

## **DRAFT - Minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats' 2006 Caucus**

April 22, 2006 – Version 2

### Summary of the Minutes

1. The Caucus convened at 9:47 AM on April 22, 2006 at Chief Sealth High School, Seattle, and adjourned at 1:30 PM. Ivan Weiss was permanent Chair of the Caucus. The total of delegates and PCO's present and eligible to vote was 101 (final Credentials report).
2. Delegates – women. The following women were elected as Delegates to the State Convention in June: Elizabeth Greiser, Mary Higdon, Ann Martin, Beverly Eckley, Jackie Dupras, Margaret Swan, Lois Elenich, Evelyn Norsen, Christine Raver, Rebecca Wells-, Karen Zeller-Lane, Dina Johnson, Judy Whitney, Nina Murano, Arlene Hess, Nancy Morrison, Joyce Killingsworth, Suzanne O'Shea (18 total)
3. Delegates – men. The following men were elected as Delegates to the State Convention in June: Michael Caine, Michael Taylor, Brad Daniel, Walter Sive, Stan Hargus, Richard Bartlett, Robin Hess, Mitchell Feller, Thomas Eckley, David Capps, Bradley Waylor, Dennis Saunders, Fred Kirkes, Bill Schrier, David McLanahan, Tim Nuse, Dan Schueler, Terry Sullivan, Ed Dupras (19 total)
4. Alternate delegates. The following were elected Alternate Delegates to the State Convention and were assigned in this order: 1. Keith Neal, 2. Jim Killingsworth, 3. Steve Karbowski, 4. Beverly Smith, 5. Kathryn Wharton, 6. Peggy Abby.
5. Platform. The Caucus considered, amended, and passed the 2006 Platform for the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democrats.
6. Resolutions. The Caucus considered, in some cases amended and passed 45 out of 46 resolutions submitted from the March 6<sup>th</sup> Precinct Caucuses and elsewhere.
7. Elected Officials. These elected officials were present for some portion of the Caucus: Port of Seattle Commissioner Alec Fisker, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, State Representative Joe McDermott, Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, and Southwest Sewer District Commissioner Bill Tracy.
8. The officers of the Caucus were: Chair Ivan Weiss, Credentials Committee Chair Ann Martin, Rules Committee Chair Cherisse Luxa, Platform Committee Chair Bill Schrier, Tally Committee Chair Richard Bartlett, Secretary Bill Schrier, Parliamentarian Alan Munro and Sergeant-at-Arms Robin Hess.

### Detailed Minutes

1. Ivan Weiss, Chair of the 34<sup>th</sup> District Democratic Organization, convened the 2006 at 9:47AM in the commons room of Chief Sealth High School, 2600 SW Thistle Street, Seattle, Washington.
2. Weiss asked Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen to lead the Caucus in the flag salute.
3. Weiss appointed Alan Munro as the temporary parliamentarian, Bill Schrier as the temporary secretary, and Robin Hess as temporary Sergeant-at-Arms.

4. Opening statements.
  - 4.1 Weiss stated that the principal business of this Legislative District Caucus is the election of Delegates and Alternates to the 2006 Democratic State Convention, the adoption of the 2006 Democratic Platform for the 34th Legislative District Democratic Party and the consideration of resolutions.
  - 4.2 Weiss further stated that those who may participate with voice and vote are the Delegates to this Legislative District Caucus—or Alternates duly seated to replace absent Delegates—who were elected from the precinct caucuses within this Legislative District and who qualify under the rules adopted by the Washington State Democratic Party.
  - 4.3 Weiss recognized elected officials who were present: State Representative Joe McDermott, Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen and Bill Tracy, Commissioner of the Southwest Sewer District.
  
5. Credentials Committee Report.
  - 5.1 At 9:55 AM, Weiss asked for the report of Credentials Committee, and recognized Ann Martin, chair of that Committee. The Credentials Committee Report:
  - 5.2 The total of delegates elected at the Precinct Caucuses held on March 6<sup>th</sup> and precinct committee officers eligible to be official delegates at this Caucus is 231. In addition, 3 alternate delegates were elected on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - 5.3 At this time, 98 delegates and PCO's have signed into this Caucus. No alternate delegates signed in. A quorum for this Caucus is 30%, or 30 delegates and PCO's.
  - 5.4 This ended the preliminary Credentials Committee report.
  - 5.5 Weiss then stated and read from the State Party rules about how delegates are seated.
  - 5.6 Ann Martin moved adoption of the Credentials Committee report, the motion was seconded, there was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.
  
