

34th District Democrats
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 9, 2011 @ Hall at Fautleroy

7:05pm – Meeting called to order by **Tim Nuse**, Chair of the 34th. **Kim Becklund** led the flag salute.

7:06pm –The agenda was amended to include a short presentation by two of our veterans in honor of Veteran’s Day. The agenda and the October meeting minutes were moved and seconded, and approved unanimously.

7:07pm – **Dorsol Plant** and **Ryan Shannan** reminded everyone that this Friday is Veterans Day, and our hope is that it will be the last Veteran’s Day with troops in Iraq. We took a moment of silence to honor those who have lost their lives in the service of our country.

7:09pm – *Chair’s Report*: Tim remembered Washington State Senator Scott White, who passed away a few weeks ago and who was a shining star in the Democratic party. Scott was interested in progress, not in getting credit, and we lost a great leader. The membership took another moment of silence in his memory.

Tim celebrated the work of our membership on District Mobilization Day – scores of volunteers turned out to doorbell and talk to our neighbors about the issues and candidates that we care about. PCO’s who walked their precincts were also recognized. If you haven’t turned in your walk list yet, please mail it to Tim.

Tim congratulated **Joe McDermott**, **Marty McClaren**, **Tom Rasmussen**, and the many Seattle City Council members whom we endorsed in the general election and secured victory last night. We celebrated the defeat of Tim Eyman and I-1125. Earlier today, Al Gore was in town supporting Jay Inslee for Governor and was extremely passionate about Jay being innovative in his approach to creating jobs. It is our job in the next 12 months to make it clear to voters that Rob McKenna not the best choice for our state.

Bill Schrier is the chair of the 2011 Recognition committee and spoke briefly about the recognition program and how to nominate candidates. There are six potential categories of recognition, including the Cherisse Luxa Lifetime Achievement award, Outstanding Committee, PCO of the Year, Executive Board Member of the Year, Member of the Year, and Rising Star. Fill out the form tonight or send an email to Bill with your nomination to ensure that we can best honor our own. Awards will be conferred at the December holiday party.

7:23pm – *On the Spot Recognition*:

Richard Bartlett was recognized helping to set up the sound for our monthly meetings. **Mike Heavey** was honored for his work as Hospitality Chair.

7:25 – *Election Overview*: Washington State Democrats Chair **Dwight Pelz**

Dwight led the membership through identifying whom is most problematic on the right. He then addressed member questions and concerns, including the Republicans waging war on the middle class and on the government itself. He rallied the 34th to help get out the vote for 2012.

8:17pm – *Initiative Measure 502:*

Seattle City Attorney **Pete Holmes** spoke to the membership about I-502, which is the initiative to legalize and regulate recreational marijuana use. He discussed the challenges inherent in enforcing marijuana prohibition and the issues surrounding legalization. Members asked a wide variety of questions – more information can be found at <http://newapproachwa.org>.

8:47pm – *New Business:*

Betsy Shedd asked the membership to consider signing and collecting signatures for I-502.

Karl DeJong moved and it was seconded that the 34th district support the Admiral Neighborhood Association's November 28 event at the 47th Ave SW and Admiral Way pedestrian crosswalk, where a city council staff member was killed by an inattentive driver in 2007. **Katie Wong**, President of the Admiral Neighborhood Association also spoke about the need to address ongoing safety issues at that intersection. The need is for a pedestrian signal to stop traffic as needed.

8:52pm – *Good of the Order:*

Marvin Rosete was thanked for providing great food for our meetings! Other timely items of interest were announced by the membership.

9:02pm – There being no further business to pursue, Chair motioned to adjourn for the evening.

Submitted by,

LeeAnne Beres, Secretary