21st LD Democrats

Business Meeting

April 20, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

A quorum was established.

The agenda was approved.

The March business meeting minutes were approved.

Wilson appointed Joel Ware as temporary Sgt. at Arms.

**Guests Speakers and Elected Officials**

Brady Walkinsaw spoke to the group about his life history here in Washington state and humanitarian work he has done overseas. He is a member state house, representing the 43rd LD. He spoke of his success at getting mental health legislation. He spoke of his desire to address the needs of families, justice and providing economic opportunities for all members of society. He believes his success has been based on his ability to build bridges to get things done. He supports a wide range of changes to current drug policy. He believes Bush should be tried for war crimes. He supports the growing of hemp for industrial uses. He believes there should be a limited increase in marijuana grow operations. He is running for the 7th CD seat and is seeking our endorsement.

Senator Pamela Jayapal, State Senator for the 37th LD. She is running for the 7th CD seat. He spoke of her record and passion for human and civil rights and her record of success in advocating for women and people of color. She has succeeded in using economic improvement programs to bring higher education to Rainier Valley. She spoke of her experience in working with Congress and her ability to work with all members of Congress. She spoke of her strong labor support and her extensive list of Democratic leaders who have endorsed her. If elected her first goal to pass immigration reform. If serving as a superdelegate, she would vote according to the wishes of the electorate. She supports reforms of the current drug policy and would strive to increase funding to drug and alcohol treatment programs. She supports collective bargaining rights and opposes right to work legislation. She is asking for our endorsement.

State Representative for the 21st, Lilian Ortiz-Self, gave a state representative update. She is Vice Chair of the Education Committee. She stood firm against legislation that would undermine teachers and labor. She succeeded in passing legislation that would reduce unwarranted expulsions of young students. She gave an update on the funding requirements of the McCleary decision. She noted the Republicans in the Senate fought full funding for education, but finally agree to fully fund education next year. She will be seeking our endorsement for another term.

State Representative for the 21st, Strom Peterson, also gave an update on the last session. He is Chair of the Environment committee. He spoke of legislation to limit abuses of prescription drugs and treatment for heroin addicts. He recounted a personal story of a colleague who lost a family member to an overdose. He spoke of his commitment to collective bargaining and civil rights. He spoke of his opposition to the mailer about the construction of the local mosque. He encouraged our members to contact him if he sees people who need help. He spoke of his attempt to amend charter school legislation. He expects the courts will overturn it. He is running for reelection and will be seeking our endorsement.

Steve Schmalz and Michele Meaker-Pin gave a report on the precinct caucus and LD caucus. We had approximately 4200 attendees. The caucus was a great success. He plans to give the state party feedback on how to make things run better in the future. He noted we did our own audit, which he feels made our LD caucus go smoothly. Michele spoke of the challenge of making the caucus work in the face of the large turnout. She spoke of the value in a rule change that allows more alternates to be available to serve as delegates.

Michele gave an update on the need for volunteers. She showed a flyer we put together with upcoming events and the benefits of becoming a member or PCO. Member dues are one way to raises funds, events also raise funds. The first event if May 16th at Mukilteo Lighthouse Park.

Budget discussion tabled until the May meeting.

Wilson spoke of the process for endorsing candidates. He said dual endorsements are allowed. He said the E. Board has voted to recommend endorsement of Brady Walkinsaw. A motion was made and seconded to table the endorsement until all the candidates have had a chance to be interviewed. The motion passed. Strom pointed out that the candidates have had an opportunity and only two have shown an interest. A motion was made and seconded to not endorse any candidate who will not commit to vote with the majority as a superdelegate. Mary Ellen Roberts spoke against the motion based on her experience as a member of the state legislature. The motion failed.

A motion was made to rescind Rick Larson's endorsement. Wilson ruled that the motion was out of order. A motion was made and seconded to overrule the chair.

Motion to extend the meeting 30 minutes was moved, seconded and passed.

Motion to extend the meeting to 9:15 pm was made, seconded and passed.

Wilson asked for volunteers to mentor new PCOs. Michele would like to emulate what the 32nd does for new PCOs. Wilson explained the rules for new PCOs voting at meetings. PCO training will be scheduled soon. Please sign up now.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to table the resolutions until next month.

Bylaws update by given by Mike Thompson.

Michele gave update on the state convention coming up.

Good of the order

Dave Chan said we should welcome all candidates.

Mary Ellen Roberts said she does not agree with the interpretations of Roberts Rules of Order.

Meet adjourned at 9:15 pm