



34th District Democrats

West Seattle, Burien, White Center, Vashon and Maury Islands ★ 34dems.org

Chair's Inaugural Message

First, I'd like to thank all of the PCOs who elected me Chair by acclamation at the reorganization on January 11th (my late mother's birthday). It is an esteemed honor to serve as Chair of one of the strongest LD organizations in Washington State. The challenges ahead are daunting and will require more of all of us. Rest assured that I and the new Executive Board are already hard at work preparing to make the 34th even stronger, better organized, more representative of the population we serve and even more effective politically so we can meet those challenges head on.

A Catastrophic Election

Many of you were at the Hall at Fautleroy on November 9th when I announced I would run for Chair, less than 24 hours after the most catastrophic election in U.S. history. I didn't have a prepared speech, but I spoke to you about my 14 year-old twins and how this was the first election they'd really paid attention to, how that morning my daughter Anya woke up, grabbed her phone to check the results and sat in bed and cried. It was heartbreaking as a father, and as I struggled to figure out how to explain why and how this had happened I realized I couldn't because I didn't understand it myself, but what I could do was show how we respond when everything we care about, democracy, civility, equity and even life itself are threatened: and how we respond as Democrats is we stand up and fight!

Depths of Despair

I don't mind sharing with you that the next several weeks were not easy. As Trump put together his transition team and small bands of the worst of his supporters went about attacking people who didn't look like them, didn't worship like them, didn't love like them, I sank as far into the depths of despair as anyone. I'm a gay father. My kids are Jewish. Nearly half of my neighbors in High Point are immigrants, and a third are Muslims. We've kicked the can on climate change to the very last yard, even the Paris Agreement isn't nearly enough. And here we are faced with a neofascist wrecking crew with unfettered power over our once great democratic institutions. I'd lay in bed at night with my mind racing, wondering "where do we go from here?"

Developing a plan: What can we do here in the 34th to resist?

Despair, like doing nothing, was not an option. I got to work developing a plan to realize the full potential of the 34th. I started with our PCOs because I knew anything substantive we hoped to accomplish depended on our PCOs, who are the most important part of an effective Democratic party. So, drawing on my previous experience as 34th District Captain for the Neighborhood Leader program of the Obama '08 campaign, I came up with a plan to recruit a PCO for every precinct, to

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February 8, 2017 Meeting Notice

The Hall at Fautleroy, 9131 California Ave SW
Across from the YMCA - Parking behind the Hall
Accessible by Metro "C" Line

6:30 - Potluck Social Time

7:00 - Meeting

Program: How To Resist Trump And Protect What We Hold Dear

The incoming administration threatens to:

- Repeal the Affordable Care Act
- Gut Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security
- Deport millions of undocumented immigrants
- Create a Muslim registry
- Repeal a woman's right to choose
- Overturn Marriage Equality
- Weaken NATO
- Weaken the UN
- Reverse action on climate change
- Cozy up to Putin's Russia

...and much, much more.

Hear from The ACLU of Washington, the Seattle Neighborhood Action Coalition, Indivisible Seattle and other organizations about what we can do locally to resist this awful agenda and get the tools you need to be part of an effective resistance!

Resolutions will be presented.

9:00 - Adjourn to Eliot Bay Brewery

Renew or Become a Member

At

www.34dems.org/contribute/

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Executive Board

Elected Officers

David Ginsberg | Chair
chair@34dems.org

Treina Aronson | First Vice Chair
vicechair1@34dems.org

Michael Taylor-Judd | Second Vice Chair
vicechair2@34dems.org

Lisa Plymate | State Committeewoman
wsdccb@34dems.org

Chris Porter | State Committeeman
wsdccb@34dems.org

Carrie Alexander | King Co. Committeewoman
kcdccb@34dems.org

Martha Koester | King Co. Committeewoman Alt.
kcdccwa@34dems.org

Les Treall | King Co. Committeeman
kcdccm@34dems.org

Ted Barker | King Co. Committeeman Alt.
kcdccma@34dems.org

Jason Cheung | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Michael Taylor-Judd | Bylaws
vicechair2@34dems.org

