



25th LD Democrats March, 2018 Newsletter



25th Legislative District Democrats

Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2018

Opening

The regular meeting of the 25th Legislative District Democrats was called to order at 7:05PM on February 5, 2018 in Pierce County Library Admin. Bldg. by Ed Herde.

Present

Officers: Chair-Ed Herde; State Committeeman-Bob Klavano; State Committeewoman-Gina Bua; Membership Officer-Joe Colombo; Parliamentarian and Webster-Cliff Allo; Treasurer-Bob Koreis; Newsletter Editor-Joan Cronk; PCO Chair-Eric Herde; 26 total attendees.

Updates from two elected officials: Robin Farris – Puyallup City Council, District 1, and Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist.

Two Candidates were introduced also – Brian Duthie running for 25th Legislative Rep. Position 2, and Marty Campbell running for Pierce County Council District 5.

Action Items

Cliff Allo gave second notice of amendment to bylaws and update on proposed process regarding online voting. Amendment to be voted on at the March 5th meeting.

Ed Herde moved, Bob Koreis second, and unanimous vote for Karri Wicka to be Secretary.

Program

Washington State Democrats Western WA Field Director Kali Lasher-Sommers told us about new strategies to increase Democratic votes locally.

Bob Klavano facilitated a short discussion on how to get our friends & neighbors out to vote.

Eric Herde spoke of the Deep Listening Doorbell Event on Saturday Feb. 17.

A report of the WA State Democrats quarterly meeting Jan. 27 – 28 in Bellingham, reported by Ed Herde, Eric Herde, and Jamie Smith who went in place of Gina Bua.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm by Ed Herde. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on March 5, 2018, at the Puyallup Library.

Minutes submitted by: Karri Wick

Gun Control Legislation Is Constitutional

February 28, 2018
Miles Mogulescu

OurFuture.org

The NRA and its politician servants have convinced much of the media, and with much of the public, that most gun control legislation – like banning civilian ownership of military-style assault weapons, or universal background checks – would violate the Second Amendment.

Not true!

Most gun control legislation being proposed in the wake of multiple mass shootings, and most gun control laws already on the books in many states, are fully constitutional under The Supreme Court's interpretation of the Second Amendment.

It's time to stop letting the NRA and its allies scare the burgeoning gun safety movement – led by student survivors from Parkland, Florida – into accepting small-bore reforms out of a mistaken belief that stronger gun safety laws would be unconstitutional. Gun safety is about politics and the power of big money over politicians, not about the Constitution.

The Supreme Court's Take On The 2nd Amendment

Here's the real legal skinny:

In its 2008 decision, [District of Columbia v Heller](#), the Supreme Court held for the first time since the Bill of Rights was adopted in 1789, that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual right to possess a handgun at home for self-defense, separate from participation in a militia. (In my view, *Heller* was wrongly decided by a 5-4 vote, ignoring the Second Amendment's injunction that the right to bear arms exists in the context of a "well-regulated Militia.")

But what the NRA doesn't want you to remember is that *Heller* did not confer on individual citizens the constitutional "right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose."

The Supreme Court held that laws banning "dangerous and unusual weapons" such as an M-16 and other firearms most useful in military service are consistent with the Second Amendment.

Moreover, the Supreme Court gave examples of gun control laws it found to be "presumptively lawful" including laws which:

- Ban firearm possession by felons and the mentally ill.
- Ban firearm possession in sensitive places like schools and government buildings.
- Impose conditions on the commercial sale of firearms.

The Court made clear that this list is not exhaustive.

Constitutional Gun Control Legislation

In short, contrary to NRA propaganda, most of the gun control laws being proposed in the wake of multiple mass shootings (and gun control laws already on the books in many states) are Constitutional and DO NOT infringe the Second Amendment.

It would not be unconstitutional under *Heller* for the federal government and/or states to enact and enforce most of the measures being proposed by the gun control movement. These include:

–Banning the sale and/or possession of military-style assault weapons such as the MR-16 and high-capacity magazines used in many recent mass shootings (not to mention nuclear weapons, tanks, fighter planes, or anti-aircraft missiles, which even the NRA would recognize as within the government’s Constitutional power to ban from private ownership.)

–Universal background checks, including closing the gun-show loophole.

–Preventing people like the mentally ill, people on the terrorist watch list, people who committed domestic violence or with restraining orders against them, and convicted felons from buying or possessing any firearms.

–Bans on ordinary civilians carrying any guns, including handguns, in sensitive places like bars, churches, schools, and government offices.

New York, California, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, Connecticut and the District of Columbia currently have assault weapons bans and the same states plus Colorado ban high capacity magazine.

The same states plus Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Nebraska, Iowa, North Carolina and Rhode Island mandate universal background checks. None of these laws have successfully been challenged as Unconstitutional.

So when the NRA and its allies imply that bans on military-style assault weapons or universal background checks violate the Constitutional rights of its members and other Americans, it’s lying and trying to intimidate the movement.

Florida’s Republican Governor Rick Scott claims that increasing the eligible age to buy guns, including assault weapons, from 18-21 is a major concession, and the Parkland students should be thankful. But why does any civilian need military-style weapons.

In sum, the fight over most gun control measures is political, not Constitutional.

The question is not whether the Supreme Court will uphold these types of sensible gun control regulations—they are fully within the legal ambit that the Supreme Court found permissible in *Heller*.

The question is whether our political leaders—and particularly the Republican Party, whose campaign finances often make it seem like the wholly owned subsidiary of the NRA—will have the courage to buck the NRA and protect the life and safety of our children, students, and other Americans.

