

**45th Legislative District Democrats
General Meeting
September 7, 2011**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Martin Chaney at 7:00 pm.

Flag Salute

Dwight Baker led the Flag Salute.

Adoption of the Agenda and Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

The membership voted to adopt the agenda as written.

The membership voted to approve the August 2011 General Meeting Minutes.

Introduction of Visiting Elected Officials, Candidates and Campaign Representatives

Sue Stewart – Candidate for Redmond City Council

Sue updated us on her campaign. Her campaign slogan is “I’m not new to government”. She reported she is getting favorable responses at the door and invited members to consider asking their friends to support her.

Justin McMahon – Yes on I-502, Legalizing Marijuana

Justin told the members that Initiative 502 would legalize marijuana for adults and that taxing marijuana would generate revenue for the state. Questions and discussion followed. Justin believes this plan is more comprehensive than earlier attempts of marijuana legalization.

Andrew Villeneuve – No on I-1125

Andrew reminded the membership that I-1125 is an Eyman sponsored initiative that restricts tolls from funding projects such as the replacement 520 bridge. It will also ban variable tolling and prevent light rail construction into Bellevue. Questions were taken.

Tom Vance – Candidate for Sammamish City Council

Tom noted that there are seven 45th LD precincts in Sammamish. He introduced himself as the former chair of the 5th District Democrats and noted that he has served on the Sammamish Planning Commission. He invited members to consider supporting him and letting their friends know of his campaign.

Larry Springer – State Representative 45th LD

Larry updated the members on the current budget situation in Olympia. He noted that once again the budget is going to need adjustment. The impacts of continuing to cut the budget will be devastating to the state and the challenges of addressing the issue by increasing revenue are complex. Questions were taken. Larry stated that quantifying the loss is needed so that people can understand the consequences of continuing on the current path. He discussed the need to expand awareness of the common good. The constitutional amendment SJR 8206 was also discussed.

Richard Cole – Redmond City Councilmember

Richard introduced **Ralph Kliem** and noted that Ralph was considering joining our membership.

Dean Willard – Candidate Port Commissioner

Dean brought yard signs for members to distribute and noted that he also has bumper stickers and promotion cards. His campaign kickoff event is September 8th. He invited his supporters to join him there. Dean reviewed his reasons for running and the concerns he has about his opponent. He particularly noted the need to responsibly address the pollution of the Duwamish River and other water quality issues affecting Puget Sound. He stated that it is critical for the Port to employ workers responsibly.

New Guest Introductions

Barb Olson, a friend of the Chaney's that is active in the peace community, was introduced to the membership.

Michael Lofstedt introduced **Eric Laliberte** who has signed up as a new member – welcome!

Endorsement Recommendations – Endorsement Committee

Andrew Villeneuve gave an update on the current election. He further discussed SJR 8206 as an issue that is still being carefully considered by the endorsement committee. He noted that Scott Hageman sent in a candidate questionnaire. The endorsement committee recommends the endorsement of Scott Hageman and Sue Stewart.

The membership moved and voted to endorse the following candidates:

Sue Stewart – Redmond City Council: carried, one opposed

Scott Hageman – Woodinville City Council: carried, by unanimous vote

Legislative Action Committee

No report was given.

Labor Report

Martin noted that he had talked with Brad and that the month was relatively uneventful.

KCDCC Executive Board Report

Martin noted that 45th member Megan Gustafson has successfully worked to improve the financial outlook of the KCDCC.

PCO Recruitment Efforts – Michael Lofstedt

Michael reported on County and 45th LDs plans to recruit more PCOs. Phone banking to build our organization will be taking place on September 18th.

45th Doorbelling plans for November election – Michael Lofstedt

Michael reminded members to be ready to get the endorsement flyers out when the ballots drop. He asked members to plan to spend time doorbelling on the weekend of October 21, 22, and 23. Megan noted that doorbelling for Jessica will occur on Saturday and Sunday October 1 and 2nd in a Democrats for Jessica event. Kirkland4Jessica.

Treasurer's Report – Ian Jacobson

Martin noted that he had talked with Ian and the bank balance is stable.

