member John King invited members to its 2010 Awards Banquet on June 19, 2010, featuring Senator Maria Cantwell as Keynote speaker.

Willie Gregory thanked the body for its endorsement for Position #5 on the Seattle Municipal Court.

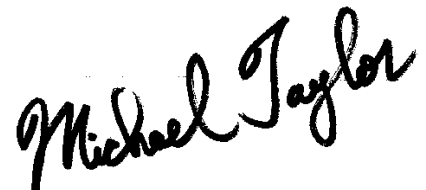
Stacy Anderson, Adam Smith’s campaign manager thanked the body for its early endorsement and provided a brief update on the congressional campaign.

Leslie Serebryakova, campaign manager for Donovan Rivers, who is running against Jim McDermott for Congress (WA-7th) shared some news on his campaign.

Vice Chair announced results of the Democratic Party nomination vote for 34th District State House Representative, Position 2: Marcee Stone – 244/63.7%, Joe Fitzgibbon – 139/36.3%; 50% of the weighted vote is sufficient for nomination.

8:33pm - There being no further business to pursue, Vice 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