If not, those politicians must be defeated.

Chairs Comment

Ed Herde

LD Caucus, County Convention, and State Convention

It's an even numbered year this year and for Democrats that means it is a convention year. The Washington State Democrats convention is Saturday June 16th, 2018 in Wenatchee. The main purpose of the convention in a non-presidential election year is to craft the State Party Platform. Each Legislative District Democratic Organization (LDDO) sends delegates to the convention for that purpose. The number of delegates elected by each LDDO is based on the proportion of the votes cast for Hillary Clinton and Jay Inslee in the 2016 general election. In the 25th LDDO we will elect 6 delegates. At our caucus we will also elect 3 alternate delegates to be called on to attend the convention if any delegates are unable to go to the convention.

In the 25th Legislative District our caucus will be held Saturday March 24th, 2018 at 10:00 am. We will meet in the cafeteria of Franklin Pierce High School at 11002 18th Ave. E, Tacoma, WA 98445. In addition to electing delegates and alternates at our 25th LD Caucus we will hear from local candidates and take part in other activities.

In between the Legislative District Caucuses and the State Convention will be the County Conventions on Sunday April 22nd, 2018 at 1:00 pm. The business of the County Convention is to adopt a County Platform and resolutions. The Legislative District Caucus, County Convention, and State Convention give grassroots Democrats the opportunity to shape their party and become engaged in their local organizations.

To vote at these events you must be a registered voter in the 25th LD in the case of the Caucus or in Pierce County in the case of the Pierce County Convention. Additionally you must be willing to sign a registration sheet stating you are a Democrat, and agree to public display of your attendance at the meeting. Those who are not qualified to vote because of residence or citizenship are allowed to participate in discussions, but cannot vote on delegates, alternates, or resolutions, or can they be elected as a delegate or alternate.

25th Legislative District Candidate Nominations

At our Monday April 2nd General Membership Meeting at 7:00 pm at the Puyallup Library we will have a candidate forum and votes for nomination of our candidates for offices the constituency of which are entirely contained in the 25th Legislative District. This election year those offices are seats 1 and 2 for the 25th Legislative District in the State House of Representatives. General members who have paid the current year's membership dues at least 30 days prior to the vote and all PCO's are eligible to vote. Candidate questionnaires for those candidates requesting nomination will be posted to 25dems.org prior to the April 2nd meeting. Candidate forums and endorsement votes for offices the constituency of which are not entirely contained in the 25th LD will be planned for later General Membership Meetings.

**25th Legislative
District Democrats
(LDD)**

Chair:
Ed Herde
(253) 531-9067
eherde@earthlink.net

Vice-Chair
Raechelle Baghirov
(253) 380-8970
r.baghirov@gmail.com

State Committeewoman
Gina Bua
(360) 798-8685
gina.bua@gmail.com

State Committeeman
Bob Klavano
(253) 536 7469
bklavano@comcast.net

Treasurer
Bob Koreis
(360) 798-7638
robertkoreis@gmail.com

Asst. Treasurer
Vacant

Secretary
Vacant

Membership Officer
Joe Colombo
(253) 307-5835
joe_columbo@hotmail.com

Sgt. At Arms
Blaine Pearman
b.pearman@comcast.net
(253) 840 1516

Parliamentarian
Cliff Allo
(253) 208-8167
pco@cliffallo.us

Newsletter Editor
Joan Cronk
(253) 229-2450
JoanCronk@Comcast.net

Webster
Cliff Allo
(253) 208-8167
pco@cliffallo.us

PCO Chair:
Eric Herde
(253) 531-9067
ericherde@gmail.com

PCDCC EX Board *

POS 1: Turan Kayaoglu
(253) 330-7640
tkayaogl@yahoo.com

POS 2: Karl Mecklenburg
(253) 678-2107
karlmecklenburg@gmail.com

POS. 3: Ashley Witzens
(480) 208-3005
ashleywit@yahoo.com

**Website for latest
information
or copies of Focus:**
www.25dems.org

**DEMOCRAT'S
CONTACT
INFORMATION**

DNC
www.democrats.org

WA. STATE DEM PARTY
www.wa-democrats.org

**PIERCE COUNTY
DEMS:**
piercecountydems.org

**25th LEG. DISTRICT
DEMOCRATS:**
25dems.org

***PCDCC Ex. Board =
Pierce County
Democratic Central
Committee Executive
Board**



Well you should be if you want the truth about politics by Frank Blair and Traci Kelly . Fridays at 12 noon to 1 pm on KLAY 1180AM

And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to equaltimeradio.net

Tune in or be tuned out!

If you haven't done so yet, now is the time to pay your membership dues. The Annual Dues period runs from January 1 to December 31. To be a voting member of the 25th Legislative District Democrats your dues need to be paid at least 30 days prior to a vote. With your vote you help decide who will be the officers of your local Democratic organization, who we will endorse, and on other policy issues and club business. Please renew your dues so the 25th LD Democrats can keep working to spread the message of democratic values and support good local candidates.

The Annual Dues period runs from January 1st to December 31st. Use this form to pay by check, or go to <http://25dems.org/Anedot/Dues.php> to pay by credit card.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____

Dues: Evergreen (Includes Senior, Outside of district, Student) \$10 per member.
Rainier \$25. Chair's Voice \$50. Senator's Club \$100 - Can be paid in installments.
Mail this form and your dues check to: 25th LDD, P. O. Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98374

Please encourage friends to become a member of the 25th LD Democrats.