

45th Legislative District Democrats
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2007

Attendees: Martin Chaney, Priscilla O'Leary, Terry Thorsos, Brad Larssen, Melissa Waldie, Judith Shattuck, Andrew Villeneuve, Bob Horn, Amy Ockerlander, Diane Slota, Ralph Gorin, Mike Burner

Guest Attendee: Santiago Ramos of the 48th Legislative District, who distributed brochures for King County Young Democrats

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Martin Chaney, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Martin distributed copies of the proposed agenda. The agenda was reviewed and adopted.

Previous Meeting Minutes

The May 2007 meeting minutes were approved.

Guest Speakers

- There were no guest speakers this month.

General Meeting Agenda Review

Specific items discussed that relate to the General Meeting agenda:

- **Endorsements and Resolutions**
 - Thom McCann has requested to speak regarding his campaign for Port Commissioner. Andrew asked if he was aware that Gael Tarleton has already received endorsement from the members. Discussion was held about our policy on how speakers are added to the agenda.
 - Mark Fraley has asked to speak about referendum 67 which would repeal recent health care legislation if it makes it onto the ballot and passes. Andrew noted that the Endorsement Committee met last night and decided to wait on making a recommendation for this referendum until August. In the meantime, the Endorsement Committee will recommend members decline to sign the petition for this referendum if asked to do so.
 - Martin will add additional information to the agenda about the speakers' topics
 - Questions were raised about the Endorsement Committee's plans to announce recommendations for the King County Prosecutor race

and the park levies. Andrew indicated that the Endorsement Committee would be giving recommendations on both.

Parade Updates

- The question was asked if our legislators will be marching with us in the parades. Amy noted that Larry will be marching with the 45th in the Carnation and Redmond parades, but may not in the Kirkland parade. Martin will send a message to the legislators inviting them to walk with the district members.
- Discussion followed about the reasons legislators and candidates may choose to march separately in election years. Amy shared the belief that the candidates need to be separate in election years to ensure their message is clear.
- Amy recommended sending parade coordinators email requesting being close to front of parade because of need to get to other parades on same day.
- Martin will check with Norm regarding the location of our banner and will send a message to the Announce List encouraging people to participate in the parades.
- It was noted that we need someone to handle the sign-ins for the Kirkland parade.

Summer Picnic Update – Judith Shattuck

- Judith reported that two members have volunteered to help with the picnic.
- Preferences about food were discussed. It was decided that the picnic would be a potluck, with the district purchasing the meats/veggie burgers and drinks. Attendees would be asked to bring side dishes, salads, or desserts. It is believed that alcoholic beverages are not allowed in the park. Judith will verify this.
- Martin noted that Suzie Sheary was not aware that she had been invited. Judith indicated that she did send her an email, but she will send her another.
- Speakers – Darcy has agreed to speak. Martin will extend invitations to Eric Oemig, Roger Goodman, Larry Springer and Dwight Peltz.
- Judith will look into costs of music / entertainment.
- The topic of pricing and collection of the money was discussed. It was suggested that there be a sign in table where collection can take place. After further discussion, recommended prices are \$20 for an individual and \$35 for families. An additional suggestion made to increase revenues is to hold a raffle.
- Entertainment options for children were also discussed. Suggestions included bubble making and a “haystack dig” for coins.
- It was suggested that we send out an RSVP notice to the announce list to try and get tentative count. The use of Evite will also be explored.