Kyle Prete | Data & Technology
corespace@gmail.com

Carrie Alexander | Digital Communications
kcdccb@34dems.org

Sean Riley | Diversity & Inclusion
inclusion@34dems.org

Jacob Holt | Events
events@34dems.org

Finance - Vacant

Elisabeth Rose Astwood | Fundraising
fundraising@34dems.org

Kate Riley | Hospitality
hospitality@34dems.org

Ann Martin | Legislative Action
lac@34dems.org

Joy Pakulak | Membership
membership@34dems.org

Steve Butts & Karen Richter | Outreach
outreach@34dems.org

Kathy Marshall | PCO Coordination
pco@34dems.org

Treina Aronson | Volunteer Recruitment
vicechair1@34dems.org

Other Roles

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
swbutts@comcast.net

Allan Munro | Parliamentarian

Nick Bohall | Web Editor
webmaster@34dems.org

In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...



2017-2018 34th District Democrats Executive Board

Our January meeting centered around our biennial reorganization. A crew made of of many new members will be leading us for the next two years, and there are several new committees to become involved with. We will see a much stronger social media presence, befitting for the task of recruiting new members to help us with the challenges we are now facing. A Volunteer Coordinator will help with aligning members with volunteer opportunities.

New King County Democrats Chair Bailey Stober was present to serve as the Temporary Meeting Chair to get us rolling. New 34th Democrats Chair, David Ginsberg was elected by unanimous acclamation and took the gavel and presided over the rest of the meeting. The PCOs present then proceeded to pick our new officers. The positions of State Committeeman and KCDCC Committeeman were both challenged races, but the others were elected by acclamation. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer were selected by the whole membership body.

Following the officer elections, the various appointed committee chairs gave a short description of their committee, as well as making pitches to join in on their efforts. Our new officers and committee chairs are listed on our masthead on the left.

Martha Koester submitted a timely resolution to oppose Medicare Privatization that was approved unanimously. Nick Bohall gave us a sneak peak at the new 34th District Website.



Marce Stone-Vekich passes the gavel to new Chair David Ginsberg.



New PCOs were appointed: Ryan Kuehn in Precinct 1499, Chris Langelier in Precinct 1511, and Lynn Randal is now PCO for Precinct 1047.

34th District Bulletin Board

34th District Democrats Meetings

All meetings of the 34th District Democrats are open to any of our members.

Executive Board

Puget Ridge Co-Housing Common House
7020 18th Ave SW
Wednesday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.

Other Meetings or Events:

West Seattle Drinking Liberally

Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.
Tuesday, February 7, 6:00 pm

Evergreen Democratic Club

Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St., Burien
Tuesday, February 14, 11:30 am

Metropolitan Democratic Club

Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12-1:30 pm

Burien Drinking Liberally - NEW LOCATION

The Point
435 SW 152nd St
Wednesday, February 22, 7 pm

West Seattle Democratic Women

Check www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org
For information

King County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.

NOTE: KC Democrats Meeting Location TBD,

Check www.kcdems.org for information

Become a PCO!

Precinct Committee Officers are the backbone of our party. Consider taking on this vital role as either an appointed or acting PCO.

Contact Kathy Marshall at:
pco@34dems.org

Check to see if your precinct is vacant:
www.34dems.org/get-active/pco/

Make Plans to Attend Lobby Day 2017 President's Day, February 20, 9:00 am

Pritchard Building

415 15th Ave SE, Olympia, WA

Take advantage this opportunity to meet with our State Representatives and share your thoughts and concerns with them. Join fellow members of the 34th District and other Democrats across King County.

Agenda:

9:00 - 9:30 Registration

9:30 - 11:30 Greetings & Introductions / Speakers on our legislative priority issues

11:45 to 1:30 King County Legislators

1:30 to ?? Appointments with King County Democrats (Call Legislative Information Center 800-562-6000.)

Optional hourly tours of the Legislative Building (Capitol)

Registration is \$20 and includes a full information packet on legislators and our priority bills, and a box lunch.

The deadline to sign up is noon, Friday, February 17th so we can arrange box lunches, name tags and packets.