WSDCC Report – Ralph Gorin, Judith Shattuck

Ralph noted that there are two major issues before the WSDCC:

- The 2012 caucuses – which are complicated by redistricting. Ralph reported on the plans for caucuses proposed by State Chair Dwight Pelz.
- PCO elections – these elections are an expense for the state. A backup plan, if they are eliminated, could be to have the membership present vote on PCOs.

Judith asked for input from the membership on the proposal offered by Dwight regarding PCO elections. Additional discussion and questions followed.

Outreach Report – Jeanne Large

Jeanne briefly discussed the summarized results of the outreach survey. She pointed out the printouts she made for promoting 45th LD outreach efforts. She also distributed a plan for outreach that includes specific ways of reaching out to our community.

The report from the Outreach Committee was adopted by the membership as the 45th LD outreach plan.

Parades and other Summer Events

August 28th – 45th LD Picnic – Martin Chaney

Martin reported that the picnic was a success and that everyone had a lot of fun. Elected officials and candidates that attended included Larry Springer, Roger Goodman, Laura Ruderman, Jessica Greenway, Dave Asher, and Dean Willard.

September 25th – Eastside Dinner – Judith Shattuck, Andrew Villeneuve

Martin reported that plans for the dinner are progressing and that members need to consider attending. **Andrew** noted that this event is what provides the majority of the 45th LD funding. He encouraged members. Go to the website www.eastsidedemocrats.org for links to buying tickets. Martin noted that members have been purchasing extra tickets to distribute to those for which the event is a financial hardship. Contact Martin for more information or to volunteer.

Resolutions – Judith Shattuck

Martin discussed resolutions and noted the significant amount of work involved once a resolution is passed. He suggested that members identify a sponsor before a resolution is passed. Resolution sponsors should be willing to track the resolution and to attend other meetings where resolutions are considered. Sponsors also will adjust resolution wording as needed to make the resolutions 45th LD specific. **Judith** noted she will work with sponsors to help them with what is needed.

The membership considered and voted (when sponsored) on the following resolutions:

Resolution on State Investment Trust:

Sponsor – Judith Shattuck; motion to proceed passed unanimously

Resolution on Reinstating the Banking Act of 1933:

Sponsor – Tara Wilkins; motion to proceed carried unanimously

Resolution on Retirement Security: no sponsor

Resolution on Tax Expenditures: no sponsor

Justin McMahon asked for further consideration of a “do-sign” resolution regarding I-502 in time for presentation at the state central committee. **State Committeewoman Judith Shattuck** asked for a straw vote on this initiative to the legislature. The membership voted 8 for, 0 opposed, with several abstentions. The membership voted 8-3 to uphold the ruling of the chair to not consider initiatives by way of resolutions.

Short Topic/Open Forum

Judith announced an interfaith service marking the 10th anniversary of September 11 at the Kirkland Performance Center and recognition of the International Day of Peace, September 21 at Eastshore Unitarian Church.

Submitted by Rebecca Chaney
Submitted 9/13/2011
Approved 10/05/2011

Jody announced the State Health Insurance Stakeholder's meeting on Tuesday Sep 13th at Seattle City Hall, 1:30-4:30 PM.

Chair's Report – Martin Chaney

Martin deferred the Chair's report.

Adjournment and Cleanup

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm

Websites:

45th Legislative District Democrats: <http://45thdemocrats.org/>

King County Democrats: <http://www.kcdems.org/>

Washington State Democrats; <http://www.wa-democrats.org/>

Representative Roger Goodman: <http://www.housedemocrats.wa.gov/roster/rep-roger-goodman/>

Representative Larry Springer: <http://www.housedemocrats.wa.gov/roster/rep-larry-springer/>

Candidates:

Roger Goodman: <http://goodmanforcongress.com/>

Jessica Greenway: www.kirklandforgreenway.com

Laura Ruderman: <http://www.lauraruderman.org/>

Tom Vance: <http://www.tomvanceforcouncil.com/>

Dean Willard: <http://deanwillard.com/>