

45th Legislative District Democrats
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2007

Attendees: Martin Chaney, Priscilla O'Leary, Bob Horn, Brad Larssen, Duane Wentz, Lynn Norwood, Ken Jauch, Judith Shattuck, Paul Yarbrough, Dwight Baker, Terry Linkletter, Melissa Waldie, Diane Slota

Guest:

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Martin Chaney, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Martin distributed copies of the proposed agenda. The changes were proposed:

- Judith Shattuck would like to discuss a county resolution regarding rental properties that are being converted to condos. She has invited the author of the resolution to our general meeting to brief the members on the resolution.
- Martin would like to add time to discuss some questions that have come up from the LAC.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda with the requested changes.

VOTE: PASSED, unanimously

Previous Meeting Minutes

The September 2007 Executive Board meeting minutes were approved.

General Meeting Agenda Review

Specific items discussed that relate to the General Meeting agenda include:

- **Guest Speaker**
 - This month we will have an educational forum on Maury Island. Martin has arranged for Sharon Nelson to speak. Sharon is an aide to Dow Constantine and a candidate for State Representative in the 34th LD. Larry Springer asked Melissa for opportunity to address the group and make his on Maury Island position clear. Larry and Sharon will each have 5 minutes to speak, followed by time for Q&A.
- **Candidates & officials speaker**
 - Martin has noted that Darcy Burner has requested time to provide an update to the members.
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- **Election Report**
 - Given that the meeting will be the day after the election, Martin asked Brad to report on how our endorsed candidates fared, as well as the disposition of key initiatives.

- **Resolutions**
 - Melissa Waldie and Kathleen Reynolds are putting together a resolution in support of protecting Maury Island. Melissa will send a notice that the resolution will be considered to the announce list by the Wednesday before the meeting.
 - Judith noted that she wanted to put forth the county resolution of rental property conversions. After further discussion, to be sensitive to meeting times Judith agreed to hold this resolution until the December meeting.
 - There was discussion around whether resolutions require a simple majority or a 2/3 majority for passage. Martin will verify this answer.
 - It was determined that the resolution about Maury Island would be added to the agenda immediately following the speakers to enable continuity of discussion.

- The agenda for the November General Meeting was approved with the changes made during the above discussions.

Caucus Preparation Status – Terry Thorsos

Terry Thorsos gave an update on caucus preparations:

- Terry has applications that require Martin's signature and they will get together after the meeting to get these completed.
- Terry reviewed the caucus site list. After mapping out the proposed sites on a district map, a few changes were identified that should be made for better geographical alignment. Terry will revise the list with these changes.
- Terry reviewed the costs associated with some of the proposed sites. She has confirmation that the Sheet Metal Workers site will be free. The Snoqualmie Valley sites have changed as it was determined that we fall into a category that doesn't have to pay fees except for custodial services. North Shore sites continue to be the most expensive at around \$350 each.
- There are a total of 18 caucuses at 17 sites, with two caucuses being held at Juanita High School. With the geographical revisions we may be able to eliminate 1 or 2 of the North Shore schools.
- Martin asked about the total approximate cost. Terry is estimating around \$3,600 including supplies.
- A motion was made for the team to proceed with making the revisions and submitting the list to the state organization by the November 1st deadline.

VOTE: Passed, unanimously

- Terry asked if everyone felt 11:30 a.m. was an early enough start time given all that needs/should be done in advance of attendees arriving. Further discussion followed and it was moved and seconded that the start time be 11:00 a.m. rather than 11:30 a.m.

VOTE: Passed, unanimously

- Bob Horn noted that once the list is finalized, the PCOs will call 2004 caucus attendees to find any additional leaders and volunteers needed.
- Martin shared his perspective on staffing needs for the caucuses:
 - A specific leader for each caucus site who will be the Area Caucus Leader
 - 2 or 3 people designated as the Area Caucus Team
 - Precinct Caucus Leaders – Each precinct will need to have a designated leader. Those precincts with elected or appointed PCOs should be lead by their PCO. Acting PCOs can not be leaders, as they will need to attend their own precinct caucus to vote. Where possible, we should identify leaders we recommend as the Precinct Caucus Leaders when a precinct does not have a PCO.
- Instead of having training in November and/or December, it has been decided we will have weekly training sessions in different parts of the district on different days of the week throughout January. There will be specific training for both Area Caucus Leaders and precinct help.
- Terry briefly shared information from the flyer about the State Party Challenge. There is work to be done to determine how we will motivate, organize, and follow up on the challenge. Martin noted that we need to have planning meetings on exactly how the caucuses and challenge meeting will be structured.

