

34th District Democrats
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 17, 2010 – Puget Ridge Co-Housing

Attendees: Tim Nuse (Chair), Michael Taylor-Judd (Secretary), Marcee Stone (State Committeewoman), Walter Sive (Finance Chair), Les Treall (Outreach Chair), Kim Becklund (First Vice Chair), Greg Doss (Legislative Action Chair), Jeff Upthegrove (Membership Chair), Jackie Dupras (Newsletter Editor), Lisa Plymate (King County Committeewoman), Tara Jo Heinecke (Diversity Chair), Justin Anderson (Communications Chair), Richard Bartlett (Hospitality Chair), Bill Schrier (Web Editor), David Ginsberg (Second Vice Chair), Chris Porter (State Committeeman), and Brian Earl (Bylaws Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Tim, at 7:01 pm.

Tim offered just a couple of brief remarks. He is considering March 13 or 14, 2010 for a short Strategic Board Retreat on where our organization has been, where it is, and where it is going the rest of this year. Looking ahead just a few months, we should expect many people to file for the open legislator's seat in the 34th; and many will be active members of the organization and members of this Board. Marcee publicly declared her candidacy at last week's Membership meeting, and Sabra Schneider reportedly filed today with the PDC.

Minutes of the [October 21st](#), [December 16th](#), and [January 20th](#) meetings were unanimously approved.

Caucus Planning – Tim reviewed a few of the details for the upcoming [LD Caucus on March 14, 2010](#). Committees have been formed and work is underway:

- Credentials – Marcee/Walter
- Rules – Brian
- Tally – Sabra
- Communications – Tim/Justin
- Affirmative Action – Tara Jo/Chris

Expected Event Location – [Mount View Elementary School](#) in White Center

The main purpose of the caucus is to elect delegates to the County and State Party Conventions and to submit resolutions and platform issues to the County Party committees.

Michael suggested that part of our March membership meeting should include some preparation for members on how the platform is put together, why it's important, and how to get involved in its development and in submitting resolutions for Party consideration. This will help minimize time spent at the LD Caucus, as well as help members understand why they should attend.

Nominating Convention and Endorsements – Tim suggested that we combine the Nominating Convention with our Endorsement meeting. Michael suggested that we ignore the wishes of the State Party and only do an Endorsement process. What's the benefit of party nomination to a candidate, when his/her opponent can still list "Democrat" on the ballot and no one expects Party organizations to spend money in our heavily-Democratic district?

Discussion followed about the potential risks and pitfalls for our organization with multiple candidates who are active in the District and the possibility of a split vote. When this happened in the 36th District between Carlyle and Burbank it caused real damage to the organization and some active members left the organization.

Tim will speak further with the State Party about our options.

March Program and Annexation Forum – Kim passed out a program calendar (*attached*) detailing ideas for past and future programs at the monthly Membership meetings. Based on e-mail discussions, the Annexation Forum will be postponed until such time as a ballot proposal has been made.

Shall we invite newly elected officials in March, as previously discussed? How should the program be structured? Specific questions? Q&A? It was agreed that members don't want to just hear "more platitudes" or "stump speeches." Presenting opposing ideas and policies can also be interesting to attendees. If we invite elected officials, we should make sure to reach out to Burien, Vashon, and North Highline.

Possibilities for focusing on Public Safety or Unemployment/Foreclosures & The Economy. Greg mentioned [a bill in the Legislature](#) that would allow local jurisdictions to impose a sales tax for criminal justice funding without going to a vote of the people. Bill thinks this could set up an interesting debate about how these two issues impact upon each other. It was agreed that we should have not just panelists, but jobs resources available for members. The Labor Caucus should be approached to talk about apprenticeship programs and other resources they offer.

Michael suggested spending at least 5 or 10 minutes on the [new voter registration forms](#) that are available. They are much cleaner in design. However, Chris pointed out that the forms do not reflect the new rules about voting by felons.

Membership Drive and Phonebanking – Jeff talked about some options being considered for filtering the membership lists for phonebanking and his work with Justin on a membership renewal e-mail campaign. We need to highlight the new monthly option. Possible target groups include '08 members who did not renew, high donors, and non-member PCOs.

Brief discussion followed regarding whether calls should be made only by Executive Board members. How should we identify appropriate volunteers with the right skillset to lessen the burden? Perhaps different callers are needed depending upon the targeted group.

2010 Budget – Walter passed out a report on FY2009 and FY2010 Proposed Budget (*attached*) and reviewed some of the numbers with the Board. If political contributions are maintained at the level of previous years, membership numbers are not increased, and we continue to mail newsletters, we will run a similar deficit at the end of this year and will draw down the bank account below our monthly burn rate for the organization.

Discussion followed about some of the assumptions being made and the delay in moving to an electronic newsletter option. Tara Jo suggested that costs could be reduced if notice of meetings could be sent by postcard in the meanwhile, satisfying our bylaws and notifying members when the newsletter is available online.

Tim moved to amend the proposed budget to eliminate the amounts for Campaign/Election expenditures, which was seconded by Bill. Discussion followed about communicating to members their responsibility to contribute and fundraise in support of our campaign work and how much of their membership contributions go to running the organization.

Marcee moved to amend the motion to strike out only the \$5,000 proposed for Campaign Contributions, keeping the monies for GOTV and sample ballots, which was seconded by Greg. The amendment passed 12-Yes, 3-No.

A vote was then taken on the main motion to submit the budget to the Membership with the amended changes, which passed unanimously.

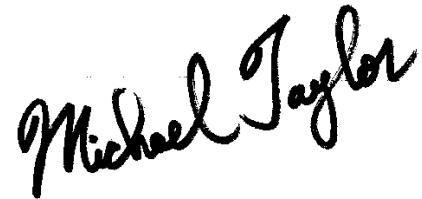
New Business – Jackie requested monies to be spent to purchase a new printer for her to use for printing of the materials for monthly meetings to replace her old one which is no longer functioning well and to offer better functionality. All agreed unanimously to support this small expenditure for her efforts.

Chris asked for volunteers to join a committee to plan a fundraiser targeted at high donors.

Good of the Order – Marcee mentioned the Max Vekich Retired the Debt Party on February 22nd and her first fundraiser for the legislative race on Sunday. She also mentioned the Vietnames Temple flag-raising on Sunday.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.

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