Watch www.34dems.org for more information such as carpooling
Information is also available at www.kcdems.org

Please note:

The Washington State Democrats Annual Crab Feed which has traditionally also been held on President's Day, has been moved to a new time and location:

Sunday, March 5, 2017 at 5:00 PM

McGavick Conference Center

at Cloverpark Technical College
4500 Steilacoom Boulevard SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

Information at www.wa-democrats.org/crab

Treasurer's Report for February 2017 Newsletter	
Balance as of Dec. 31, 2016	\$ 7,449.00
Add Revenues	\$ 2,365.00
Less Expenses.....	\$ 135.00
Balance as of Jan. 20, 2017	\$ 9,679.00

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator

Sharon Nelson

Senate Democratic Leader
Rules
316 Legislative Building
PO Box 40434
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7667



Representative

Eileen Cody

Chair, Health and Wellness
Appropriations
303 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7978



Representative

Joe Fitzgibbon

Chair, Environment
Finance
305 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7952



Letters and Submitted Articles

We are Democrats, and like most Democrats we have strong opinions and like to express them. We welcome letters and articles. .

All submissions are subject to editing. If submissions need to be shortened, you will be given the option of editing your own work.

Photos and notices of upcoming events are always welcome.

The deadline for the March newsletter will be Monday, February 27.

Mail to Steve Butts,
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146
or email to swbutts@comcast.net

January KCDCC Meeting Notes

For the first KCDCC meeting of the new elected delegates and chairs from each LD in King County, Chair Bailey Stover decided to make it more about getting acquainted. All new delegates stood up at the beginning and seemed to be more than half of the room. He took the time to go through each newly appointed member of the Executive Board of the King County Central Committee, including Chair, Vice Chairs and all of the committee chairs. Each person was allowed time to introduce themselves and provide an idea of what their committee's objective will be and to ask for volunteers. Although each of these positions is listed on the website, it was very helpful to put faces with names and to hear more about their goals.

Bailey shared that he is 52 days into his term and that during that time he has had significant challenges. In fact, in his first 24 hours he was faced with a lawsuit and a restraining order! During the first two months, he has been busy overseeing reorganization meetings, the final 17 of which finished up last week. There are a lot of new people in positions throughout the county. Bailey also gave an update that there are about 1135 PCOs in the county and that about a third of them have reached out to him directly since the reorganization. The overall feeling is that people are ready to help and looking for direction.

We approved a temporary operating budget that will be in place until March and includes funds for logo and web design.

Cat Williams, First Vice Chair, shared the events she is working on producing throughout the year, starting with a Committee event called "February Action Kickoff" that will allow an opportunity for volunteers to find a committee that suits the ways in which they would like to participate. The date has not yet been set for this event, but will be decided upon soon and information will be available on the website.

The LAC Co-Chairs invited everyone to participate in Lobby Day in Olympia on February 20th - information will be available on the KCDCC website for this, as well. They also provided a 2017 Legislative Agenda handout.

Two Republican State Senators and one former Senator have accepted positions in the Trump administration, leaving 2 positions open.

The committee voted to endorse Keith Ellison for DNC chair by 2/3 vote.

Chad Lupkes, Training Committee Chair, is scheduling PCO training and other training opportunities throughout the year. PCO training is February 4th 1-4pm, details on website.

Two candidates from Woodinville for City Council spoke, Paula Waters and Susan Sanders.

Brian Gunn, 31st LD Chair, spoke about winning a seat in the senate in the special election and is looking for donations and volunteers to help democratic candidates.