Membership / Volunteer Recruitment Letters – Priscilla O’Leary

- Martin shared that the responses from the latest meeting are starting to come in. There have been a modest number of returned letters and a fair stack of forwarded addresses.
- From the latest meeting we’ve received 3 new memberships (2 club 45 membership and 1 individual membership). So far, we are breaking even with costs incurred.
- Priscilla shared that it might not be beneficial to do additional mailings in November, given the upcoming holidays. She proposed that we move toward a larger January mailing and update the letter to have more focus around the caucuses. We can take time over the next few weeks to prepare everything for January. It was agreed to follow this course of action. Priscilla will work on drafting the changes to the letter.

2007 Campaign Activities

- Martin noted that there are a lot of campaign activities underway right now. He asked if everyone thought that sending information on activities to the announce email list was the right level of support or if we felt more should be done. Paul Yarbrough shared that people do what they can and sending the information through the announce list is good. Lynn Norwood noted that she also pulls information from the announcements to emphasize it further in the newsletter.
- Martin would like to be able to tell candidates what the 45th can deliver for them but this issue is getting reporting on what is being done and by whom. There is not an easy solution to this issue.
- Judith also shared that she found the email from Bill Sherman's campaign about taking your address book and writing a personal note to people with a forward of his message was very effective. She did this and received many positive responses.

Holiday Party

- Everyone agreed it would be good to have a district holiday party again this year. Paul Yarbrough suggested we not have it in December as it is difficult to schedule it with so many other holiday events going on at the same time. Attendance was better when we had it in January last year.
- Martin asked who would be the party organizer. Several names were suggested as possible candidates, including: Kathleen Reynolds, Mike Burner, Sue Keller, Shelly Kloba, and Liv Grohn. It was suggested that during the next general meeting we ask for volunteers to be part of a committee to organize this event. A sign in sheet can be passed around and a Committee Chair can be appointed. The committee will determine the possible venues, dates, etc.

2008 Meeting Dates

- Martin is in the process of setting up the new contract for our general meetings and requested we review the 2008 calendar for possible conflicts with the regular pattern of dates. Given the proximity to the New Year's holiday, it was felt it would be better to hold the January meeting on the 9th rather than the 2nd. It was also agreed we should move the June meeting to the 11th instead of the 4th to allow time for candidate filings as was done this year. This also helps eliminate the need for the executive board meeting to be on Memorial Day.
- Judith asked why we have meetings so early in month since most of the other LDs are later in the month. Her concern is that we can be further behind when issues come up at a county meeting and our meeting has already taken place that month. Brad noted that it is helpful to the candidates when all the LDs meetings are not on the same dates because they need to attend multiple meetings and this helps them schedule better.

Other Committee, Officers, and Representatives Reports

- None were given due to time constraints

Old Business

- None at this meeting.

New Business

- LAC:
 - Martin proposed that we have an LAC action plan by January. Melissa indicated she would like to complete the poll of the members first, as was done last year, and then track and report the results. The information gathered drives the action plan. Martin noted that once the plan is formed he would like to have it submitted to the membership at a general meeting for adoption / revision. Melissa agreed and will pursue course of action that when the information is ready.
- Personal Endorsements:
 - Martin asked if giving a personal endorsement with the chair title gives a false impression. Brad shared that he was told when getting endorsed by a district you can list both the district and the chair. He suggested checking with the party for further clarification. Judith suggested that if a personal endorsement is made that isn't also an endorsement from the LD, that it could be made without use of a title.

Good of the Order

- None for this meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. to allow time to reset the room per the library's requirements.

Respectfully Submitted,

Priscilla O'Leary, Secretary
45th Legislative District Democrats