

Please Note:

The membership meeting scheduled for March 11, 2020 has been cancelled

Due to the COVID19 outbreak

Hello Democrats,

King County, the city of Seattle and many local businesses are taking precautions to reduce the spread of COVID19. As an organization and as individuals we need to do the same. For that reason, our March 11th meeting is cancelled.

With all that we are up against in 2020 this was not an easy decision and doesn't mean we can slow down on our efforts. But we do need to be flexible, supportive, and understanding of the gravity of the situation. We need to be thankful to our many social services providers dedicated to the health of our community. And individually we need to take steps to reduce our risk of getting and spreading COVID19, which are the same as those we'd take to reduce our chances of getting the flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces.
- Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill.

As always, feel free to write to me with concerns or questions.

Take care,

Gina Topp

Chair, 34th District Democrats

Getting Ready for Campaign 2020



PCO Chair Nick Bonazza opens the training session at Kenyon Hall.



U.S. Rep Adam Smith gives a few initial remarks in South Park.

Election Year 2020 began in earnest on February 22 with training sessions, for the 34th LD, and for the state. PCO Chair Nick Bonazza led the first program in the morning at Kenyon Hall for PCOs and others wishing to get involved. There we learned a few tips and techniques for canvassing, using the MiniVAN app to capture information, and how we will work with the Coordinated Campaign. We got up to speed on the latest changes in voter registration requirements put in place in 2018. We also did a little doorbelling role playing and received a few suggestions on how to mobilize people by leveraging our memberships in other community groups.

Then in the afternoon, many of us headed out for the "2020 Organizing Academy" at the IAM Hall in South Park to hear in-depth from state party organizers about this year's campaign goals, and tactics to organize our neighborhoods to effectively drive voter turnout. We also received information on the delegate selection process, and best to run for delegate in the 2020 caucuses.

It was an exhilarating day. We all left with enthusiasm, fired up...and ready to go!

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Executive Board

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chair@34dems.org

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Ann Martin | State Committee Person 2
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Other Roles

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
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Allan Munro | Parliamentarian

A Resolution Whereby the 34th Legislative District Democrats Join Local Efforts to Support the Green New Deal at the Federal Level

WHEREAS President Franklin Roosevelt used the “New Deal” to raise the country out of its greatest challenge, a debilitating depression;

WHEREAS the greatest challenge we now face is the specter of global destruction from climate change and the disruptions it is causing;

WHEREAS a Green New Deal is proposed at the federal level within House Resolution (HR) 109 and Senate Resolution (SR) 59 that would:

- Secure for all people clean air and water, housing, climate resiliency, healthy food, access to nature and a sustainable environment,
- Invest in the infrastructure and industry of the United States and sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century.
- Promote justice and equity by stopping current, preventing future and repairing historic oppression of frontline and vulnerable communities,
- Eliminate pollution and greenhouse gas emissions as much as technologically feasible through a fair and just transition for all communities and workers, and
- Create millions of high-quality union jobs that hire local workers and pay prevailing wages.

WHEREAS local groups are joining together to urge the passage of the federal Green New Deal; and

WHEREAS our 7th Congressional District Representative, Pramila Jayapal, is a co-sponsor of HR 109,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 34th Legislative District Democratic Organization joins with other local groups in supporting passage of the federal Green New Deal and agrees to be listed among the groups in the Green New Deal Coalition and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution be sent to the Green New Deal Coalition and to Representative Pramila Jayapal for their information and use.

Submitted By Karen Richter



Congratulations to Chris Porter for his win to land a seat on the King Conservation District Board by a large margin over his opponent, Stephen Deutschman, 4,142 votes to 989. It was a first-of-its-kind online election.

Photo by the West Seattle Blog



34th Dems members Leah Griffin, Marcee Stone-Vekich, Les Treall and Ann Martin pose with Senator Joe Nguyen at his event in Burien.

Photo by Carla Rogers

34th District Bulletin Board

Executive Board

Open to all of our members

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

Wednesday, March 18, 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

Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St., Burien
Tuesday, March 10, 12pm

Metropolitan Democratic Club

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

West Seattle Democratic Women

For info about evening vs. luncheon schedule
check: www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org
Or inquire at: wsdwomen@yahoo.com

Burien Drinking Liberally

Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St.
Wednesday, March 25, 6:30pm

King County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Carpenters Union Hall
231 Burnett Ave N
Renton, WA 98057
Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 pm

Be sure to check out Art Chippendale's

"Art's Democratic Nomination Scoreboard 2020"

The number of Delegates awarded to each Candidate will be updated after counts have been certified by participating States. Total Delegate Count will automatically update to reflect changes.