6. Weiss then recognized PCO Cherisse Luxa, Chair of the Rules Committee, to give the Rules Committee Report:
  - 6.1 Luxa stated that copies of the rules were printed and available at the door with the Agenda. The rules are in order with those of the State Party.
  - 6.2 Luxa moved acceptance of the Rules Committee report. It was seconded. There was no discussion or amendments offered. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.
  
7. Election of Permanent Chair.
  - 7.1 Weiss appointed a Tally Committee of Richard Bartlett and Les Treall. Weiss appointed David Rosendale as timekeeper.
  - 7.2 Weiss opened the floor for nominations for election of a permanent chair for the Caucus.
  - 7.3 Bruce Stotler nominated Ivan Weiss. Robin Hess seconded. No one else was nominated. Weiss called for a vote and was unanimously elected permanent Chair.
  - 7.4 Weiss appointed Alan Munro as the permanent parliamentarian, Bill Schrier as the permanent secretary, and Robin Hess as permanent Sergeant-at-Arms.
  
8. Election of Delegates to the State Party Convention.
  - 8.1 Weiss stated that the 34th District has been allotted 37 delegates and 18 alternates to the State Convention. He read the rules for delegate selection.

- 8.2 At 10:05AM Weiss opened nominations for state delegates.
- 8.3 Ed Dupras, who was not present, submitted a letter asking to be a candidate for State Delegate. No other such letters were received.
- 8.4 The following men signed up or were nominated for State Delegate: Michael Caine, Michael Taylor, Brad Daniel, Walter Sive, Stan Hargus, Richard Bartlett, Robin Hess, Mitchell Feller, Thomas Eckley, David Capps, Bradley Waylor, Dennis Saunders, Fred Kirkes, Bill Schrier, David McLanahan, Tim Nuse, Dan Schueler, Terry Sullivan, Ed Dupras (19 total)
- 8.5 The following women signed up or were nominated for State Delegate: Elizabeth Greiser, Mary Higdon, Ann Martin, Beverly Eckley, Jackie Dupras, Margaret Swan, Lois Elenich, Evelyn Norsen, Christine Raver, Rebecca Wells, Karen Zeller-Lane, Dina Johnson, Judy Whitney, Nina Murano, Arlene Hess, Nancy Morrison, Joyce Killingsworth, Suzanne O'Shea (18 total)
- 8.6 Voting Commenced at 10:20AM.
- 8.7 The following delegates or PCO's spoke about their qualifications to be elected State Delegate: Joyce Killingsworth, Christine Raver, Dina Johnson, David McLanahan, Beverly Eckley, Michael Taylor, Nina Murano, Lois Elenich, Beth Greiser, Ann Martin, Tim Nuse, Terry Sullivan
- 8.8 The tally committee convened to count the votes.
9. The Caucus conducted the following business while votes were tallied:
  - 9.1 Weiss recognized John Ehrman of the Coordinated Campaign, assigned as field organizer for the 34<sup>th</sup> District, who spoke about that campaign.
  - 9.2 Weiss recognized Alec Fiskien, Port of Seattle Commissioner, who briefly spoke the role of the Port and Earth Day.
  - 9.3 Weiss recognized Dan Schuler who spoke about the Backbone Campaign's giant puppet heads of Bush, Cheney, etc. See [backbonecampaign.org](http://backbonecampaign.org).
  - 9.4 Weiss read a letter from State Chair Dwight Pelz.
  - 9.5 Weiss recognized Ann Martin, chair of the credentials committee, who reported the final Credentials report as a total of 101 PCO's and delegates had signed in.
  - 9.6 Weiss read a letter from Washington Won't Discriminate.
  - 9.7 Mary Higdon spoke in support of the Coordinated Campaign.
  - 9.8 Weiss recognized Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, who spoke about the importance of Democratic values and the invaluable role played by the 34<sup>th</sup> District.
  - 9.9 The Chair recognized Terry Reinecke, who was not attending the Caucus but working elsewhere in Chief Sealth. She thanked us – she had 69 kids signed up for a workshop learning how to be an orchestra member and felt we did a fine job sharing the facility with them. She invited delegates to join their concert at 1:00 PM. Les Harris noted that Terry teaches music all around the 34th district.
10. Platform.
  - 10.1 At 11:25 Weiss recognized Platform Committee Chair Bill Schrier. Schrier stated that the proposed platform is attached to the Agenda. He also stated that a number of resolutions are posted around the room. These resolutions – most of which were passed as the March 6<sup>th</sup> precinct caucuses - would supplement the platform. He urged members to take the color dots they received at registration, and place one or more dots

