

34th District Democrats
Executive Board Minutes
15 February 2006
Version 2 (Final)
Bill Schrier, Secretary

20. Chair Ivan Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM
21. Present: Bruce Stotler, Jackie Dupras, Cherisse Luxa, Ivan Weiss, Ann Ochwar, Greg Doss, Tim Nuse, Richard Bartlett, Walter Sive, Ann Martin, Tanya Aguilar, Bill Schrier, Robin Hess, Leslie Harris, Steve Karbowski, Brian Earl, Les Treall, Chris McCullough (District resident and working for Jay Inslee)
22. Chair's announcements / report (Ivan Weiss):
 - 22.1 The King County Honors Banquet is Friday night at the Spirit of Washington events center in Renton. Ivan has seven tickets sold for the 34th table and needs one more.
 - 22.2 There was a fundraiser for Jim McDermott last Saturday at Gail Katz's house in the Admiral District. Lightly attended.
 - 22.3 Sunday the Backbone Campaign merged with ProgressiveGovernment.Org, an organization based on the East Coast concentrating on the Executive Branch - has a shadow cabinet. The event was at the VFW on Vashon last Sunday - Dina Johnson took lots of photos posted on costume goddess.com. Backbone Campaign's e-mailing list is good to be on - they have regular conference calls on issues and events.
23. First Vice-Chair's announcements / report (Tanya Aguilar): Tanya attended the State of the Union protest - decent size group of people protesting. The 34th District banner was also there.
24. Treasurer's report (Greg Doss): Greg Doss (newly elected treasurer), Sarah Earl, Ann Owchar, and Ivan will get together for training on the PDC and new ORCA system.
25. Outreach Committee report (Steve Karbowski):
 - 25.1 Outreach event next weekend – February 25th – volunteer projects in White Center. Steve Karbowski still needs volunteers for this. See E-News or website calendar for details.
 - 25.2 Another potential outreach event is tutoring at High Point community center. Tom Mitchell, Eileen Cody's husband, has been tutoring there for years. This requires a long-term commitment however.
 - 25.3 Steve floated the idea of a membership drive. Perhaps we could use a phone bank, focusing on "A" graded voters in this district. Also people get bombarded with DNC and State party literature, but rarely anything from the 34th. Ivan stated the Coordinated Campaign will be calling and we might be able to piggyback on that, depending who the campaign hires as a field organizer. Another idea: teaching existing members about voter registration and having them go greet new people moving into their neighborhoods, register them to vote and talk to them a bit about the 34th.
26. Fund-raising (Les Treall):
 - 26.1 Les talked about getting the word out about the caucus - if we can do that, we can couple outreach and fund-raising at the caucuses. We did a direct-mail fundraiser in 2001 - was it successful or not? We did raise some funds, but few people stayed on as members. If we can increase our value to voters and members, they will be more likely

to contribute.

27. State Committee. (Leslie Harris and Bruce Stotler):

27.1 The longest day in Les's life was the January state committee meeting and the election of a new state party chair, Dwight Pelz. Les and Bruce both supported Dwight as the day progressed. Dwight was elected for just the unexpired term for the State Chair, running through 2006, so there will be another election next January.

27.2 An unfinished piece of business is the ineffectiveness of the resolutions committee - many resolutions going up to the committee have not been acted upon, especially if they are critical of a Democratic elected official. The felon voting rights legislation piece was tabled in that committee, even though it is in front of the Legislature right now. Jean Brooks is the chair of this committee.

28. Caucuses.

28.1 Caucus locations. There are five locations. The State party is estimating 4 attendees per precinct - maybe 150 people per site. Walter passed around a document showing the logistics, point people, etc. for each site.

28.2 Publicity. We are panning a handout to PCO's. Should be ready in a day or so, will be e-mailed to PCO's who can fill it out and print it off so they can walk their precincts. Advertisements in local newspapers could cost \$1000. Postcards or mailers would be supported by contributions from our electeds. A sample mailer was passed around at the meeting. We will send this to all "A" and "B" voters in the district in precinct's without PCO's - about 5,000 total, Jackie estimates.

28.3 Caucus Day. Need tight coordination and scheduling on the day of the caucus - see printed timeline from Walter. We should send out (via e-mail) the caucus materials to PCO's, including a short summary cover sheet. Walter handed out paper copies of the Area Caucus Packet

28.4 Walter had a short meeting after the E-Board to discuss logistics. Walter, Jackie, Bruce, Ann M., Bill, Tanya attended.

