

34th District Democrats
General Meeting Minutes
Date – August 10, 2016
Secretary – Kathryn L. Sprigg



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

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Chair Marcee Stone-Vekich

Chair presented agenda for approval – Unanimous

Minutes presented for approval – Unanimous

Treasurer's report – Karen Chilcutt was unable to attend. Our approximate balance is \$11,914. We may have some small adjustments. Revenue of \$1,137 came from the King County Democrats Spaghetti dinner.

Chair report: Marcee invited people to come to the Swanky Cocktail party and asked for volunteers to call people and invite them to the party. She invited King County Council member Joe McDermott to speak to the members. He thanked everyone for their support in his run for the 7th Congressional District primary race. He urged us to work with him on campaign finance reform and gun violence and to have Citizens United overturned. He asked us to pass transit upgrades.

Marcee then welcomed and recognized State Senator Pramila Jayapal and State Representative Brady Piñero Walkinshaw. Each spoke for a minute.

Several events are coming up: September 17, 6 – 9 pm fundraiser for Hillary Clinton; August 25, 4 – 7 pm picnic at Lincoln Park sponsored by the West Seattle Democratic Women; August 18 fundraiser for Tina Podolowski at home of Tom Rasmussen 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Check the 34th District website for details.

Les Treall then talked about the effort to expand our margins in the State Senate and House. Please sign up to help with doorbelling in targeted districts and whatever you can do to help win the legislature back.

VIPs in room included Pramila Jayapal, Brady Piñero Walkinshaw, Eileen Cody, Joe Fitzgibbon, Joe McDermott, Lisa Herbold, Austin Bell, and Liz Giba.

Program General Meeting: Panel – *The Relationship Between Our Police and Our Communities of Color*

Marcee introduced Chris Porter, the moderator, who introduced the panel members:

Sheriff John Urquhart; Retired Judge Anne Levinson, Office of Professional Accountability; Fe Lopez, Executive Director, Community Police Commission, City of Seattle; Sili Savusa, Executive Director White Center Community Development Association; Bobby Alexander, MPA, Activist

Panel topic was the May 13, 2012 consent decree between City of Seattle and Justice Department. What is the direction and where are they headed?

Fe Lopez stated we are 3 years into the consent decree; she discussed the makeup of the community commission and what is being done.

Sheriff Urquhart discussed why we are here tonight. He showed headlines from 20 year old magazines such as *Time* with stories of police problems. He stated that the police are too white and too male and this should be addressed.

Judge Levinson discussed police accountability and the police review process. The community should be at the table in any discussion with police about reform.

Bobby Alexander discussed his experience interviewing for the Medina Police Department. The idea of justice is based on equality. If not everyone is treated the same, it's not a surprise that trust is eroded. Sili Savusa asked if we are bold enough to do something different. The community should be involved in the decisions about what the police focus on with regards to enforcement.

Chris Porter began the Q & A session: Why is there still a disparity in marijuana arrests before and after the reduction in focus on the offense. Where are we with the Office of Accountability? A status conference is scheduled on Monday. Reaction to public drunkenness – should there be a triage system? How to include other agencies in working with the community. Barriers to minority recruitment and what are training methods for deescalation. What is being done to make the police department more hospitable for women to serve? Also minorities and second language speakers.

Coordinated Campaign Field Director Drew Estep – contact him to get involved in any campaign you're interested in. He can get people set up to make calls or volunteer in other ways. Contact him at drew@wavictory16.org or phone 406.592.4552

Hannah Pickett, Governor Inslee Field Organizer for the 34th District. Contact her at hannah@jayinslee.com or phone 509.420.0439. Please talk to your neighbors and volunteer for Jay.

Endorsements

I-1491 Extreme Protection Orders. Moved and seconded to endorse. Stephen Paloini spoke about the initiative and why we should endorse it. The initiative was endorsed unanimously.

I-124 Seattle Hotel Worker Protections. Moved and seconded to endorse. Stefan Moritz from Unite Here Local 8 spoke for the initiative. The initiative was endorsed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Les Treall presented Jacqueline Morris for PCO in precinct 1457 near LA Fitness. Her nomination was approved by PCOs and all members.

GOOD of the ORDER:

White Center was recognized by the *Seattle Times* as one of the places to visit in Seattle. The White House has introduced President's Letter of the Day; you can access them on Facebook.

Delridge Days is Saturday, August 13 at Delridge Park from 11 – 3

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.