- on resolutions which they believe are important. After the platform is adopted, the Caucus will consider the platform in order of the number of dots each received.
- 10.2 Schrier moved adoption of the 2006 Platform as printed. Alan Munro seconded.
11. Amendments to the Platform:
- 11.1 Marilyn Omev moved an amendment to the Transportation Plank #6, page 15, inserting this paragraph: “Washington State Ferries are part of the State Highway System. Users should not be expected to pay more than 80% fare box recovery currently targeted. Washington State Ferries should be required to consider economic impact to our communities in its planning and policies;” Bill Schrier seconded. The motion passed unanimously on show of credentials.
- 11.2 Rebecca Wells moved an amendment to the Foreign Policy and Defense Plank #8, page 17, inserting this paragraph: “We oppose attacking Iran.” Kate Hunter seconded. The motion passed with one dissenting vote
- 11.3 David McLanahan moved an amendment to the Foreign Policy and Defense Plank #8, page 17, inserting this paragraph: “We support the end of the cruel and inhumane boycott of Cuba and support allowing free travel of American citizens to visit Cuba. We support recognition of Cuba by the United States and the establishment of normal diplomatic relations.” Seconded by Allan Munro. Passed unanimously.
- 11.4 Michael Taylor moved an amendment to the Transportation Plank #6, page 15, inserting this phrase “all citizens and” so that the first bullet now reads: “We believe in a strong regional public transportation system, and we call upon all citizens and elected officials to fund and expand public bus service and regional transit options such as light rail.” Joe Grande seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- 11.5 Kate Hunter moved an amendment to the Foreign Policy and Defense Plank #8, page 17, inserting this paragraph: “We oppose all use of pre-emptive U.S. military force on other countries.” Nina Murano seconded.
- 11.6 Dan Schuler moved an amendment the proposed amendment to add the words "and/or subsequent occupation." This amendment to the amendment passed.
- 11.7 A vote was taken on the original amendment (now itself amended) to the Foreign Policy and Defense Plank #8. It passed.
- 11.8 Nina Murano proposed a new amendment to the Foreign Policy and Defense Plank #8, page 17: "We support that the United States no longer give asylum to terrorists under extradition orders from their countries of origin." Seconded by Kate Hunter. In the ensuing discussion speakers noted that there is no good definition of “terrorists” or terrorism. The motion failed.
12. Weiss recognized Richard Bartlett, Chair of the Tally Committee.
- 12.1 At 11:50 AM, the Tally Committee reported on the selection of State Convention delegates. Richard Bartlett stated there were 92 completed ballots and six spoiled ballots. All 19 men and 18 women nominated as delegates were selected.
- 12.2 Weiss urged the delegates to register for State Convention today with State Committeeman Bruce Stotler at a table in the back of the Caucus.
- 12.3 Weiss entertained nominations for alternate State Convention delegates. The following individuals were nominated: Kathryn Wharton, Peggy Abby, Steve Karbowski, Beverly Smith, Keith Neal, Jim Killingsworth. Voting commenced via

written ballot.

