

34th District Democrats  
General Meeting Minutes  
Date – April 13, 2016  
Secretary – Kathryn L. Sprigg



Occasional references may be made to attachments distributed at the meeting. These handouts may be accessed at the 34<sup>th</sup> District website or upon request.

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chair Marcee Stone-Vekich

Chair presented agenda for approval – Unanimous

Minutes presented for approval – Unanimous

**Chair report:** Marcee introduced herself and Ted Barker and welcomed the membership. She gave a brief overview of the caucuses; about 12,000 attended. In addition to the candidate forum, there will be individuals speaking about Initiative 123.

Sunday April 24 is a fundraiser for Joe McDermott, scheduled from 3 – 5 PM.

Robbie Stern is working on a Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action meeting on April 28 at 11:45 lunch will be served. The 34<sup>th</sup> District is a co-sponsor of the event. Information for both events is on the district website.

State Treasurer race candidate Alec Fiskin introduced himself and spoke about why he is running. Karen Porterfield introduced herself; she is a candidate for Lands Commissioner and spoke about why she is running for the position. Dave Upthegrove then spoke about his candidacy in the race for Lands Commissioner.

Two individuals spoke about Initiative 123, a plan for upgrading the area that will be vacated by the Alaskan Way Viaduct and forming a waterfront plan.

Kate Martin asked the membership to vote yes.

Carol Binder asked the membership to vote no.

VIPs in room included Chris Reykdal, 34<sup>th</sup> District House Representative Eileen Cody, Senator Karen Fraser, Liz Giba, King County Council member Dave Upthegrove

#### **Program General Meeting – Candidate Forum**

**State Auditor** – Jeff Sprung introduced himself and answered questions.

How will you restore confidence in the auditor's office?

Describe your vision for tax reform and fairness and do you support sun setting corporate tax subsidies?

How would you prioritize financial and performance audits for the thousands of agencies in the state?

The other candidate, Patricia McCarthy, was not present.

**Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction** – Chris Reykdahl, Erin Jones, and Larry Seaquist introduced themselves and answered questions from the chair. The other candidates were not present.

Year round schools – do you agree and if so, how would you do it? All of the candidates supported it.

What is your support of in school suspensions & how do we decrease expulsions.

Who are the contributors to your campaign – charter schools, vouchers, Teach for America, Stand for Children, League of Education Voters, testing companies, groups that support privatization of public education, education reform supporters.

What is your plan to even the playing field for children of color?

Lieutenant Governor – Senators Karen Fraser and Cyrus Habib introduced themselves and spoke about their candidacy. They then answered questions from the chair and afterwards were given a minute to close. The other candidates were not present.

How would your approach to Lieutenant Governor be different from the current Lieutenant Governor?

What could be done to make the Senate more responsive to the will of the voters?

Which endorsement are you most proud of receiving in this race and why?

Treasurer's report – Karen Chilcutt provided the treasurer's report after the candidate forum. Our beginning balance on March 9 was \$11,113. We received \$12,353 in revenue; most as donations from the caucuses. Expenses were \$13,679, including \$12,005 for the caucuses and \$999 for organizational expenses. The ending balance on April 13 was \$9,787.

### **Overview of Precinct Caucus and Preview of Legislative District Caucus**

Marcee thanked the volunteers for their work on the precinct caucuses.

The upcoming LD Caucus is Sunday, April 17 at West Seattle High School, doors open at 11:30. The caucus convenes at 1 PM; the purpose is to elect 38 representatives and 19 alternates to the county caucus. It is for the 34<sup>th</sup> District elections, not just for the presidential race. She asked that attendees be respectful of all who are at the caucus. The website has several notices and is still receiving updated lists of delegates. Make sure that if you were elected a delegate or alternate that you show up.

Information is posted on the website so be sure to look for the proposed agenda and rules.

Food will not be provided so bring lunch and other necessities.

Marcee discussed the process and eligibility rules. Anyone can attend but only elected precinct delegates may vote.

Susan moved and it was seconded that Marcee appoint a chair and tally person for each presidential preference group. Speakers for and against the motion were invited to speak. After hearing arguments, Marcee declined to appoint the representatives. The membership voted against the motion.

Marcee explained how the process will work to seat alternates if not enough delegates are elected. Questions and answers about the process followed.

### **Old Business / New Business**

None

### **Appointment of PCOs**

Les Treall said Harry Vye cannot fulfill the PCO duties any longer and has found a replacement for his precinct, 34-1446 – Eric Thomas. Also nominated were Rachel Glass, 34-1497; Jennifer Knutson, 34-1252; and Joslin Roth, 34-1464. Les asked questions of all of the candidates. They were approved unanimously.

### **GOOD of the ORDER:**

Keep your comments at the LD Caucus short and be prepared for 15 or 30 seconds depending on the number of people running for delegate; the time goes quickly.

Claire Donahue is performing Sunday night April 17<sup>th</sup> at Comedy Underground.

The fund raiser for Joe McDermott on Sunday, April 24 from 3 – 5 PM. Contact Ann Martin for details. Please RSVP soon.

West Seattle Democratic Women are having their lunch meeting on 4/28. There is a speaker about social and environmental issues.

Thanks to chef Marvin Rosetti for bringing food this evening.

Need volunteers for the King County Spaghetti Dinner on June 4; they need auction items and sauce.

Thanks to the chair for all of her efforts to make the caucuses run well, it's a complicated and difficult job.

The Duwamish Gala and Art Auction is on June 25.

Leslie Harris spoke about what is happening on the Seattle School Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM