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34TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

WEST SEATTLE ★ WHITE CENTER ★ BURIEN ★ VASHON AND MAURY ISLANDS

Don't Miss Our August Meeting Program...



The August monthly meeting will include a very special program. Our very own Leah Griffin will provide a very important and inspiring program that we think you won't want to miss!

Leah is our KCDCC Committee Rep and a school librarian who works on sexual assault policy reform at the state and federal levels. In 2015, she was appointed to the Sexual

Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Task Force in the Washington legislature with the aim of solving the myriad of problems survivors encounter navigating the justice system in Washington State.

She also helped write and lobby for the Survivors' Access to Supportive Care Act with Senator Murray and Representative Jayapal to increase access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners in hospitals. Leah connects her work to her community by working with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, Legal Voice, RISE, and Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest.

Leah bases her activism from her experience as a victim, and the lack of preparedness she discovered when she went for help. Sen. Murray asked her to be her guest at the State of the Union in 2018, joining the guests of other lawmakers bringing sexual assault survivors and advocates in reaction to the #MeToo movement.

She will speak about the state of sexual assault legislation and reform in Washington and her advocacy for women. She will address the issues survivors face, what has been accomplished, and what's next.

Content Warning: Please Be Advised That There Will Be Discussion Of Subject Matter Concerning Sexual Assault.

Our potluck social begins at 6:30pm and the business meeting will follow at 7pm. Leah's presentation and Q&A will follow. Please come out and learn what's going on in this critical area.

Wednesday, August 14

Meeting Notice

The Hall at Fautleroy, 9131 California Ave SW
9131 California Ave SW (Across from the YMCA.)
On the "C" Metro Line

6:30 Potluck Social Time. Please bring a dish to share

7:00 Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies

Pledge of Allegiance

VIP Acknowledgements

Review and Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Approval of the Minutes

Adoption of the Agenda

Report of Officers and Standing Committees

Vice Chair's Report

Membership and Treasurer's Report

PCO Committee Report

7:20 Program on Sexual Assault

7:50 New Business

Appointment of PCOs

Family Separation Resolution

Affirmative Action Resolution

8:15 2020 Census Presentation:

8:45 Good of the Order

Adjourn to Whiskey West

Renew or Become a Member at

34dems.org

www.34dems.org/contribute

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Executive Board

Elected Officers

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chair@34dems.org

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vicechair1@34dems.org

Sophia Aragon | Second Vice Chair
vicechair2@34dems.org

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wsdccc@34dems.org

Ann Martin | State Committee Person 2
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Ben Reilly | Treasurer
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Carla Rogers | Communications
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Jacqui Morris & Lacey Watson | Events
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membership@34dems.org

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hospitality@34dems.org

Les Treall | Leadership Development
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Dawn Rains | Finance
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Steve Butts & Karen Richter | Outreach
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Nick Bonazza | PCO Coordination
pco@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Program
chair@34dems.org

Other Roles

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
newsletter@34dems.org

Allan Munro | Parliamentarian

KCDCC Report for July

The KCDCC Program and Policy Committee presented a 2019 legislative session debrief. Sen. Patty Kuderer shared successes from the past year including eviction reform, which provides folks 14 days instead of 3 to respond to an eviction notice. She also spoke about how voting access reforms (things like same-day registration and pre-registration for 16 and 17 year-olds) will be coming into effect this year.

Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon relayed additional progressive highlights from the past session including the state's public option bill, and more transparency & accountability measures for the healthcare ecosystem. He also spoke to the state's efforts to protect native orca and salmon populations.

Endorsements

In addition to numerous city and school district candidates across the county, the following endorsements were made:



YES on King County Proposition #1 to support maintenance of parks, trails, and recreation sites from 2020- 2025.

YES on Seattle City Proposition #1 to maintain current levels of funding for longer open hours, maintaining collections, technology, and building maintenance.

DECLINE TO SIGN Referendum 88, which would jeopardize the legislature's action of passing Initiative 1000 by putting it on the November 2019 ballot.

APPROVE Initiative 1000, should it come to the ballot

From the June KCDCC Meeting: The Endorsement Committee disagreed with the 34th LD in two races. Those two races, City of Burien Council Position 4, and Port of Seattle Position 2 were pulled, and the candidates Kevin Schilling and Sam Cho did receive dual endorsements from KCDCC.

June Endorsements involving the 34th LD:

King County Council, District 8: **Joe McDermott**

Port of Seattle Commissioner, Position 2: Dominic Barrera and **Sam Cho** (dual endorsement)

Port of Seattle Commissioner, Position 5: **Fred Felleman**

City of Burien Council, Position 4: **Kevin Schilling** and Omaha Sternberg (dual endorsement)

City of Burien Council, Position 6: **Sofia Aragon**

Seattle School District No. 1 Director, District 6: **Leslie S. Harris**

Submitted by Max Brown and Leah Griffin, KCDCC Representatives

Learn to Sell Medicare For All



Martha Koester presents at the White Center Library July 9.

34th's Martha Koester (and member of *Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action*) recently gave an informative talk designed for those that wish to argue for the concept of "Medicare for All" single-payer health care.

She has developed a program that uses snappy comebacks to typical objections and relatable analogies, honed after years of involvement with *Health Care for All-Washington*.

Learn how to become a Medicare For All "salesperson" with Martha's helpful hints:

www.34dems.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Training-health-care-advocates-2019.pdf

34th District Bulletin Board

Executive Board

Open to all of our members

Puget Ridge Co-Housing Common House
7020 18th Ave SW

Wednesday, August 21, 7:00 p.m.

Other Meetings or Events:

West Seattle Drinking Liberally

Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.
Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00 pm

Evergreen Democratic Club

There will be no meetings for the
months of July and August

Metropolitan Democratic Club

Please note new meeting place

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
911 Stewart St., Seattle 98101
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12-1:30 pm

Burien Drinking Liberally

Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St.
Wednesday, August 22, 6:30pm

West Seattle Democratic Women

For more information regarding upcoming
meetings check:

www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org

Or inquire at: contact.wsdw@gmail.com

King County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Carpenters Union Hall
231 Burnett Ave N
Renton, WA 98057
Tuesday, August 27, 7:00 pm

August Outreach Events



We will be at **Delridge Day** again this year. Stop by and help at our booth, or to just say "hi" and watch the skateboarder competitions. **Sustainable West Seattle** will also be holding their annual **GreenLife Festival** in conjunction with this year's event. The **Seattle Police** will be on hand to pass out free hot dogs and ice cream to all that come.

The Delridge Community Center and Park, 11am to 3pm



Burien B-Town Fiesta

August 25 at the
Burien Town Square Park

This will be the 2nd time Burien has held this event, and if it is anything like last year's, it will be a fun way to spend a late-summer day! Come and help out!

Contact outreach@34dems.org for more information or to volunteer

Scenes from the West Seattle Grand Parade

Photos Courtesy of Tamsen Spengler



Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator

Joe Nguyen

Human Services,
Reentry & Rehabilitation (Vice
Chair), Environment, Energy &
Technology
Rules
Transportation

213 John A. Cherberg 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

Environment & Energy (Chair)
Appropriations
Rural Development, Agriculture,
& Natural Resources

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 September 2019 newsletter will be Thursday August 28, 2019.

Mail to Steve Butts,
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146
or email to newsletter@34dems.org

In Case You Missed Our July Meeting...

The July program featured two segments: Discussion of our Code of Conduct, and the 2020 Census. Chair Gina Topp addressed the first topic in her chair's report, recounting incidents that occurred at the May endorsement meeting. Insulting and abusive language was used in a back and forth debate between several members, culminating with water thrown in anger. The executive board met twice to discuss the matter. Two members were suspended for their language and behavior, and the parties involved were asked to reconcile and apologize to one another. Our candidates, their supporters and all members are asked to observe our Code of Conduct to assure that all can expect a safe and welcoming environment at our functions. This request led us to an exercise to look at our current code to see if it needed additional clarification.

Chris Porter laid out some objectives for this exercise as we gathered together at tables for discussion. He remarked that usually these sorts of documents are developed after an incident; such as happened here in May, at the county and the state party levels when similar conflicts occurred. He encouraged members to bring their experience from other organizations and workplaces that have developed similar policies. His desire is to continue the process of refining the code as a living document, to review and update periodically in the future. It was noted by members that our Code of Conduct was developed years prior to similar documents that were later devised by both the county and state party organizations.

We reported from each table:

- Personal attacks using outside social media platforms should be looked at as potential problems
- Language detailing respect for candidate preferences and/or political positions should be added.
- A process for consequences tied to the Bylaws could be developed. A sequence of consequences from censure to suspension to expulsion could be laid out.
- The document should not be heavy with legalize.
- Wording to promote concepts such as "responsibility", and "mindfulness" (to pause to reflect before responding in anger) could be added.



Kamau Chege from the Washington Census Alliance explains the 2020 Census process

- How do we get people to follow any rules begin with? Conflicts are rare anyway.

Les Treall rose to say that our organization doesn't really have the capacity to fully adjudicate interpersonal conflicts. He cited the experience he had during his tenure at KCDCC during their recent problems the past term and how it hindered their ability to function, we could be similarly over-burdened. His thought was that it should be up to the individuals involved to extract themselves from uncomfortable situations and avoid interaction with an antagonist. Following this open discussion, we voted to approve a resolution against hate speech with a few tweaks from the membership.

Chris Porter will be leading an ad hoc committee to review the suggestions and put forth changes to our Code of Conduct for approval by the membership at an upcoming meeting.

We also were presented with a resolution submitted by Les Treall that would call upon our elected representatives to support a proposed New Green Deal for Seattle. A speaker against felt it was overly broad as it seeks changes across the whole of the local economy. A speaker for pointed out that to effectively mitigate climate change the comprehensive approach the GND lays out is required. We passed it with an amendment to acknowledge and thank the Seattle City Council's endorsement of the GND plan just prior to the meeting.

The next program item was a presentation on the 2020 census provided by Kamau Chege from the Washington Census Alliance.

The census is a snapshot in time of the country and who is in it. Everyone including working adults, students, non-citizen immigrants and refugees, children under the age of 1, those formerly incarcerated, Native Americans living on reservations. All use roads, schools, regardless of immigration status...All pay taxes and all should receive services.

The US Department of Commerce is responsible for this survey. The 2020 Census will be the first to be completed via the internet. Early in March they will be sending postcards instructing us how to fill out the online form. Beginning in early April they will send out physical forms to those who haven't used the web form. We will be urged by via informational campaigns to fill out the census as soon as possible. Kamau asked us to fill out as accurately as we can. If, however, we are uncomfortable with a question we should feel free to skip it. He assured us the census bureau won't come after a person if they choose not to answer a particular question. Additionally the Census Bureau is not allowed to share information with other federal agencies, i.e. ICE.

A daily tracking return status for specific areas will also be posted. As an organization used to GOTV activities, we can help "Get Out the Count". The Washington Census Alliance will be contacting us next spring with information on how we can help.

We can expect to see disinformation campaigns, especially as Seattle is a sanctuary city. The Attorney General's office will help protect against fraudulent schemes. Organizations such as local governments, businesses, schools, community groups and non-profits will participate in education, and "trusted communicators/advisors" from the various immigrant communities are also being sought.

The Census will be the basis upon which decisions are made in our region over the coming years, such as how much federal funding is available for services like health care and where our legislative district lines lie. It's critical we count all residents, including those who are traditionally underrepresented.



Chris Porter leads discussion on our Code of Conduct.

Photos by Jon Shields



PCO Chair Nick Bonazza has packets for PCOs ready for distribution at the July meeting for the Primary GOTV



Max Vekich informs us that business at Terminal 5 has started.



Layne Bautista relays thoughts from her table about the Code of Conduct.

Resolution Against Family Separation

WHEREAS the Trump administration has, since at least March 2017, enacted a cruel, inhumane policy of separating the children of immigrant families from their parents, and

WHEREAS the United States of America was founded on the principle that all men are created equal, and that we interpret “men” to mean human persons, and that all people are endowed with certain unalienable rights; and

WHEREAS the Constitution guarantees the right of due process under the law, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of national origin or ethnic identity; and

WHEREAS the Trump administration’s originally stated justification for separating families was that doing so was required by existing US Law, but that explanation has been proven to be unequivocally false; and

WHEREAS the administration’s actual goal in separating families from their children was meant as a deterrent to keep immigrants away from our borders by purposefully kidnapping and mistreating their children; and

WHEREAS the administration claimed to have ended the policy of child separation in 2018, but in fact lied about ending the policy, and has continued to detain children and separate them from their families without justification; and

WHEREAS the administration has repeatedly and consistently failed not only to return immigrant children to their families, but also to identify which children belong to which parents; and

WHEREAS the administration has, with no plausible justification, deported parents without first reuniting them with or identifying their children; and

WHEREAS the administration has utterly failed to provide adequate care or supervision for the children that have been taken into custody; and

WHEREAS the impact of this policy has been proven to be wildly ineffective, incredibly destructive and harmful to the children who have been separated from their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE 34TH Democrats:

1. Denounce and oppose the separation of immigrant children from their parents, except in some circumstances when the parents are charged with an actual criminal felony; and
2. Demand the immediate end to child separation policies at our borders, as well as the reunification of all children with their parents that have been separated; and
3. That all of our federal and state elected officials immediately demand action and pass legislation to end the administration’s child separation policy, censure the administration for its gross miscarriage of the public’s trust, and ensures reunification of separated families; and
4. That all elected officials and candidates for office voice solidarity with us in these convictions; and
5. That all elected officials and candidates for office present plans to end this policy permanently and prevent its reenactment in the future.

Submitted by Benjamin Reilly.



Max Brown is taking on the role of PCO for Precinct SEA 34-1481.



Laurence Redman mans our table in the Community Booth at the West Seattle Summerfest.

Resolution in Support of Affirmative Action

WHEREAS I-200 (the initiative that launched the career of Tim Eyman in 1998) has restricted educational opportunity and economic mobility among Washington’s most diverse communities for the last two decades; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Democratic Party believes guaranteeing every resident of Washington State equal opportunity and access to public education, public employment, and public contracting without discrimination based on their race, sex, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or honorably discharged veteran or military status; and

WHEREAS this can be accomplished by restoring affirmative action into state law without the use of quotas or preferential treatment; defining the meaning of preferential treatment and its exceptions; and establishing a governor’s commission on diversity, equity, and inclusion; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature passed the Washington State Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Act (I-1000) during the normal legislative session of 2019, with the overwhelming support of Democratic House and Senate members; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Democratic Party and all Democrats in Washington have a moral obligation to stand up in defense of our friends, family, and neighbors subjected to discriminatory rhetoric, agendas, and action whenever possible;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Washington voters must be given clear instructions on how to vote on this critical issue to avoid any confusion in determining how to vote consistently with their values; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, urge all Washington voters to vote “Approved” on Referendum 88 on their November 2019 ballots; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to all Democratic Washington state legislators and members of Congress.

Submitted by Chairwoman Tina Podlodowski and Vice Chairman David Green to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for consideration at its September 28th, 2019, meeting in Yakima, Washington (Date Submitted 7/26/2019)

A Report from the Vashon Strawberry Festival



Nick at the booth.

Nick Bonazza has been a very busy member this year, serving as PCO Chair, Outreach volunteer...and representing us at the Vashon Strawberry Festival. Here is his report from that event:

For the third consecutive year the 34th District Dems sponsored a booth at the Vashon Strawberry Festival. I’d like to acknowledge our volunteers: 34th District Dems/PCOs: Bunny Hatcher , Ivan Weiss and daughter Angie, Sybil Weber, Art Chippendale, Betsey Archambault, Linda Bonazza and myself. Jennifer Zeisig’s team of Vashon Indivisible members assisted with voters registration. Several of the volunteers completed the 5K/10K walk run and partook of a pancake breakfast before setting up and marching in the parade – Backbone was there in full force including Indivisible members Jennifer Zeisig and PCO Suzanne Greenberg with the giant, beautiful, big blue

globe, dancing, playing instruments, and chanting. Our volunteers and PCOs also marched for Vashon Pet Protectors and Health Care Prop 1.

Adults and children tried their skills at pin the tail on the Democratic donkey, had pictures taken with their selected Democratic values, and participated in a straw poll. Volunteers and PCOs engaged with community members and visitors who stopped by to talk about the government, candidates and issues, and were reminded of the upcoming primary and the need to prepare for 2020. We registered voters and pre-registered 16 & 17 year-olds. Of course it wouldn’t be a strawberry festival without taking time out to walk over to the Vashon Rotary Club booth for strawberry shortcake – prepared by PCO Earl Godt.



Bunny Hatcher displays her Democratic Values.



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- \$3 Living Lightly \$34 Friend of the 34th \$50 Sponsor \$1,000 Endowment
- \$100 Benefactor \$250 Sustaining \$500 Underwriter

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

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