

26th Legislative District Democrats General Meeting Agenda

Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Rd., Port Orchard, Washington
April 6, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

1. Pledge of allegiance

We opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m. with March Democrat of the Month Randy Spitzer leading the pledge of allegiance to our flag and republic.

2. Recognition of elected officials

In attendance were the following elected officials (other than PCOs):

Ed Robison, PE, Key Peninsula Metropolitan Parks District Vice President
John Kelly, Key Peninsula Metropolitan Parks District Board
Dave Peterson, Kitsap County Clerk
Gary Simpson, Kitsap County Sheriff
Greg Wheeler, Bremerton City Council

3. Recognition of new members and guests

In attendance were the following new attendees: Andrea Olson, Erin Olson, Phoebe Richards, Olalla, Connie Copeland Lakebay, Judy Riggs Lakebay, and Stacie Smith from Port Orchard. Chair Kelly introduced the LD26 Executive Board.

4. Member of the Month

Chair Kelly awarded the Democrat of the Month award to LD26 Secretary Dan Ransom, PE. Dan stated that he was humbled and honored, and that he is happy to serve

5. Guest speakers

Deborah McDaniel declared that she is running for Bremerton City Council, District 3 (NP). Active since 1999, she stated that she has the support of Leslie Daugs and Greg Wheeler. She asked those in attendance for their support in the 2017 Bremerton City Council election. In addition, she reminded us to stay engaged for the 2018 elections.

Greg Wheeler spoke about his run for the Bremerton Mayor position. He remarked that his campaign is people powered and that he and his team are going to be on the doorsteps- 10,000 doorsteps by August 1. Greg said that Bremerton cannot wait—the city needs a plan for the future, innovative solutions to 21st-century problems. Greg stated that he will work every day for the benefit of the community. Greg is running against an incumbent who was endorsed by Representative Derek Kilmer.

Guest Speaker – Samantha Grad, Political Organizer for UFCW 21

Ms. Grad reported on the need for a fair contract for the workers at the Harrison Hospital. The aim of the UFCW 21 local union is for patient-focused staffing, with proper rest breaks for the staff. Overtime is mandated at 2-3 hours per shift, sometimes 5 hours. Harrison health-care workers cannot take meal and rest breaks. The situation has gotten progressively worse. Management has not come to the table, and the contract has expired. Samantha stated that the nurses and other workers in the union need community support. She asked that we share

stories of good care as well as any problems in billing. Go online and sign-on to the survey: <https://www.ufcw21.org/your-voice-health-care-survey> . In addition, view news on the Vital-care Checklist (<https://www.ufcw21.org/news>). On a similar topic she mentioned a forum on June 3 about health care in Kitsap County. She gave he

6. Approval of Agenda
7. Minutes of previous meeting, Secretary Dan Ransom, PE
8. Executive Board reports
 - a. Chair, John Kelly

Keep up the resistance. Keep checking the calendar. Let's keep it up!

- b. Vice-Chair Kitsap, Johanna Baxter
- c. Vice-Chair Pierce, RoxAnne Simon
- d. State Committeewoman, Joy Vartanian – excused absence
- e. State Committeeman, Drew Williams
- f. Membership Chair, Don Bartley

Membership is now at 101 persons.

- g. Interim Treasurer, Kathleen Tei

\$1191.32 in checking and saving.

- h. Web Administrator, Johanna Baxter

9. Committee meetings/reports

- a. Bylaws, George Robison, Chair
- b. Budget, Wes Morgan, Chair
- c. Candidate Recruit. and Develop., Larry Seaquist, Chair, Rick Offner, Sub-Chair

Rick Offner, co-chair of the committee, reported that we are now into our third month.

Members of the committee are Luellen Lucid, Julie Offner, Payton Swinford, Ross Partin, and Jo Rodman. The next training is on Saturday April 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rick offered that the committee is getting a lot of education to potential candidates, and these people have expressed interest in running, particularly in 2018 when we have 3 important races. Topics of the Saturday session include how to talk about taxes. There will be role playing for getting people ready to canvas door-to-door.

- d. Community Involvement, Joy Vartanian, Chair
- e. Event Planning & Fundraising, RoxAnne Simon, Chair

RoxAnne stated that they are having a meeting soon to discuss the upcoming summer events.

- f. New-Member Recruitment, Curt and Patricia Scott, Co-Chairs

We need someone to fill in for next month for greeting new people at our May 4 meeting. Don B. will have the forms and can help.

- g. Veterans' Activities, Don Bartley, Chair
- h. Webmaster and Publicity, Johanna Baxter, Chair
- i. Legislative Action, Alec Matias, Chair

10. Old business

a. Changes to bylaws, George Robison

George will be conducting a meeting Saturday April 22 to develop a consensus. He will generate a report, which we will post on the website. We will review the changes in May, then vote in June

b. Election of Treasurer

Kathleen Tei was nominated. There were no other nominations, so Don Bartley moved and seconded to elect Kathleen by acclimation.

c. 26th LD office

Rick Offner reported that there is nothing new to report. Chair Kelly expressed some interest in an office in Port Orchard (real-estate is less expensive).

d. Sandwich-board sign

We have two new sandwich boards. Barb Trotter has contacts that got us two very nice marine-wood sandwich board for advertising our meeting location, and for other projects

e. High School Democrats Club—Bob Anderson

11. New business

a. Low-cost fundraisers and PDC compliance

George Robison presented the new language: “The inability to pay the admission price or the price of the dinner will not be used to deny attendance or dinner.” . George Robison: the reason for the disclaimer is that we accept all people at our meetings. However, we must have a set price, above which is a contribution. The maximum donation is \$50.

b. Town-hall meetings

There was a town-hall meeting recently with State Rep. Jesse Young. Jesse Young started the meeting with an invocation in the Port Orchard City Hall Meeting Room. This was divisive and is questionable practice under the law.