Submitted by Carrie Alexander, King County Committeewoman

Resolution regarding Goals for Greenhouse Gases Emission Reductions (HB-1372) by 34th District Democratic Organization

Whereas, in 2008 the State of Washington adopted goals for the reduction of Greenhouse Gases emissions reductions by 2020, 2035 and 2050; and

Whereas, these goals have been codified to the Revised Code of Washington at Title 70, Section 235; and

Whereas the best available climate science requires reducing global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide to below 350 parts per million no later than the end of this century in order to avoid catastrophic climate change impacts; and

Whereas, the nations of the world have agreed last year in Paris that our goal must be to limit the global average temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius, with an aspiration to limit it to 1.5degree Celsius; and

Whereas, the adopted Washington goals will not sufficiently contribute to achieving the new international goals; and

Whereas, the Washington goals must be significantly tightened if Washington is to achieve its fair share of the necessary global emissions reductions; and

Whereas, legislation has been introduced as HB 1372; *Updating the Framework for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Washington Based upon Best Available Climate Science*, that would revise Washington's goals in RCW 70:235 to values that, if achieved, will make our necessary contribution to the international effort, specifically

By 2020, emissions must be at least 10% below 1990 levels

By 2035, emissions must be at least 68% below 1990 levels

By 2050, emissions must be at least 91% below 1990 levels; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation would also require the Department of Ecology to use its existing authority to adopt policies, rules, and regulations that will achieve the necessary emission reductions, and to track and annually report emission reduction progress to the governor, legislature, and public; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation would remove the exception for emissions of carbon dioxide from industrial combustion of biomass in the form of fuel wood, wood waste, wood byproducts, and wood residuals; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation would align state agency emission reduction requirements with the best available science and require the state of Washington to inventory consumption based emissions; Now, Therefore

Be it Resolved That:

The 34th District Democratic Organization requests all members of the 34th District legislative delegation join Representative Eileen Cody in co-sponsoring HB 1372 to amend RCW 70:235 and to ask for hearings on the legislation in each house; and

The Executive Board is directed to send a copy of the proposed legislation along with this resolution to each member of the 34th District legislative delegation; and

The Executive Board is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the King County Democratic Central Committee Legislative Action Committee.

Submitted by Stu Yarfitz

Resolution regarding Renewable Energy System Tax Incentives and Recycling (HB 1048) by 34th District Democratic Organization

Whereas, in 2006 the State of Washington created the Renewable Energy Cost Recovery Incentive Program; and

Whereas, these goals have been codified to the Revised Code of Washington at Title 70, Section 235; and

Whereas the best available climate science requires reducing global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide to below 350 parts per million no later than the end of this century in order to avoid catastrophic climate change impacts; and

Whereas, solar is a clean and renewable source of carbon-free energy; and

Whereas, solar has already created thousands of jobs in Washington, and could expand greatly; and

Whereas, distributed solar makes Washington State more energy independent and resilient; and

Whereas, the Western Washington University's Center for Economic & Business Research finds that for every \$1 spent on solar through the Cost Recovery Program has spurred \$16-\$20 in economic activity; and

Whereas, solar power keeps our energy dollars in Washington State; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation is much more cost-effective than the current policy for Washington to get as much solar power as possible, giving Washington 5x more solar power per dollar; and

Whereas, solar power lessens the costs of adapting to climate disruption; and

Whereas, the proposed legislation would create a clear and stable solar program for Washington. Now, therefore:

Be it Resolved That:

The 34th District Democratic Organization requests all members of the 34th District legislative join Representative Joe Fitzgibbon in sponsoring and supporting HB 1048 and to ask for hearings on the legislation in each house; and

The Executive Board is directed to send a copy of the proposed legislation along with this resolution to each member of the 34th District legislative delegation; and

The Executive Board is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the King County Democratic Central Committee Legislative Action Committee.

Submitted by Stu Yarfitz

A Few Scenes from the January 21st Seattle Womxn's March



Thanks to all members that represented the 34th District Democrats at this historical event.



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build a precinct committee in as many precincts as possible, to build a structure to support our PCOs including 12 PCO Area Coordinators, and to ask our PCOs to engage in their precincts not just at election time but on at least a quarterly basis. I also resolved to personally participate on the PCO Committee and in its activities. But would it our PCOs be willing?

Calling PCOs

I started calling PCOs to introduce myself and these plans, and to let them know that if I was elected we'd be asking more of them than we ever had before, and what I found was remarkable. Everyone I spoke with realized that we all need to do more, that business as usual is no longer enough. Not a single PCO pushed back – not one. Out of those conversations I began to get a sense of hope that we could rise to this challenge. That hope has grown stronger every day.

Executive Board

While those conversations with PCOs were happening, the beginnings of a new Executive Board started to come together. A handful had stepped up by the last meeting of the outgoing Executive Board in November. In early December I got the outgoing Board and candidates for the new Board together at my home, and after that started meeting weekly with the candidates so we'd be prepared to hit the ground running. I'm thrilled with our new Executive Board. Many of you had the opportunity to hear from each of them on January 11th, and I'm confident you'll be as thrilled with this Executive Board and their work as I am. As we've worked together my hope and confidence have continued to grow, and I've no doubt at all we'll accomplish great things here in the 34th, and beyond.

We provided a sneak preview of our new website at our January reorganization, and it went live the next day. Please check it out, it's beautiful and easy to navigate, includes a search function, and you can sign up to join one of our Executive Committees right on the site – and, by the way, please do – we need all hands on deck! Here are the new logos designed by our Digital Communications Chair Carrie Alexander:

This one is for use in places where want a rectangular logo:



And this one is for use in places where we want a square logo (such as profile pictures on our Social media accounts)



Here's a 3rd variant, this one incorporating the lighthouse from the previous logo

I absolutely love them, they look great on our new website and other digital communications. I really appreciate the clean, modern design and I hope you do too.

Ready to Roll!

So here we are. On January 20th Donald J. Trump was sworn in as the 45th President of the United States of America. While this was a dark day in our nation's history, it's important to keep a few things in mind:

First, this is NOT Donald Trump's America, and the Republicans have NO MANDATE for their draconian agenda. Trump received only 46.1% of the vote, Republican House candidates received 49% of the vote, and their Senate candidates received just 42% of the vote. The approval rating for the new "President" is at 37% – a historic low, and the approval rating of the Republican Congress is just 13.8%. Even Republican gerrymandered districts can come into play with numbers like that.

Second, despite Hillary Clinton's hopeful words after the election we no longer owe Mr. Trump a "chance to govern." That goodwill quickly evaporated as this administration began shaping up to be nothing more than a fascist kleptocracy, a threat not just to beloved programs and policies, but to our republic itself and to the future of life on this planet. We owe them NOTHING. Accordingly, there will be no 'honeymoon'. As Democrats we will fight to block or delay every one of his unqualified and corrupt nominees. We'll organize and fight to defeat every piece of draconian legislation. We'll lose many of these battles, but we'll win this war for our nation's future. Here in the 34th, we're already hard at work recruiting PCOs for every precinct, building an infrastructure to support them, and reaching out to the 31st and 45th LD organizations to see how we can help them win the special elections in their districts later this year so we can take back our State Senate and finally meet Washington State's paramount duty and fully fund our schools.

Please stay tuned, we have great things in store. Our first program, on February 8th, will focus on resistance and what we can do locally to resist the Trump agenda and support communities marginalized by Trump's policies. Among the confirmed participants are the ACLU of Washington and the West Seattle chapter of the newly formed Seattle Neighborhood Action Coalition, members from Seattle Indivisibles, and the founder and Executive Director of the American Muslim Empowerment Network. It should be quite a program, you won't want to miss it!

The road ahead won't be easy, but it will be rewarding, and we will win.

Forward together,

David Ginsberg,
Chair, 34th District Democrats



Newsletter Editor
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Seattle, WA 98146

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Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:
The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District? Yes ___ No ___

Email _____ * Occupation _____

*Employer _____ * Employer City _____

* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.

\$34 is the actual cost per member of running the organization.

If interested in paying your dues in monthly installments contact the treasurer for more information.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Basic Dues | <input type="checkbox"/> \$3 Living Lightly | <input type="checkbox"/> \$34 Friend of the 34th | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Benefactor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Sustaining | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Underwriter | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Endowment |

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

Please check this box if you do not have access to electronic communications and need to receive a mailed newsletter

Paid for and authorized by 34th District Democrats. 6523 California Ave SW Box 183, Seattle, Washington 98136. Contributions to this committee are not tax deductible. State campaign finance law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, employer and city and state of employment for each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.