 26th LD Democrats General Meeting Minutes--8/5/21

Call to Order

**~Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Chair Kara Aley**

**~Pledge of Allegiance**

**~Tribal Land Acknowledgement**

~**New Attendees:** Sam Wells, Robert Reynolds, Lisa Marcus, Robert Harris

~**Elected Attendees**: Mark Michel (Parks), Sen. Emily Randall, KC Prosecutor Chad Enright

Guest Speaker: Krestin Bahr, Peninsula School District Superintendent

~Ms. Bahr gave a brief overview of her career path: Science teacher--other assorted teaching jobs--help with family planning--assistant principal--principal--and now superintendent.

~She helped work with failing schools, and brought innovative programs into each. "Students are always at the Center"--K.Bahr.

~As she is fairly new to her current position, she suggested reading her entry plan for the 2021-2022 school year: **https://www.psd401.net/about-us/superintendent.**

**Q & A Time**:

~Questions from meeting attendees included questions about racial justice (and the CRT issue); hiring teachers from diverse backgrounds; helping LBGTQ+ students; and working with the business community (aka eventual employers) to direct students to careers of the future.

**Answers from Ms Bahr:**

~She is working with the school board & ESD in equity issues, that involve understanding and data, meeting student needs (including inclusion & mental health); implementing her 100 day plan; cultural competency/diversity. Real history will be taught in full, without bias, no "watered down" history, and teachers will have professional autonomy.

~To find diverse teacher candidates there will need to be outreach beyond the local community, offer incentives like housing, become cognizant of the needs of prospective teachers with diverse ethnic backgrounds; reach out to families of color and ask their opinions/needs, and make introductions to immigrant families.

~Remember our LGBTQ+ children, work with teachers & principals to make these students feel accepted, bring them into the school safely, and listen to their needs.

~Partner with skills centers, and explore careers through job-shadowing/mentoring with local businesses.

~"Model kindness, sift through the noise, and do right for the children"--K. Bahr.

**Other**

~Jill Neumeister played a video of youth holding a peaceful protest against police brutality in Gig Harbor--They held their ground even in the face of hostility & intimidation from some bystanders.

Treasurer Report (Carl Olson)

~Checking $3,029.39, Savings $1,068.13, all current bills paid, Act Blue donations to date: $3,391. The 26th LD gave the previously agreed upon donations to all endorsed primary candidates, thank you notes were received from candidates Greg Wheeler (Bremerton Mayor) and Brenda Lykins (GH City Council).

Approval of July 2021 Minutes: Approved unanimously.

Next 26th LD General Meeting: Thursday, Sep. 2nd, 2021

Good of The Order

~Juanita Beard, candidate for Peninsula School District Board, would like support from members of the 26th, and will have canvassing materials available at her home, 3905 58th St Ct NW, 98335, 9-10AM. https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJuanitaBeard/, www.juanitabeard.com.

To donate: https://secure.anedot.com/friends-of-juanita-beard/donate.

~Kitsap Dems Chair Hannie Baxter announced their Summer picnic, Sunday 8/15/21, at Otto Jarstad Park in Bremerton, 12 to 3 PM. 8/11/21 will be the last day to receive nominations for Kitsap County Clerk, 8/18/21 will be Candidate forum for County Clerk, then there will be a date for voting on candidates to send forward to KC Commissioners. Info: www.kitsapdemocrats.org.

~Sen. Emily Randall introduced new campaign staff Sam Wells and reminded the 26th LD that she will welcome help with her campaign--watch for more info: www.electemilyrandall.com.

~Julian Wheeler announced that he will be starting a veteran's group in Pierce County, and thanked all who have attended ballot observation training. Info: Julianfwheeler@aol.com.

~Ray Shjerven asked that candidates who want endorsements for the general election please reach out to the LD, the E-Board will address this issue at their next meeting.

~Alex Davidson thanked all who donated to candidates, and announced that a newsletter for the 26th LD will be started in the near future.

~Chair Aley announced that the Gig Harbor Maritime Festival will be on Saturday, Aug. 21st, the 26th LD will have a booth and will walk in the parade, more info for volunteers will be coming.

Adjournment: Chair Aley adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

(Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Lund, Secretary)

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Attendance

~Kara Aley ~Alex Davidson

~Johanna Baxter ~Catherine Jordan

~Carl Olson ~Bobbette Olson

~Jill Neumeister ~Juanita Beard

~Melissa Lund ~Mark Michel

~Luellen Lucid ~Ray Shjerven

~Robert Reynolds ~Sam Wells

~Tom Slyter ~Twila Slind

~Judy Austin ~Tony Trotter

~Krestin Bahr ~Chad Enright

~Jim Albrecht ~Lisa Marcus

~Dave Peterson ~Adison Richards

~Doug Smith ~Robert Harris

~Ron Robinson ~Nora Eckstein

~Emily Randall ~Don Bartley

~Julian Wheeler ~Dianna Eversole

~Anthony Otto ~Barb Turecky