We are going to keep the pressure on with State Rep. Michelle Caldier and State Senator Jan Angel for a town-hall meeting. Drew Williams reported that he is going to ally with Indivisible in Gig Harbor to keep up the pressure for town-hall meetings.

Susan DeAngelo reported that some League of Women Voters members went to Olympia to ask for a town hall. This is crunch time at the legislature, so legislators are busy. Jan Angel would not come out. Michelle Caldier did make time to respond and said that she had been out in the public in her district, so she did not need to hold a town-hall meeting.

c. PCO training

Don Bartley will be scheduling PCO training soon.

d. Food signup

Joanne Hudiburg reported that we had a mix-up with the pizza last time. Salad dinners are healthier and really good. She invited all to grab a plate and make a donation to defer the cost of the food. Barb Trotter and RoxAnne purchased and donated the coffee maker (and the coffee was good!). We need someone to be in charge of the coffee.

12. Announcements

- a. Pierce County Democrats, April 13, 7:00 p.m., IBEW Local 76, 3049 South 36th, Tacoma
- b. Tax March! April 15, 10:00 a.m., State Capitol, Olympia and Federal Building, Seattle; http://26d.org/wp/archives/event/tax-march?instance_id=6009

President Trump has not released his taxes. He claimed that no one wants to see his tax returns. The protest shows that people are interested

- c. Key Peninsula Democrats Social, April 17 at 7:00 p.m., Key Peninsula Fire Station, 8911 Key Peninsula Hwy N, Lakebay; http://26d.org/wp/archives/event/key-peninsula-democrats?instance_id=3940
- d. Kitsap County Democrats, April 17, 6:30 p.m., Eagles Nest, 1195 Fairgrounds Rd NW, Bremerton; http://26d.org/wp/archives/event/kitsap-democrats-meeting?instance_id=1104
- e. Executive Board meeting, April 20 at 7:00 p.m., Wright Bliss Fire Station, 12310 Wright Bliss Rd KPN, Gig Harbor
- f. March for Science, April 22, 10:00 a.m., Cal Anderson Park, Capitol Hill, Seattle

Jackie Williams reported that Bill Nye the Science Guy has a website:

<http://www.planetary.org/blogs/bill-nye/20170330-bill-nye-marching-for-science.html> ; official website: <https://www.marchforscience.com/>

- g. Gig Harbor Democrats Social, April 25, 6:00 p.m., Round Table Pizza, 5500 Olympic Drive, #H101, Gig Harbor; How to Protect Social Security; http://26d.org/wp/archives/event/gig-harbor-democrats?instance_id=1227

13. Book auction, RoxAnne Simon

There were good books in the back that Chair John has not had time to read. If he has time to read then Sabrina (John's wife) says that he has time to vacuum. Winners were Randy Spitzer, Randy Spitzer, Ed Robinson, Gene David Hart, and Drew Williams.

14. Good of the order

Drew Williams reported on the March 31st Silent Protest along Point Fosdick Road against a Tea Party speaker, the anti-Muslim Heidi Mund. 150 people turned out to demonstrate solidarity with local Arabs and Muslims. In the end, she and the Tea Party never showed up, disappointing the 6 or so Tea Party cars that arrived to support her.

Pat Lowinger announced that Drinking Liberally has a Gig Harbor meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sundays 4 p.m. at the Tides Tavern.

Rod Bergsma reported that the West Sound Social Justice meeting is at United Methodist Church on Saturday April 8 at 3 p.m. This is the third meeting.

There is a new Indivisible meeting; Indivisible Mosquito Fleet/Key Peninsula. It is on the first Saturday of the month at the Home Fire station at 2 pm.

Treasurer Kathleen Tei reported that Pass-the-Hat collected \$423.

Gene David Hart asked if we can get money from the State party for the LD26 office. Payton Swinford is meeting on a couple of weeks in Walla Walla. He will bring up the funding for local offices.

Ross Partin said that he is going to the Young Dems convention. He related that three of our Young Democrats are leaving for other adventures in life: Ross is going to George Washington University back east.

Carl Olson shared a quote from James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Ed Robison commented that we have an opportunity to take back the U.S. House of Representatives. In Georgia one Democratic candidate Jon Ossoff has raised 8-million dollars and has a good shot at the District 6 US representative position created when Tom Price resigned on February 10, 2017 to become US Health Secretary.

Larry Seaquist reported on his recent visit to a class of third graders at Kopachuck Middle School. He recalled that, after the pledge of allegiance, they recited Mark Twain: "Always do right. This will surprise some people and astonish the rest."

15. Adjournment

We adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.