13. Further consideration of the Platform.

- 13.1 Dennis Saunders moved an amendment to the proposed 2006 platform, Energy and Environment Plank #5, page 13. The proposed amendment moves the location of the word "sustainable". The revised bullet would read: "We support state funding for land use and transportation management at the local level to preserve environmental diversity such as fish and wildlife habitats, wild and scenic areas, wetlands, and natural resource lands for uses such as sustainable forestry and agriculture." Tim Nuse seconded. Passed with one dissenting vote.
- 13.2 Roger Fulton proposed the following amendment to the Government and Elections Plank #10, page 20, adding a new bullet: "We oppose the use of ballot casting and tabulating processes that use secret proprietary software and hardware. All such hardware, software and the processes that use them must be open to inspection by the public." The motion was seconded.
- 13.3 Michael Taylor proposed an amendment to the amendment, adding the words "and must have a verifiable paper trail." Alan Munro seconded. The motion passed with 28 voting for it and 20 opposed.
- 13.4 Fulton's original motion carried unanimously.
- 13.5 Dennis Saunders moved addition of the phrase "... and training for fiduciaries to protect those benefits" to the last bullet under the Labor Plank #1, page 6. Seconded by Kate Passed with one dissenting vote.

14. Chair Weiss then started consideration of proposed resolutions. Resolutions were considered based upon the number of colored dots they received from the delegates. Resolutions are numbered to coincide to the list of resolutions in the appendix of the platform. Here is the result of considering all the resolutions:

- 14.1 #21. Universally Publicly Funding of Healthcare. Passed unanimously.
- 14.2 #23. Impeachment of President George Bush. Cheering arose from the Caucus. Passed unanimously.
- 14.3 #12. Elections reform. Passed.
- 14.4 #24. Iraq. The basic resolution calls for withdrawal in six months. Kate Hunter proposed an amendment to this resolution, adding language taken from House Concurrent resolution 35, submitted to Congress on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 by Representative Woolsey and 24 others, including Jim McDermott. There are five elements stated for a responsible exit from the Iraq debacle. The motion passed as amended.
- 14.5 Marilyn Omev objected to the dot process for prioritizing resolutions.
- 14.6 #35. Social security wage cap elimination. Passed unanimously.
- 14.7 #7. Corporate personhood. Passed unanimously.
- 14.8 #28. Patriot act. Passed unanimously.
- 14.9 #6. Climate change. Passed unanimously.
- 14.10 #20. FairShare Healthcae. Passed.
- 14.11 #10. Domestic Surveillance - Senate resolution 350. Passed.
- 14.12 #16. Equal rights. Michael Taylor noted that Tim Eyman's proposed ballot measure is not an initiative but a referendum. The resolution was amended to reflect this and

- then passed.
- 14.13 #19. Restoration of felon voting rights. Passed.
  - 14.14 #40. WTO. Rebecca Wells moved the resolution be amended “to call on the Governor and Legislature to withdraw Washington State from WTO activities. The amendment to the resolution passed, and then the resolution as amended passed
  - 14.15 #4. Campaign financing. Passed.
  - 14.16 #13. Energy - raise CAFE standards. Passed.
  - 14.17 #14. Energy - support I-937. Unanimously passed.
  - 14.18 #18. Oppose sale of Federal lands. Passed.
  - 14.19 #36. Veterans benefits and candidates’ support. Passed.
  - 14.20 #31. Public Broadcasting support. Passed.
  - 14.21 #11. Domestic surveillance – maintain current wiretapping law which protects privacy. Passed.
  - 14.22 #15. Equal rights – support the Anderson Murray Act passed last session. Passed.
  - 14.23 #41. Darfor and the Sudan – support federal action and funding to stop the genocide there. Passed.
  - 14.24 #33. Schools - support public schools. Opposes I-920, which would repeal the estate tax support of Schools enacted in the 2006 legislature. Passed.
15. Tally Committee – Alternate Delegates.
- 15.1 At 12:40PM, Richard Bartlett, Chair of the Tally Committee reported the results of the election for alternate delegates to the State Convention. 68 ballots were cast, 4 spoiled. All six nominees were elected as alternates.
  - 15.2 Next the order of the alternates needs to be determined – which alternates would be seated first. Chair Weiss directed the Tally Committee to determine this by lot – pulling names from a hat.
  - 15.3 Roger Fulton raised a point of order about rules for election of alternate delegates. The rules require the nominee with the highest vote tally to be seated first. Credentials Committee Chair Ann Martin answered that all nominees for alternate received the exact same number of votes, in which case the rules require selection of the order "by lot".
16. The Caucus returned to consideration of resolutions.
- 16.1 #25. Key Arena, prevent public funding for renovating it. Passed.
  - 16.2 #38. Wages – support increase in the minimum wage. Passed.
  - 16.3 #22. Housing. Passed.
  - 16.4 #8. Death penalty moratorium. Passed.
  - 16.5 #26. Key Arena, prevent funding for renovating it (different language). Passed.
  - 16.6 #30. Primary and instant runoff voting. Discussion ensued. Michael Taylor and others spoke for the resolution. Mary Higdon and others spoke against. A hand vote of credentials showed 37 against and 30 supporting. Motion failed.
  - 16.7 #5. Rights of a child. Passed.
  - 16.8 #42. Military tribunals. Passed.
  - 16.9 #29. Department of Peace. Passed.
  - 16.10 #9. Slogan for the Democrats: Return America to the People. Passed.