Find it online at:

<http://bit.ly/2020delegate-tracker>

Schedule of Primary and Caucus Delegates by State

First Round Nomination requires 1,990 Delegates to win.

Date	Pledged delegates	Primaries/caucuses
February 3	41	Iowa caucuses
February 11	24	New Hampshire primary
February 22	36	Nevada caucuses
February 29	54	South Carolina primary
March 3 (Super Tuesday)	1,344	52 Alabama primary 6 American Samoa caucuses 31 Arkansas primary 415 California primary 67 Colorado primary 24 Maine primary 91 Massachusetts primary 75 Minnesota primary 110 North Carolina primary 37 Oklahoma primary 64 Tennessee primary 228 Texas primary 29 Utah primary 16 Vermont primary 99 Virginia primary
March 10	365	13 Democrats Abroad party-run primary voting ends 20 Idaho primary 125 Michigan primary 36 Mississippi primary 68 Missouri primary 14 North Dakota firehouse caucuses 89 Washington primary
March 14	6	Northern Mariana Islands caucuses
March 17	577	67 Arizona primary 219 Florida primary 155 Illinois primary 136 Ohio primary
March 24	105	Georgia primary
March 29	51	Puerto Rico primary
April 4	107	15 Alaska party-run primary 24 Hawaii party-run primary 54 Louisiana primary 14 Wyoming caucuses
April 7	84	Wisconsin primary
April 28	663	60 Connecticut primary 21 Delaware primary 96 Maryland primary 274 New York primary 186 Pennsylvania primary 26 Rhode Island primary
May 2	46	7 Guam caucuses 39 Kansas party-run primary
May 5	82	Indiana primary
May 12	57	29 Nebraska primary 28 West Virginia primary
May 19	115	54 Kentucky primary 61 Oregon primary
June 2	215	20 District of Columbia primary 19 Montana primary 126 New Jersey primary 34 New Mexico primary 16 South Dakota primary
June 6	7	United States Virgin Islands caucuses

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 April newsletter will be Friday March 27, 2020.

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

Notes From the February 25th KCDCC Meeting

Elections were held for an officer position and Standing Committee chairs. Jessica Agi was elected 4th Vice Chair, Scott Forbes was elected to the Rules Committee, Amber King to the Platform Committee and Nathaniel Block to Credentials.

In her Chair's Report Shasti Conrad emphasized importance of the March 10th primary and asked all attendees to continue to educate others about the Primary/Caucus process. She reiterated the importance of sticking together once primary process is completed and that we must treat one another with respect, so that coming together is easier for the November General Election. She thanked everyone for all their work to take the country back and to ensure people at every level have access to their government. She also noted that the state party will provide presentation with LDs on caucus process when asked.

Bylaws and Rules Committee reported that they will be putting forward recommendations for changes next month, mostly basic maintenance at the request of the finance committee. They are also exploring ways to facilitate voting by email.



Activities for PCO Recruitment, Training and Outreach include start to track PCO recruitment with a goal of filling every seat. Every PCO chair has been given a list of existing cohort and asked for all LDs to review the list and ensure that all paperwork etc. per state law is in order. There is push towards the May filing deadline. Turning out the vote in August and November requires more PCO seats filled. It was noted that a precinct with a PCO typically has turnout that is 5 points higher than those without.

The Platform committee has been convened. It consists of 4 regional representatives and 6 community representatives with alternates and is working toward a presentation at the May 2nd King County Convention - which will be dedicated wholly to the platform construction process.

Budget update November spending on ethnic media outreach/ in-language materials offset by major donor sponsors for that activity

Good of the order

- March 7th, State Convention Center for State Dems "Maggies" awards - forms to nominate have already gone out
- Eastside Dinner Committee looking for donations for their dessert dash
- South King County Dems Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, May 31st.
- King County Young Democrats are meeting on the 3rd Sundays of every month, from 3pm - 5pm at Fado Irish Pub, 801 1st Ave, Seattle, WA 98104

Submitted by Max Brown, KCDCC Committeeperson

In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...



The immigration panel: Louise Bush, Rich Stolz, Joanne Kalas, Maria Kolby-Wolf and Bunthay Cheam.

The meeting program, “Eyes of Immigration”, was organized by our Treasurer Ben Reilly, who brought together a panel of legal and activist experts on immigration and deportation.

