

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Olympia, Washington  
January 24, 2009

The Washington State Democratic Central Committee convened Saturday afternoon in Olympia with 166 delegates. Foremost on the agenda was election of officers. Mark Hinz was challenging Dwight Pelz for chair. When Mark lost 64 to 98, he generously asked that the delegates do a vote by acclamation for Pelz. Sharon Smith challenged Eileen Macoll for the position of vice chair. Sharon was elected. Both women are from eastern Washington. The State secretary, Luis Moscoso, and state Treasurer, Habib Habib, were both elected without any opposition.

Democratic National Committee members all gave interesting accounts of being at the inauguration. There was much praise from the National Committee for Howard Dean's work as National Chairman. With his 50 state strategy Democrats took 44 states in November. The Obama campaign has given all its names lists to the National Committee so there won't be a parallel organization competing for money and workers.

The speaker at lunch, Rep Brendan Williams, spoke about the negative influence by the BIAW on Washington politics. He gave numerous examples of how they put their extreme right-wing views and money to work to try to defeat Democratic candidates. Seven million was spent in an effort to defeat Governor Christine Gregoire. [The governor, at our Friday night reception was euphoric about winning reelection despite their efforts.] Rep. Williams also reminded us of their efforts to unseat Justice Gerry Alexander several years ago.

The next meeting of the Democratic Central Committee will be April 24 – 25 in Tacoma.

Report by:  
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