Caucus Preparation Status – Terry Thorsos

- Terry reported that some good progress has been made, but she needed answers to some questions to be able to proceed:
 - Time: Caucuses start at 1:00 p.m. Terry recommends asking for the site beginning at 11:30 a.m. to allow time for set up. When should we expect them to be over? After discussion, it was decided that we target to end the caucuses by 3:30 and allow for clean up until 4:30. Site reservations will be 11:30 – 4:30.
 - Tables: Are tables needed or can we use chairs in circles for alternatives. Some expressed preference for chairs over tables. It was decided it is not necessary to have tables.
- Site evaluation forms were created and the team has visited all schools in district, as well as some additional sites.
- A question was raised if the Republicans are having their meetings on the same day. Because we are uncertain, Gary has already reserved two sites that he wanted to be sure we would have. He will be contacting Terry Linkletter for reimbursement for the deposits.
- Schools will be shutting down by Wednesday or Thursday of this week until around the middle of August. The team will be getting applications filed with as many schools as they can before they are closed.
- A database was produced containing a variety of 2004 data and voter data. The database is being used to project potential attendance which, in turn, is being used to identify the number of sites. We are trying to keep the numbers at each site to around 100 or less and are currently anticipating having 23 – 25 sites. Ralph noted that we need to be sure to not mix together precincts located in different Congressional Districts.
- Terry shared that some sites are requiring deposits, while others do not require deposits until the application is approved. Prices range by location and school district. There were questions regarding the anticipated total cost. Terry agreed to work on a summary.
- Bob asked about the number of people we still need to recruit to administer the sites. The preference is to have 3 people per location, meaning we would need 70 – 75 people in total. At a minimum, we need 2 people per location.

King County Council District 6 Race – Brad Larssen

- Brad shared information about his campaign, including areas where help is needed.
- Absentee ballots will drop August 1st. Literature drops need to be done by that time.
- A question was posed about which legislative districts have precincts that are included in the 6th Council District.
- A variety of questions were asked and answered about campaign plans and details. Brad also shared his experiences at the 41st and 48th district meetings.

- The www.bradlarssen.com website has been purchased and is currently under construction. The campaign email address has been assigned: bradlarssen@verizon.net
- Terry Thorsos made a motion to authorize the Endorsement Committee to print up our flyers showing Brad's endorsement. If the endorsement does not pass at the general meeting, we will pay for reprinting the flyers. The motion was seconded.
 - Bob Horn noted that he will provide a list of the precincts included in the 6th Council District so that a determination can be made about the size of the print order.

VOTE: Passed, unanimously

- Additional discussion included strategies for getting out the word about the campaign, including logistics around phone calls, literature and parades.
- Martin noted that someone from the 45th Legislative District should make a motion to suspend the rules and endorse Brad at the upcoming King County Democrats meeting. Judith agreed to make the motion.
- A motion was made for the Executive Board to give an immediate endorsement separate from the general membership of the Legislative District. The motion was seconded.

VOTE: Passed, unanimously

- Melissa noted that she will update the website with the appropriate information.

Values Statement Review and Update – Bob Horn

- The general consensus is that the values statement slim-jims have been of great value and need to be continued. Bob has been working to make the messaging a little stronger and clearer.
- Due to time constraints but in recognition of the quick turnaround time needed, it was decided that in lieu of going through the changes point by point, each member of the Executive Board would email their comments by end of day on Wednesday. Once the copy is finalized, Judith volunteered to get it to the printers.

Election Activities – Bob Horn

- The PCO Support Committee has been looking at the resources available, the tasks that need to be accomplished, and what the priorities will be. This includes the ability for PCOs to communicate to their precincts and others and the need for an election cycle strategy. It was noted that each year is slightly different.
- Bob indicated that their intent is to focus on one thing and do it really well this year. The focus will be on getting in touch with all of the people who previously attended caucuses.
- New PCOs are expressing a desire for additional guidance on what to do and when.

Policy on Access – Announce List and Website Forum

- A short, general discussion took place around these topics. It was suggested that further advice might be warranted before any decisions were made. Additional follow up will be needed on this topic.

Old Business

No topics discussed due to time constraints.

New Business

No topics discussed due to time constraints.

Good of the Order

No topics discussed due to time constraints.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. to allow time to reset the room per the library's requirements.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla O'Leary, Secretary
45th Legislative District Democrats