Present were **Rich Stolz** of OneAmerica, **Joanne Kalas** of Foster Garvey PC, **Louise Bush** from the Seattle Clemency Project, **Maria Kolby-Wolfe** of NWIRP (NW Immigrant Rights Project) and **Bunthay Cheam** of the Khmer Anti-Deportation Advocacy Group. They provided updates on the immigration and refugee crisis in Washington and beyond. Discussion points included highlighting the Trump administration’s tactics for punishing immigrants, the deportations that are happening in our own communities, and state legislation aimed at stopping the targeting of our immigrant communities.

The panelists have complementary roles, and work is done between the various agencies they represent to see that immigrants on the verge of deportation get adequate representation in an over-crowded appeal system...the Trump Administration has not appointed any new immigration judges. Unlike our traditional court system, immigrants are not automatically entitled to legal counsel.

Bush is a pardon manager. She works to get reformed prisoners, including immigrants, pardons through the Washington State Clemency Board. This body consists of 5 members and only meets 4 times a year, creating a frustrating



Panelist Stolz gives a shout-out to 34th member Jeff Sbaih, who serves on the board of OneAmerica Votes Justice for All PAC.



Natasha Scarupa, field director for Pramila Jayapal, gives a run-down of updates and activities of the congresswoman.

bureaucratic bottleneck. Experience with that system puts the Seattle Clemency Project in a position to work with immigrants about to be deported. to get gubernatorial pardons for past, often minor, crimes for people that have redeemed themselves. The pardon process is like the clemency process, and the same board is used. Once pardoned, the immigrant can go in front of an immigration judge to plead their status.

Kolby-Wolf provides legal representation for immigrants. NWIRP worked on 10,000 cases in this state in 2019. They are seeing more demand for their services due to increases in residency/refugee requirements, with confusing and ever-changing forms. Private prisons are making a lot of money housing immigrants from the federal government...taxpayer money better spent.

Cheam is Cambodian, was born in a refugee camp in Thailand, grew up in our district. White Center is one of the largest concentrations of Cambodians in the Northwest. Laws passed in the 1990s to get tough on crime created a school-to-prison pipeline. Kids get in trouble, often for petty offences, and that later can negatively affect their immigration status as adults...often leading to deportation back to homelands with cultures that are completely alien to them.

Stolz is from OneAmerica, the largest immigrant and refugee advocacy organization in Washington State. He is involved in monitoring and advocating legislation a local, state and national levels. He relayed story of a Cambodian adoptee whose parents failed to get him nationalized and found himself dropped into undocumented status as an adult.

Kalas is an environmental lawyer, who does volunteer immigration legal counsel, which she calls her “Superhero Pro Bono Work”. She described two cases involving Southeast Asian men brought here as children who got into legal trouble. One is Cambodian and was scheduled to be deported before having his case taken up, and eventually pardoned. The other is Vietnamese and is currently going through the pardon appeal process.

Later we took up the Code of Conduct once again. **Chris Porter** presented a draft of a new version. The question put to us is whether to adopt the new version, or keep our original document. **Les Treall** asked us to consider his objections to the new Code. We discussed the issue at our tables and reported mixed opinions to the larger group. We agreed to a new Code of Conduct, but we will revisit it again at the March meeting to incorporate changes.

Meeting Photos by Jon Shields

Resolution Defending Immigrant Rights

WHEREAS the Trump Administration's immigration enforcement policies are restrictionist, prioritizing deportation of legal immigrants, restriction of the visa process, and rejection of asylum claims; and

WHEREAS the Trump Administration's designs its immigration enforcement policies to intimidate immigrants and deter immigration through fear, pain, suffering, and trauma – making them cruel by definition; and

WHEREAS these policies permit arrests in courthouses and the State Clemency Board, effectively excluding immigrants from participating in our justice system and public life; and

WHEREAS the executive branch, having authority over US immigration courts, has been allowed to deny due process and hold people indefinitely without charges or bail; and

WHEREAS when arrested, immigrants face extensive detention without access to legal representation and separation of children from their parents; and

WHEREAS these policies damage communities and tear apart American families – frequently target documented, law-abiding immigrants and refugees; and

WHEREAS life-long American residents are deported to countries they have never known and often do not speak the language; and

WHEREAS interacting with the court system is one of the only methods of relief for immigrants targeted by the Trump Administration; and

WHEREAS applying for clemency is one of the only methods of relief for immigrants charged with crimes targeted by the Trump Administration; and

WHEREAS the Trump Administration's intimidating tactics and Washington's overloaded State Clemency Board are insurmountable obstacles for our immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS Washington's House Bill 2567 and its companion Senate Bill 6522, *Courts Open to All Act*, would prohibit civil arrests inside or near state courts, prohibit inquiries into or collection of immigration or citizenship status information, prohibit disclosure of nonpublic personal information about individuals to immigration authorities, and establish processes in the event of law enforcement action at court facilities; and

