

25th Legislative District Democrats
September 30th Minutes
by Secretary Melissa Thompson

We started at 7:01 p.m. The entire Executive Board was in attendance, but Michelle and Luanne were late. We adopted the Minutes and Treasurer Report.

Don Haire spoke about The Rural Separator zoning between the cities of Puyallup and Tacoma. The urban area has 5/8 units per acre and the rural area has 1 unit per 10 acres. The hybrid proposal will have 2 units per 5 acres. It will have a broader housing alternatives and it enriches the county. This will be presented to the Pierce County Council.

Ken Paulson spoke about the Reject 1 Amendment to the County Charter. This Amendment would extend county council seats and the County Executive from 2 terms of 4 years each to 3 terms of 4 years each. The also want the election on odd years.

Kelly Houghton spoke about the Reject 2 Amendment to the County Charter. He is with the Citizens against rigging the system. This Amendment would move the election of Auditor, Assessor-Treasurer, and Sheriff to odd numbered years by 2015.

Rich Anderson-Connolly spoke about No on 3 which would allow Ranked Choice Voting to stay in existence for County non-partisan offices. He states that our county is one of the trend setters for establishing a new system of voting and we are doing something new. We should keep Ranked Choice Voting because we've only had 1 opportunity and should fix the problems that we had and we would learn more about it when we use the system more. He thinks it is a better system with less money because there would not be a primary for these races. It would also provide more competitive races with more opportunities for other parties to participate.

Cathy Pearsall-Stipek spoke for Yes on 3. Ranked Choice Voting did not have the turnout that the Presidential ballot had. The Presidential ballot had about 1/3 more votes than the RCV ballot. The time and money spent on educating the voters about it was more than what we've originally had. If you think we should have a run-off for Democrats or Republicans than you don't like RCV and should vote Yes to get rid of it.

Dashel Schueler spoke for No on 1033 which is the Initiative Tim Eyman proposed which would arbitrarily put a cap on revenues on State spending. If they earn above that limit it goes to reducing house prices before anything else. It takes away local control and everybody county and city will have to be subject to this formula. It will make cuts to vital basic services and especially to already strapped school districts.

There was a motion to accept all the Resolutions that were presented: Recommend Approval of Referendum 71, Rejection of Initiative 1033, and the Rejection of Pierce County Proposition 1 that was seconded and passed.

Contact Luanne Green or Louis Tibbs if you are interested in the position of Assistant Treasurer.

Carolyn Merrival made a motion to support Tony Aho with \$100 for Puyallup City Council. It was passed with 3 abstentions.

Charley Stokes spoke for Kent Boyle who is running for Puyallup City Council District 3 Position 2.

Cathy Pearsall-Stipek spoke for a minute about her Port Commissioner race.

Ken Blair spoke and thanked us for our support for his re-election campaign for Bethel School Board and he also spoke about the 3500 sq. ft. Community Center that is being built across from Bethel Middle School and that he attended the contract negotiations for Bethel School District teachers.

We ended the meeting at 8:45 p.m.