

34th District Executive Board Minutes

3 December 2007

by Bill Schrier, Acting Secretary

1. Chair Ivan Weiss called the meeting to order at Puget Ridge Co-housing at 7:08 PM.
2. Attending: Kim Becklund, Jackie Dupras, Greg Doss, Robin Hess, Les Treall, Tim Nuse, Bill Schrier, Bruce Stotler, Ivan Weiss. Arriving later: Lisa Herbold.
3. Chair's report:
 - a. We are at 166 PCOs (or more) and have the highest percentage of precincts filled of any LD in the state. We won the King County PCO challenge for 2007 which included a \$100 check/prize. We'll probably just send it back to Suzie Sheary for King County dues.
 - b. 15th District News. Ramona Fonseca is the newly elected Mayor of Granger, Washington. Her council took away her power to appoint department directors so she is suing the City.
 - c. Lisa Plymate, MD, 34th District member, works in the 15th District and plans to help nurture our sister district relationship.
4. No First Vice-Chair's Report (Tanya Aguilar absent/excused).
5. Treasurer Report. Current balance is \$14,386. Checks on hand roughly balance expenditures for the rest of the year. We were projecting a balance of \$14,500 year end so we'll be pretty close to budget. We had some more expensive newspaper ads than expected this year, but also larger donations than expected.
6. Membership report. Jackie Dupras. We have 487 members, 13 below this year's goal of 500.
7. Caucus preparation. Tim Nuse.
 - a. We've assigned locations for each of the precincts. For all the locations which were too crowded in 2004 we'll have fewer assigned precincts to reduce the crowding. Tim will work with Bill Schrier to get this list online and also get lists of resources for the caucus sites online. There will be site visit checklists, and there already are lots of other tools like Area Caucus Coordinator (ACC) checklists. There is also a tool which has been developed in Google but requires a Google username/password.
 - b. Will be developing three training sessions for PCOs. Jackie sent an e-mail out to all PCOs about this.
 - c. Next steps: find and assign Area Caucus Coordinators for the caucus sites, and develop budgets for the caucus. Develop scripts or strategies for collecting funds at the caucuses themselves (donations) plus we'll be trying to build membership. Donations and membership dollars need to be kept separate from a Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) point of view. (We spent \$11,000 on the 2004 caucuses.) We'll also be soliciting for volunteers.
 - d. Outreach. There is a December 10th meeting at the Burien Library, 7:00 to 9:00 PM to coordinate getting people to the caucuses. Les is coordinating this.

- e. Note: Tim will be gone to Senegal for three weeks starting 15 December.
8. State Report. Ivan Weiss and Bruce Stotler. January 25th and 26th is the next State Party meeting in Vancouver. Not a lot on the agenda yet. Will elect four DNC members and adopt the 2008 budget. Will also have additional caucus training.
 9. County Report. Ivan Weiss. No KCDCC meeting last month. The LAC meets Sunday, December 16th, Green Lake Library, with Speaker Frank Chopp's annual visit. His visit will help shape the agenda for our legislative action day in February. For one thing, there are only four environmental issues on the LAC agenda, and Maury Island is not on that list.
 10. "Better Way" Resolution. We passed this resolution asking the United States to lead the way addressing the issue of impoverishment throughout the world (rather than bombing other nations). There was a meeting with Adam Smith, and the resolution passed the House. Smith will ask Barack Obama to speak out on this issue. Also trying to work on John Edwards (via Jeff Smith).
 11. Holiday Party Planning. Potluck. Ivan has invited the staff at the Hall at Fauntleroy. Ivan pitched main dishes in the newsletter because we always have enough desserts. Ivan proposed that we buy two turkeys which he will smoke to help out with a main dish. Bruce moved and Robin seconded that we buy the turkeys. The E-Board passed this expenditure unanimously.
 12. Agenda for the January meeting.
 - a. Precinct caucus planning. This will be a focus for the January meeting.
 - b. Preview for the legislative session? Session starts January 14th and our meeting is on the 9th so Ivan will contact legislators to give us a preview.
 - c. Three E-Board vacancies to fill. Secretary, KC Committeewoman and KC Committeewoman Alternate.
 - d. Call for dues. Including PCOs and others who have not paid dues in 2007.
 - e. Contribute \$1034 to the King County organization. Robin moved and Bruce seconded that we ask the membership to contribute this amount in January. Passed the E-Board unanimously.
 13. League of Women Voters "They Represent You" pamphlet. Bruce moved and Robin seconded that we contribute \$200 to the League print their 2008 voters pamphlet. Passed unanimously.
 14. Online Web-based reporting. Bill Schrier presented the possibility of subscribing to a web-based service for managing membership, donations and accounting. This is Complete Campaigns at www.completecampaigns.com and is used by the 36th District (Jason Bennett, the Treasurer there, would be knowledgeable about it). It is \$75 a month and 5% of all the donations which come in online. Discussion:
 - a. Sharing of information. With a service we can share financial information among the Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer, Finance Chair, etc.
 - b. This is expensive - \$900 a year plus 5%.

- c. Exportable to Access and Excel.
 - d. Bill will send around links to the online sample database so E-Board members who are here and not present (e.g. Walter Sive) to explore the tool and sample reports so we can have an informed discussion in January.
15. Resolution – Condo Conversions. Lisa Herbold. Allows large cities to set caps on conversions, as long as the cap is above 500 units a year. Gives tenants 180 days notice to move as opposed to 90 days in present state law. Allows developers to pay relocation costs for tenants making less than 80% of median income. Present law caps such relocation costs at \$500. Average in Seattle is \$2700 right now. This is a “local option” bill – allowing cities more control over this issue. Maralyn Chase will be a bill sponsor. Ivan stated we should bring this forward to the LAC on December 16th as well. West Seattle blog keeps an informal running total of condo conversions in West Seattle. Robin moved and Greg seconded we recommend endorsement to the membership for the January meeting. Tim suggested added Speaker Chopp and Governor Gregoire to the list of folks addressed in the resolution. The E-Board passed this recommendation unanimously. Lisa will send the resolution to Jackie and Bill for posting.
16. Laser printer. Jackie asked the District to fund an inexpensive laser printer to rapidly print walking lists from the voterfile for PCOs.
17. Sergeant-at-arms. Do we need one? Would help keep things orderly in the back of the room. Under the provisions of the by-laws Ivan appointed Les Treall as sergeant-at-arms.
18. 2008 Meeting Agendas. Immigration will be an issue. Property tax will be an issue. Lots of potential for candidates to come. John Ladenburg will be running against Rob McKenna. Rep. Jim McIntire is leaving the House to run for State Treasurer. A Democrat may run for Secretary of State and Peter Goldmark is running for Lands Commissioner. There could be issues of voting machines, paper trails, ballots. There will be environmental issues and presidential campaign issues. We might also address some national issues, e.g. Social Security. Maybe have a list of these issues and candidates to use at the caucuses and for PCOs to build membership. A door-hanger for PCOs might be helpful too.
19. Meeting adjourned 8:55 PM.