WHEREAS the US House Resolution 5383, *New Way Forward Act*, would end mandatory immigration detention, end automatic deportation and summary proceedings for people who have had contact with the criminal legal system, end local police engagement in immigration enforcement and over-policing of communities of color, and decriminalize illegal entry and reentry into the US; and

WHEREAS expansion of the Washington State Clemency Board would improve relief for Washington's immigrant communities and increase assistance for those people facing deportation;

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

- Reaffirm our support for immigrant communities; and
- Call on the Washington Legislature to pass the *Courts Open to All Act*, defending the rights of immigrants to freely access our justice system; and
- Call on the US House of Representatives to pass the *New Way Forward Act*; and
- Call on the US Senate to turn away from the injustices imposed by the current administration, support and pass the *New Way Forward Act*; and
- Call on our Governor to expand the Washington State Clemency Board to improve assistance for Washington's immigrants who have had contact with the criminal justice system.

Submitted by Ben Reilly



Dean Shuey



Shellea Allen

New PCOs!

7 new PCOs were appointed at the February Meeting:

Margaret Aspland (COVE), **Janine Anzalota** (BUR 34-1047),
Emily Krieger (SEA 34-1409), **Dean Shuey** (SEA 34-1408),
Michael Parker (SEA 34-1413), **Jessica Agi** (SEA 34-1475)
and

Shellea Allen (SEA 34-1517)

Resolution in Support of Washington Democrats' Commitment to Israeli-Palestinian Peace, and in Opposition to any Further Occupation, Settlement Expansion, or Other Unilateral Annexation of West Bank Territory

WHEREAS the Washington Democratic Party's 2018 platform rightly states support for serious negotiations between Israel and Palestine in order to evolve a solution that would include a sovereign state of Palestine and a sovereign state of Israel; and

WHEREAS the Trump administration has upended decades of bipartisan support for such a two-state solution, and the Israeli government has accelerated settlement expansion and implemented several steps toward annexation of much of the West Bank, seriously threatening a peaceful two-state solution; and

WHEREAS the U.S. State Department issued an opinion in 1978, defining Israeli settlements in the West Bank as illegal under the Fourth Geneva Convention – an official position in effect for over 40 years, until reversed by the Trump administration on November 18, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in response to the above reversal by the Trump administration, 106 members of Congress wrote to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on November 21, 2019, expressing their vehement opposition to the State Department's decision to consider Israeli settlements legal – a decision that greenlights further annexations and threatens any genuine two-state solution; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives, on December 6, 2019 – with 192 cosponsors, including all seven Washington Democrats – adopted H. Res. 326, expressly supporting a two-state solution and opposing settlement expansion, drawing a red line against unilateral annexation of West Bank territory and declaring that such roadblocks to a peace agreement “pose a threat to the ability to maintain a Jewish and democratic state of Israel and [to] the establishment of a viable, democratic Palestinian state”; and

WHEREAS Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA-7) has endorsed J Street U's #ChangeThePlatform campaign to add to the Democratic Party's national platform a statement of opposition to the Israeli occupation, illegal settlements, and annexation, calling such a statement “essential”;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we support the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to govern themselves, each in their own viable state, and we oppose any further occupation of Palestinian territory in the West Bank or Gaza, whether by settlement expansion or unilateral annexation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support adding to the national Democratic platform a statement opposing occupation, settlement construction, annexation, and demolitions of Palestinian communities in the West Bank; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Chair and Co-Chair of the Democratic National Committee, our state's members of the DNC, and Washington's Democratic Party Chair.

Submitted by Ann Martin

Previously adopted by LDs 32, 36, 37 and 43;
Originated by Jeremy Voss, Co-Chair, J Street U at UW;
co-sponsored by the Young Democrats of UW.

References:

UN Security Council, “Special Coordinator Reports Largest Expansion of West Bank Settlements in 2 Years” (June 20, 2019), <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13853.doc.htm>

David M. Halbfinger, “Netanyahu, Facing Tough Israel Election, Pledges to Annex a Third of West Bank,” New York Times, (September 23, 2019), <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/10/world/middleeast/netanyahu-israel-west-bank.html>

Letter of the State Department Legal Advisor concerning the Legality of Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Territories, 21 April 1978, https://www.hlrn.org/img/documents/USSDLegalAdvisorHansell_itr.pdf



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

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