17. Chair Weiss recognized Richard Bartlett, Chair of the Tally Committee. Bartlett reported the result of drawing lots to determine the order of the alternate delegates to the state convention: Neal, Killingsworth, Karbowski, Smith, Wharton, Abby.
18. The Caucus returned to consideration of resolutions.
  - 18.1 #1. Public Campaign Financing, Jeff Smith version. Passed.
  - 18.2 #43. Annexation of North Highline. Passed.
  - 18.3 #27. Key Arena, another version. Passed.
  - 18.4 #32. Redistricting. Failed.
  - 18.5 #39. White Center Food Bank. Passed.
  - 18.6 #2. Public Funding. Passed.
  - 18.7 #17. Equal rights. The resolution as published was amended to state “Support of Washington-won’t-discriminate” (rather than “would”). Passed.
  - 18.8 #3. Campaign financing – restoring the public trust. Passed.
  - 18.9 #34. Support of Schools (Individuals with Disabilities Act – IDEA). Passed.
  - 18.10 #37. Moratorium on use of voting machines. Passed.
19. Kate Hunter asked the Caucus to consider a new resolution on Iran. She moved:
  - 19.1 “Whereas the Bush Administration appears to be preparing to initiate a bombing campaign against Iran; and
  - 19.2 Whereas it is reported that nuclear weapons are being considered as a part of that attack; and
  - 19.3 Whereas such a pre-emptive action would further destabilize the Middle East and increase the likelihood of terrorist attack against the United States;
  - 19.4 Therefore be it resolved that the Washington State Congressional delegation oppose an such actions and demand that the President not take any such action without Congressional authorization.” The motion was seconded by Alan Munro and passed.
20. Dina Johnson asked the Caucus to consider another resolution on Iran.
  - 20.1 The complete text of the resolution is not yet available, but essentially the motion discusses Senate Bill 333 - holding current regime in Iran accountable. Senator Maria Cantwell is a co-sponsor. The resolution asks Senator Maria Cantwell a series of questions about the bill, essentially demanding to know the basis for her support of it. The resolution also reminds Senator Cantwell that SB 333 contradicts the Democratic party platform. The resolution was seconded by Eileen Duffy.
  - 20.2 Beverly Eckley offered an amendment to change the resolution’s wording to address the substance of the bill, not Senator Cantwell. The Caucus did not act on this amendment
  - 20.3 Rebecca Wells offered an amendment to change the thrust of the resolution to “We call upon Senator Cantwell to withdraw her support of the bill.” The resolution passed with this amendment.
21. Chair Weiss asked the Caucus for “Good of the Order” announcements.
  - 21.1 Dennis Saunders, Lois Elenich, Rebecca Wells, Walt Creekmore read a letter from U. S. Senate candidate Mark Wilson.
  - 21.2 Ann Martin moved the resolution on Diversity in Media Ownership (#44) and it

passed.

21.3 Dan Schueler made a statement about Mark Wilson. Wilson ran as a Libertarian Party candidate against Jay Inslee. The Libertarians support selling off all public lands and oppose public schools. Wilson also ran against Patty Murray as a Green Party candidate.

21.4 Rebecca Wells told the Caucus about a rally and march on Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM, Washington for Healthcare, starting at 1055 S.Grady Way, Renton, at the Renton City Hall.

21.5 Tanya Aguilar announced a May 1<sup>st</sup> march for immigrant rights.

22. Chair Ivan Weiss adjourned the Caucus at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

*Bill Schrier*

Caucus Secretary