

Meeting Minutes

25TH Legislative District Democrats

02/01/2007

Meeting location: Puyallup Public Library, 324 S. Meridian

Call To Order 7:07 PM by John Thompson, Chair. Chair then lead the Flag Salute.

Roll Call of Officers John Thompson, Chair & PCO 25-132 (P); Lauren Adler, Vice-Chair (P); Jerry Beckendorf, State Committeeman & PCO 25-172 (P); Ellen Zulauf, State Committeewoman & PCO 25-112 (P);

Pierce Co. Executive Board Members: Frank Blair, PCO 25-141 (A), Matt Hanbey, PCO 25-105 (A), Past Chair & Pierce Co E-Board Member, Audrey Chase (P).

(The Chair explained the purpose and use of 'voting cards' issued to PCO' and dues-paid members at start of meeting.)

Adoption of Agenda Moved and seconded; passed without objection (PWO).

Adoption of Minutes (January 4, 2006) as read to assembly. Moved and seconded to accept (with spelling correction noted). PWO.

Appointment of Parliamentarian by Chair, as provided in By-Laws Chair appointed Cliff Allo as Parliamentarian.

Election of: Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair and Sergeant-at-Arms, as provide in By-Laws

Chair called for nominations for *Secretary*. Jon Bristol nominated Charley Stokes for Secretary. The Chair called three times for additional nominations and hearing none closed the nominations and entertained a motion for election (of nominee) by acclamation. Motion was moved and seconded and PWO by a show of voting cards (vc).

Chair called for nominations for *Treasurer*. Carolyn Merrival nominated Jon Bristol. The Chair called three times for additional nominations and hearing none closed nominations and entertained a motion for election by acclamation. Motion was moved and seconded and PWO by show of vc.

Chair called for nominations for *Membership Chair*. Lauren Adler nominated Carolyn Merrival. The Chair called three times for additional nominations and hearing none closed nominations and entertained a motion for election by acclamation. Motion was moved and seconded and PWO by show of vc.

Chair called for nominations for *Sergeant-At-Arms*. John Berry III nominated himself. Melissa Thompson nominated Jerry Beckendorf, who declined. Chair called three times for additional nominations and hearing none closed the nominations and entertained a motion for election by acclamation. Motion was moved and seconded and PWO by show of vc.

This concluded the election of Officers. Congratulations!

Chairs Report John gave a brief description of his attendance to the State Reorganization and to the State Labor Caucus, to a presentation on the new Voter File technology as well as attending the Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting and the Pierce County E-Board meeting. John has arranged for a speaker at the March general meeting to present information on campaign reform from "Washington Public Campaigns".

Vice-Chairs Report Lauren introduced herself to the assembly with a short description of her responsibilities with the Morrell campaign and at PHS and gave a short report from the Pierce County E-board meeting. The following information was passed to the assembly from the Pierce County Democrats E-Board.

- Join the Pierce County Democratic Party & Gov. Chris Gregoire on Tuesday, March 6 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Tacoma Elks Lodge #174, at 1965 S. Union Ave., Tacoma, to celebrate, unite and begin building our tomorrow. Tickets are \$35 in advance, or \$40 at the door. (Paid your Pierce County dues? Get \$5 off your pre-paid ticket!) Buffet dinner begins at approximately 7:15 p.m., following the Governor's speech. There will be a Silent Auction, social hour and no-host bar before dinner. For more information, go to www.piercecountydems.org or contact Jeannie Mitchell at djmitchells@net-venture.com.

Treasures Report Jon submitted the financial report, noting the success of the Kick-Off dinner as having (52) paid attendees and of the missed opportunity to raise additional funds by not having a Silent Auction as was done at the 2006 dinner. Donations collected at the KOD in the amount of \$97.00 were delivered to the Puyallup Food Bank (FISH). The Victory Fund holds \$4815 and the Operating Fund hold \$1153. All PDC documents are filled and up to date. The books can be reviewed by contacting Jon at 253-770-1246.

Elected-Official Reports Senator Kastama gave a brief summary of the first four weeks of the current Legislative session. The Senator reported on the Public Campaign Financing bill he has authored (SB5510) noting the success that public campaign financing has seen in other states such as AZ and MA and asked the membership to become vocal in support that it and others like it might succeed in passage through the Legislature. In closing the Senator notes that he has not made a decision on whether to run for County office but will defer until the end of the current Legislative session.

State Committee Person Reports Karen Willard, Pierce County Rep to the State Committee introduced herself to the assembly. Karen, from the 31st LD, will hold a seat on the Elections Sub-Committee and the Agricultural and Rural Caucus. Karen can be contacted at hallock@mindspring.com.

