

45th Legislative District Democrats
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2008

Attendees: Martin Chaney, Priscilla O'Leary, Duane Wentz, Ken Albinger, Ralph Gorin, Paul Yarbrough, Brad Larssen, Terry Linkletter, Bob Horn, Ken Nelson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Martin Chaney, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Martin reviewed proposed agenda items.

- Bob requested adding under new business getting guest speakers back on the agenda for general meetings.
- The agenda was adopted.

Previous Meeting Minutes

The July 2008 Executive Board meeting minutes were approved.

General Meeting Agenda Review

Martin reviewed the proposed agenda for the general meeting. Items of note and/or discussion, included:

- Time limits for agenda items were discussed to keep the meeting going. It was suggested that expected times be printed on the agenda.
- Timer cards should be used going forward to notify speakers of their time limits. It may be best to have the timer near the front of the room so that the signs are visible to the speakers and not blocked by others walking in the back.
- Ken Nelson volunteered to be the timer. Priscilla and Martin will provide signs.
- Primary Election results review will come from the Endorsement Committee. Brad and Duane will put this together.
- Superior Court Position 1 – Our endorsed candidate, Susan Amini, will not move forward to the General Election. It was agreed that we invite both the remaining candidates to come to the meeting and speak if they are interested in pursuing an endorsement from our district. Duane Wentz agreed to research any recommendation for this race from the Endorsement Committee.
- King County Charter Amendment – The Endorsement Committee will discuss if they will be prepared to present a position on this issue.

- Sound Transit 2 endorsement was postponed to the September General Meeting and will be on the agenda.
- The question was raised if an endorsement for the General Election for the Superintendent of Public Instruction position. Paul suggested have a prepared summary of the candidate positions for consideration by the members.
- Martin will let the candidates in the races being considered know in advance that these endorsement considerations will be on the agenda.
- Martin will update the agenda to reflect the races that we believe will be considered and publish it to the announcement list.
 - Sound Transit 2
 - King County Charter
 - King County Superior Court – Position 1
 - Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Bob proposed to Ken that the Elections Activities agenda item have a focus on specific activities. Bob would like to see a focus on getting young voters registered. Ken suggested moving the agenda item up on the agenda to give it more of a presence. It was agreed to move Elections Activities further up on the agenda.
- Concerns were raised that the Elected Officials section may take up more time in the beginning of each meeting than is needed and could impede getting to other business that needs to be discussed. It was suggested that we keep this section condense to be completed no later than 7:30. Time keeping efforts similar to candidates was suggested as a way to help control this time factor.
- Ken suggested starting the September and October meetings with a 5 minute segment for a rally for Obama using a video or PowerPoint. Paul will talk to Jeremy York to see if he can help put this together.
- The general meeting agenda was rearranged as follows:
 - Setup and Social Hour
 - Call to Order
 - Flag Salute
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Approval of previous meeting minutes
 - Obama Moment
 - Elected Officials / Visiting Candidates
 - Primary Election Results
 - Election activities
 - Presentations
 - Endorsements
 - Eastside Dinner
 - PCO Appointments
 - Short Topics / Open Forum
 - Committee & Officer & Representative Reports
 - Good of the Order
 - Adjournment

Election Activities

- Ken contacted Melissa to add PCO training sessions to the calendar on the website.
- He is encouraging all PCOs to call into their precincts during the convention cycle to take advantage of the momentum of the convention and get people involved.
- Targeted precincts and commercial areas have been identified for voter registration. Dates are yet to be set.
- PCO Support team met and created a strategy for activities during the remainder of the election cycle. Support for Christine Gregoire, Darcy Burner, and Roger Goodman are priorities. Where resources are available, a persuasion campaign is being encouraged. Campaigning for one or two people at the door is most effective. We are including a voter ID and assessment questions while at the door.

Proposal for Membership Requirements

- Bob sent an email message with suggested criteria:
 - Paid members are considered members
 - Others who want to be considered a member need to complete a membership fee waiver form for consideration
 - PCOs
 - Membership must be granted at least one meeting in advance of voting
- Terry asked how we should handle the Club 45 membership. Would we need to have an official record of all the household members?
- It was suggested that someone, or a committee be formed to, develop the proposed bylaws changes. The bylaws proposal could be voted on in the reorganization meeting or could be handled after the reorganization by the new organization.
- Ralph volunteered to review the draft from Bob and provide a proposed bylaw draft by the next Executive Board meeting. Martin suggested Michael Finkle might be a good candidate to work with bylaw revisions.

Eastside Dinner

- Martin would like assistance making phone calls to organizations to get additional table sponsorship.
- Ed Shultz will be speaking at the dinner.

Old Business

- Martin referenced an email from Terry Thorsos regarding purchasing Obama gear to send to a swing state. The board discussed the implications of taking this action.
- Terry Linkletter reviewed the donations made so far and provided a current Treasurer's report.

- The results of the primary races were reviewed and specific races identified as those that could benefit from further donations.
- Ralph made a motion to put forward a recommendation to the membership for specific donations to the Goodman, Gregoire, and Goldmark campaigns. The motion was seconded.
- After discussion, a friendly amendment was offered and accepted to include a donation to Jay Inslee if it is determined to be agreeable with the state party. If it is determined to not be advisable, the recommendation would return to the original candidate donations. This determination is to be made before the recommendation is presented to the membership.
- A question was raised regarding also contributing to the Washington Public Campaign. It was determined that the timing for this group is not critical for the general election and it was concluded that a donation could be made later from funds received as a result of the Eastside Dinner.

VOTE, passed 7 to 1

- Martin will add an agenda item noting that we will take up the topic of donations to candidates
- Ralph will present the recommendation to the membership at the meeting.

Other Committee, Officer, and Representative Reports

- None given due to time constraints.

Good of the Order

- None for this meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla O'Leary, Secretary
45th Legislative District Democrats