

45th Legislative District Democrats
General Meeting
April 1, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Priscilla O’Leary at 7:02. Priscilla noted that Martin Chaney was not able to attend the meeting due to family matters. Priscilla served as Chair.

Flag Salute

Ken Nelson led the Flag Salute.

Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded to adopt the agenda. Motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded to adopt the previous meeting minutes. Motion was passed.

Introduction of Visiting Elected Officials and Candidates

Suzane DelBene – 8th CD Candidate

Priscilla introduced Suzane. Suzane addressed the general assembly. Suzane has lived in the area for 23 yrs and currently lives in Medina. She previously worked at Microsoft and has created start-up businesses and non-profit organizations. Her campaign is off to a great start. Suzane thanked the general members for allowing her to speak.

Kirkland Annexation – Jessica Greenway – Ken Albinger

Ken spoke from a citizen’s point of view. Kirkland is purposing the annexation of the Kingsgate, Finn Hill, and North Juanita neighborhoods. He wanted to raise the awareness of how quickly the annexation process is coming up. Ken introduced Councilwoman Jessica Greenway.

Jessica told the members that the Kirkland residents have one more opportunity to be heard by the Kirkland City Council at the April 7th Kirkland City Council Meeting at 7:30pm. Jessica shared that Kirkland would have a large gap in the budget if annexation is approved. She asked all the members to advocate for themselves about the annexation. Kirkland residents do not get the opportunity to vote for annexation like the people in the annexation area do. There is a study session at Kirkland City Hall on Monday, the 6th at 7pm. It was added that the annexation area would almost double the land area and population of the city currently.

Question: In The previous consideration, the timeline was 10 years out. How has the timeframe changed?

Answer: There are timelines for getting the state funding for annexation. A vote of the annexation area must be initiated by this fall to obtain state funding.

Question: If the annexation does not happen, for Kirkland, what other things could happen?

Answer: if Kirkland does not move forward there are two options:

1. Bothell could try and acquire the area, or
2. The three areas could decide to incorporate as one small city.

Question: Can you email or write a comment for the Council Meeting?

Answer: Yes, but it would make more persuasive to be there in person.

Legislative Action Update – Kathleen Reynolds

Kathleen talked about the priorities of the district. The domestic partnership and the homeowner's bill of rights should pass. The House and the Senate have different ideas of education reform, this is a bill that will be closely watched in the coming weeks.

Labor Report – Brad Larssen

The underground economy bill looks like it is making progress. SB5963, the unemployment bill, has been changed positively and is now supported by labor. The worker privacy act has come under a lot of scrutiny. The bill was not able to get a vote before the deadline. Brad asked people to email their legislators and try to force this bill to the vote.

PCO Appointments

No new PCOs were appointed.

Woodinville All Fools Day Report – Wayne Farrer

Many members attended the Woodinville All Fools Day Parade. Wayne talked about the good turnout at the parade. Volunteers handed out League of Women's Voters handouts. By the end of the parade, many of the people were wet and soggy.

King County Executive Candidates

Councilman Larry Phillips –

Larry addressed the general assembly. Larry grew up in Seattle-Metro area. He served for three years in the state legislature beginning in 1989. He was elected to the King County Council after he left the state legislature. Larry said he wants to use his experiences to better King County. He is committed to tackling tough issues. Larry took questions and thanked the general members.

Dow Constantine –

Dow addressed the general assembly. Dow currently chairs the King County Council. He was also in the state senate and state legislature. Dow has lived in the Seattle-Metro area his entire life. Dow took questions from the general members. Dow thanked the general members.

KCDCC Executive Board Report

Ken Nelson updated the general members about the KCDCC. Many new candidates are getting involved in local elections. The KCDCC also passed a resolution to suspend boarder patrol activity in inland areas.

Featured Volunteer Opportunities

Priscilla introduced Melissa Waldie to speak about the Communications Committee. Melissa asked people to volunteer for a group to brainstorm for the direction of the Communication Committee and how to integrate all of the communication outlets into one efficient outlet.

Resolutions

SCHIP – Chelsea Waliser, America’s Agenda: Healthcare for Kids
SCHIP was extended by Congress. Chelsea would like to have the LD pass the resolution. A motion to pass the SCHIP resolution for the 45th LD Democratic Party to thank the 45th’s Senators and Congressman who voted for SCHIP, was moved and seconded. Discussion was heard. The motion was passed unanimously.

VoteBuilder Resources – Priscilla O’Leary
Priscilla asked the LD to pass a resolution to ask the DNC to invest more resources into the VoteBuilder Project. It was moved and seconded to pass the resolution. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair’s Report

King Conservation District Election

We need to be more involved in this election in the coming years.

Resolutions Committee

A Resolutions Committee was created and Judith Shattuck was appointed as Chair.

Other Committee, Officer and Representative Reports

Short Topics/Open Forum

Judith held a raffle to help raise money for Ian Jacobson to go to Washington D.C. Nearly \$100 was raised.

Good of the Order

On May 5th, Andrew Villeneuve will be moderating a King County Democrats forum for the Democratic candidates for King County Executive at Renton Carpenter’s Hall.

There will be a mother’s march for children’s healthcare through Healthcare for America Now in Seattle at 4th and Pine St. on May 30th from 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

The Snoqualmie School District bond passed.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.