

34th District Democrats Meeting Minutes, May 9, 2007

Chairman Ivan Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

The flag salute was led by Kathy Keene.

The proposed agenda was amended to omit Carol Frontiero who was unable to attend. The amended agenda was moved, seconded, and passed.

The minutes and the Treasurer's Report were moved, seconded, and passed.

Chairman's Report

Ivan introduced guests Matt Perry, Political Director for the 9th District, U.S. Representative Adam Smith and former 34th District State Representative Georgette Valle.

Don Webb, PCO for Evergreen, has announced his candidacy for one of two at-large positions in the election for the North Highline Unincorporated Area Council.

Cherisse Luxa will be holding a workshop on becoming a National Convention Delegate. She circulated a sign-up sheet – date to be announced.

First Chair's Report

Tanya Aguilar reported that the 15th District is having a PCO training on Saturday, June 2nd in Toppenish.

Klickitat County's Annual 13 Mile Garage Sale will be on June 9th. All 34th District members are invited. For more information call Tanya or see the City of Goldendale website at www.cityofgoldendale.com.

The White Center Heights Park renewal program will be needing volunteers June 8-15th. For details call Tanya.

Ivan also urged a big turnout for the Annual White Center Clean-up on Saturday, May 19th. See www.wccda.org or call Ivan.

Legislative Session Debriefing

Senator Erik Poulsen was welcomed with a song by the Vashon/Maury Island Democrats to thank him for his hard work and support.

Senator Poulsen described the session as being historic (elimination of the super majority in school levies, controlling certain emissions which contribute to global warming, banning unhealthy PVD's, adopting paid family leave) and heartbreaking (Maury Island defeat and the failure of the Homeowner's Bill of Rights).

Representative Joe McDermott described significant progress in education including an increase in all-day kindergarten, a WASL math and science delay, and one billion dollars in new dollars for education. He also thanked the 34th District for its support in passing the Domestic Partner Bill.

Representative Eileen Cody spoke about health issue successes. Her bill will change how health care is purchased, reducing the inequity among large and

small employers. Other successes include an electronic database of medical records, improvement of chronic care, expanding dental care for the low income, and expanded mental health care for children.

There were no PCOs to appoint.

There was no Old Business or New Business.

Good of the Order

Ann Martin announced a serious need for poll workers. Call Ann at 935 4693.

Candidate appearances:

Seattle School Board: Lisa Steubing, Steve Sundquist, and Sherry Carr.

Seattle City Council: Sally Clark (inc), Tom Rasmussen (inc), and Tom Burgess.

Port Commissioner: Gael Tarleton

King County Council: Dow Constantine (inc). Dow also announced an event to raise funds for the arts at West Seattle High School on Thursday May 17th. For more information call Dick Lee at 206 252 0476.

Terry Holm spoke of the enormous environmental problem being caused by automobile use. Reduction of this problem must be dealt with.

Cherisse Luxa said the Burien City Council is planning a tear-down of 162 units of affordable housing at the Lora Lake Apartments in favor of higher income usage. Community reaction has been negative and action needs to be taken. Susan Harmon seconded the need for action on this issue.

Dan Fievez spoke in support Alec Fiskens' re-election to the Port of Seattle Commission.

Marcee Stone announced a fundraising event for Washington Public Campaigns at the Comedy Underground on Tuesday, May 15th. More information available on the website www.washclean.org.

Former 34th District Washington State Representative Georgette Valle spoke about her political experiences and her new book Always A Rebel And Never Without A Cause.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Henderson