28.5 ACTION ITEM: Walter and his subcommittee will finalize caucus preparations.

28.6 MOTION:

28.6.1 Bill Schrier moved we conduct a postcard mailing to all "A" and "B" graded voters in precinct's without PCO's in the District using the estimate sent by Jackie via e-mail and the funds provided by our electeds or in the treasury, using the postcard passed around tonight, as amended. Tim Nuse seconded.

28.6.2 Discussion: It will be hard to get people to turn out for an issues-based caucus. This could very well be money wasted which should be spent on the general election. We are asking our electeds to pay for this, although we did not spend down our treasury for campaign contributions last year. On the other hand, the caucuses are more than just about issues - this is also membership-building and a galvanizing event. And if you don't ask people to come, many won't come.

28.6.3 MOTION PASSED with one dissenting vote.

29. March meeting: Richard Conlin is coming to speak on his own subjects. Mark Wilson, who is running for the Senate against Maria Cantwell, also wants to come. He has run in the past on the Green Party and Libertarian Party slates. Lots of people want to talk about the Cantwell campaign - perhaps we should have an open mic. There could also be issues or results from the caucuses which will have concluded just four days earlier to talk about

30. Future meeting topics:

30.1 Alternative energy: The Initiative for Energy Security is interested in speaking - they

- are going to be gathering signatures. Tim Nuse is willing to organize another forum on this, possibly on a Saturday in May. Cantwell's office is interested in attending. Also many alternative energy organizations in the area would be willing to come. Jay Inslee might also be able to attend. Tim suggested a special forum, possibly a Saturday in May. But it should be outside the regular meeting? Why not at the same time as a regular meeting where many members already attend? People from other LD's might very well attend as well. The 34th's regular meeting in May is while Congress is in session; the April meeting is during a Congressional recess, but that's only two months away. Might consider a "dual" meeting - smaller discussion at a district meeting and a separate Saturday in the same month. ACTION ITEM: Tim will to put together a subcommittee to consider this. Les, Brian, Richard, Chris, Tanya volunteered.
- 30.2 April meeting - we should by our state legislators debrief us about the Legislative session (which ends in March).
- 30.3 Another potential future meeting topic: discussion of the Glacier issue on Vashon - all elected officials representing Vashon oppose Glacier except Christine Gregoire who has been silent.
- 30.4 White Center annexation issue. Greg Doss stated the City of Seattle person working that issue would be glad to come and discuss it. Cherisse Luxa stated many PCO's in Burien and North Highline will be glad to speak on the other side. This will be subject of a future meeting.
- 30.5 Fusion voting - New York has been doing this for years. ACTION ITEM: Brian Earl will develop it as a potential topic.
31. Good of the order.
- 31.1 Drinking liberally group in Burien - Cherisse Luxa and Liz Giba are forming one - this will be the 8th such group in Washington State. Many Democrats have a thirst for knowledge and want to discuss issues. Mick Kelly's Irish Pub, Burien, 4th Wednesday of every month, 7:00PM. See website www.drinkingliberally.org and sign up for the e-mail list there. Elected officials have committed to come by, and the Seattle Drinking Liberally group gets a good turnout from both elected officials and others.
- 31.2 Sonics and Key Arena.
- 31.2.1 Walter Sive mentioned the issue of subsidizing the Sonics by remodeling Key Arena at Seattle Center, a topic presently in front of the Legislature. What do we think? The 36th District has a resolution opposing this on their agenda tomorrow night (it passed). Erik Poulsen had a quote in the paper supporting an extension of the current taxes which building the stadia, and using those funds on Key Arena.
- 31.2.2 MOTION: Ann Martin moved the E-Board make it known to their 34th District elected officials that we oppose expenditure of public funds to support renovation of Key Arena for the Supersonics. Les Harris seconded.
- 31.2.3 Discussion: Brian - could the City get a stake in the team in return for financial support? The NBA might oppose that.
- 31.2.4 Robin called the question. MOTION PASSED with two dissenting votes.
- 31.3 PCO training and state legislative day is Monday. Note the Tahlequah dock is closed Monday.
- 31.4 Youngstown cultural arts center grand opening at 6PM a week from Friday, February 24th. This is the old Cooper School.
- 31.5 Robin mentioned that the King County Democratic platform committee is starting to meet.
32. Adjourned 8:56 PM.