25th LD State Committeeperson, Jerry Beckendorf notes that his proxy to the State Committee is available and if someone is interested in being involved with one of the meeting they should contact him. Jerry will participate on the Communications Committee and the Labor Caucus.

25th LD State Committeeperson, Ellen Zulauf will be sitting on the Resolutions Committee. Ellen noted there are plans to drop the off-year caucuses due to high expense and low turn out and just focus efforts on the even-year caucuses. David McDonald, the attorney who led the recount efforts for Gov. Chris Gregoire is leading the development of a candidate selection process to be ready for review at the April meeting in Bellingham. Presidential campaign primary dates are being revised nationwide as states

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jockey for visibility of this important event (IL & NH have traditionally been first). The 2008 National Convention will be in Denver, due in large part as a nod to the increasing importance of the western states to the national platform.

Committee Reports Legislative Action Committee (LAC) chair Jerry Beckendorf spoke about his most recent trip to Olympia for the LAC reception in the Gov's Mansion. Jerry notes he lives in the 8th Congressional District and discovered during conversation at the LAC reception in Olympia, that KING TV personality Tony Ventrella (<http://www.tonyventrella.com/>) confirmed he *will* be running for the 8th CD seat in 2008! Jerry will be holding LAC meetings at 6:00 PM in the library prior to each monthly 25th LDD meeting. Participation is open to all paid members.

Old Business (None)

New Business Lauren moved the recommendation of the E-Board that the position of Hospitality Chair be filled by Joan Cronk with authorization for a \$100.00 budget to re-stock and re-supply. Motion was moved and seconded; there was no discussion, the vote was called and PWO.

John moved the recommendation of the E-board to support the evolution and expansion of the organization web site and authorizing monthly expense (est.< \$10.00/mo.). Moved and seconded. There was limited discussion from several members about providers. Vote was called; PWO.

John moved the recommendation of the E-Board to reverse itself on authorizing a statement of dues-paid status to the newsletter-mailing label. Discussion followed with general agreement. Vote was called; PWO.

LAC moved the adoption of a resolution to support the following bills acting on Election Reform (HB 1551; HB 1186; HB 1589; HB1360; SB 5278; SB 5226 and SB 5510). Discussion followed with general agreement. Vote called; PWO.

There was a Motion from the floor to express support, in the upcoming State Budget, to increase funding of the Housing Trust Fund. Discussion revealed that this would take place from an increase of fees currently collected at closure of the sale of single-family homes. There was general support and the vote was called; PWO.

There was a Motion from Jerry Beckendorf for a Resolution to Support Senate Joint Memorial 8003, calling on the POTUS to obtain approval from Congress before sending any additional troops to Iraq and that POTUS not spend any further taxpayer dollars on an escalation in Iraq unless approved by Congress. Discussion followed with general support. The vote was called; PWO.

Due to time constraints, the Alternative Energy; Pro/Con issue topic was rescheduled to the March meeting.

Joshua Welter from the Washington Community Action Network (www.washingoncan.org) presented a Resolution Supporting Secure Health Care Campaign. The resolution contained a five-step plan for secure access to quality, affordable health care for all Washington residents by 1) cover all children 2) support small business by providing premium assistance for low-income employee 3) give larger employers a choice of either providing good coverage or contributing to a state administered health care pool 4) restore funding for the Basic Health Program and 5) reform the private insurance industry to insure all residents have access to quality coverage at fair price. Discussion followed with enthusiastic support. It was moved and seconded to support the Resolution. Vote was called and PWO.

Good Of The Order There is a great need for new PCO's in the 25th precincts that are without. Get out and solicit volunteers! PCO Handbooks are available for any current PCO who may need one. Betty Ogden will be the resource for information on Campaign Reform and notes www.washclean.org as a good source of info. Ken Peach request any member who changes email provider to please notify him, the Secretary and the Membership chair so we can keep our contact list current. Betsy Stubbs called for support for South Hill Community Planning Council on March 14 at the fire station at 17210, 110th. Betsy also called on all to keep an eye on County Council members Shaw Bunny and Roger Bush and to take every opportunity to blunt their efforts for unrealistic growth and development on South Hill. Lauren Adler spoke on the Feb 6 School Bond vote, urging members to vote in favor of passage. Cliff Allo spoke of the need to let the County Council feel the full impact of the 25th LDD on growth and development issues. Ray Green drew attention to the pictures from the Kick-Off dinner laid out for viewing and that copies of some were available for taking.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.