 26th District General Meeting Minutes (5/6/21)

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM by Chair Kara Aley

Pledge of Allegiance

Land Acknowledgement

**Attendance:**

Attached page.

**Speaker:** Senator Emily Randall

Emily discussed the recent 2021 legislative session that just ended. The legislation that was passed was one of the most significant we’ve ever seen with funding to support climate action and resilience, police accountability and justice reform, public health around Covid, and capital expansion of child care facilities. The legislature also expanded voting rights to former felons and began to address our upside down tax code with a capital gains tax and a tax credit for working families. It was a session of historical bills. We tripled the level of public participation by going virtual. Remote testimony will continue to be utilized.

Emily turned her discussion to upcoming campaigns and best practices on how to approach campaigning now that so many people in the community are vaccinated. Emily is hoping to make connections in the community this year. She also noted that our LD has been transformed over the last 4 years and we are considered a standout by the state leadership.

Business

Carl Olson, Treasurer Report

Current balance is $4,502.66 with no outstanding bills. Funds coming in through Act Blue equal $2,077 from 93 donors.

Approval of Minutes

April 2021 general meeting minutes approved by acclamation.

Standing Rules on Endorsements (Frank Dacca)

Some minor changes were made based on suggestions from Joy and the Recruitment Committee. Frank said that we clarified that we endorse only one candidate at a time and only a simple majority of the executive board is needed. Frank made a motion to approve and Ray Shjerven seconded. The members voted to adopt the Standing Rules on Endorsements.

2021 Endorsement Requests

Jeni Woock, re-election, Gig Harbor City Council

Tracy Flood, Bremerton Municipal Court Judge

Anna Mockler, Bremerton City Council

Jeni Woock listed her accomplishments in her first term: preserving the Soundview Forest heron rookery, holding developers accountable for paying their fair share of infrastructure costs, implemented a vote tracker page on how the city council votes, helped create $589,000 in utility bill forgiveness for residents, promoted preserving the character of the Gig Harbor waterfront and implemented traffic calming measures.

Tracy Flood listed her accomplishments and background for the Bremerton Municipal Judge position: she is President of the NAACP where she is on the racism task force, she has been a local attorney for 20 years, she is currently a Judge Pro Tem, she has collaborated with community groups to build relationships so that both kids and police officers can remain safe.

Anna Mockler said that she wants kids to have a safe place to live, that she wants to improve the quality of government and have sustainable community to live in. Her opponent has been advocating against implementing Covid safety a

Save Our Wild Salmon Letter

After last month’s meeting on the topic of Senator Simpson of Idaho’s proposal to take down 4 dams on the Snake River in order to revive our decimated salmon population, Kara asked the speakers to draft a letter to send to our two US senators, Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell and to Congressman Derek Kilmer. This draft was presented to membership. Darrel Johnson, one of the speakers reiterated that this letter was not endorsing a specific set of solutions but is asking our elected representatives to try and reach the optimal solution to save the salmon before they become extinct.

Adison Richards asked that Governor Inslee be included on the letter because the regional governors have been active on this issue. The membership voted to support sending this letter with the amendment of adding Inslee as a recipient.

Vacancy on EBoard – Kitsap At-Large Position

There is an opening on the E Board for Kitsap County, a vote will be held in June. Don Bartley has agreed to be the interim board member.

Good Of The Order

Ray Shjerven mentioned the virtual fundraiser for the WA Dems on May 11 at 4:30 pm and encouraged attendance.

Kara asked Carl to reach out to the Givens Center to explore doing a hybrid meeting, both remote and in person.

Tony Otto encouraged everyone to watch the 1 hour documentary about Larry Seaquist’s career as Captain of the Iowa.

Next General Meeting

Thursday, June 3rd, 2021, 6:30 PM

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair Aley at 7:58 PM.