

34th Democrats Membership Meeting Minutes, June 12, 2024 – Held via closed Zoom

6:33 PM – Call to Order – Chair Graham Murphy

Meeting Business

- The meeting agenda was presented. Ann Martin moved to approve; Bunny Hatcher seconded. The agenda was approved without objection.
- The minutes from the May 8th membership meeting were shown. Ann Martin moved to approve; Rachel Glass seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.
- The financial report for May was presented by Treasurer Julie Whitaker. Graham noted that the June fundraiser was a success and that the proceeds exceeded expectations. The tally for that event will be in the June financial report. He noted that the silent auction featured some good items and added to the total.

Opening Ceremonies

Land Acknowledgement – Rachel Glass

Rachel recited the Land Acknowledgement. In continuation of her practice of putting words into action, she suggested to members that a way of honoring local indigenous peoples would be to support with donations to the [Northwest Indian Bar Association](#), a non-profit which aspires to improve the legal and political landscape for Northwest Indian communities.

VIP Acknowledgement

Superintendent for Public Instruction Chris Reykdal spoke of an upcoming budget request that would mean more for schools, including closing about \$50 million of the Seattle District's projected shortfall.

PCO Appointments

Chair Graham introduced new PCOs who each spoke.

- **Pamela Cortez** (SEA 34-1454)
- **Tyler Dahl** (Park)
- **Mags Aleks** (SEA 34-1449)
- **Don Brubeck** (SEA 34-1437)
- **Dale Phelps** (SEA 34-1259)
- **Carl Davault** (SEA 34-1506)
- **Jennifer Gellner** (White Center)
- **Julia Curns** (Sunnywood)

Graham moved to appoint; Chris Porter seconded. They were approved via voice vote of PCOs present.

Appointment of Co-Chair of the Energy, Environment, and Land Use Policy Caucus

Ann Martin moved to name Marin Costa as Co-Chair of the EELU; Gayle Sommers seconded. Marin was appointed via voice vote of the members present.

Endorsements

Graham thanked those behind the scenes who were involved with balloting and tallying. Those included Carla Rogers, Hannah Cameron, Jordan Crawley, and Ann Martin. He also thanked members of the Endorsement Committee: Chair Ann Martin, Bunny Hatcher, and Ted Barker.

Chair Murphy explained the tabulation process and the endorsement rules and procedures. Candidates must achieve 60% of the vote to be endorsed.

Board Block Endorsements

- Ann Martin introduced a block of candidates for endorsement put forward by the Executive Board. These candidates had no viable Democratic opponents. It included:
 - Lieutenant Governor - Denny Heck
 - WA Secretary of State - Steve Hobbs
 - Superintendent of Public Instruction - Chris Reykdal
 - WA Supreme Court Justice Pos. 2 - Salvador "Sal" Mungia
 - King County Superior Court Pos. 23 - Nikole Hecklinger
 - King County Superior Court Pos. 41 - Paul Crisalli
- Ann moved for endorsement; Chris Porter seconded.
- Ann spoke to her motion.

The block was approved by 67 to 1 via Zoom poll.

Attorney General

- James Williams moved to endorse Nick Brown; Hannah Cameron seconded.
 - Williams spoke in favor of his motion and ceded time to Brown.
- Bunny Hatcher moved to endorse Manka Dhingra; Roxanne Thayer seconded.
 - Bunny Spoke in favor of Dhingra, and ceded time to the candidate.

Voting was done via Zoom Poll

- First ballot results: Brown – 34, Dhingra – 32, No Endorsement – 2.
- Second ballot results: Brown – 36, Dhingra – 33.
- James Williams moved for a dual endorsement; David Horn seconded.
 - James spoke in favor of his motion, and ceded time to Brown.
- Ballot for a dual endorsement: Approve – 63, Deny – 6.

Both Nick Brown and Manka Dhingra received our endorsement.

Commissioner of Public Lands

- Chris Lampkin moved to endorse Dave Upthegrove; Chris Porter seconded the motion.
 - Chris ceded his speaking time to Upthegrove.
 - Kelsey Vanhee spoke in opposition.
 - Chris Porter spoke in favor.

- Vote for endorsement – 67, vote for No Endorsement – 10.

Dave Upthegrove was endorsed.

Seattle City Council At-Large Position 8

- Carla Rogers moved to endorse Alexis Mercedes Rinck; Jordan Crawley seconded.
- Jules Williams moved to endorse Tanya Woo; David Toledo seconded.
- Kelsey Vanhee moved to endorse Tariq Yusuf; Carla Rogers seconded.
- Ted Barker moved to endorse Saunatina Sanchez; Roxanne Thayer seconded.
 - Carla spoke in favor of her motion and ceded time to Rinck.
 - Jules yielded his time to Woo.
 - Kelsey ceded her time to Yusuf.
 - Ted spoke in favor of Sanchez, and ceded part of his time to the candidate.

Voting was done via Zoom Poll.

- First ballot results: Rinck – 32, Woo – 21, Sanchez – 9, Yusuf – 1.
- Second ballot: Rinck- 43, Woo – 25.

Alexis Mercedes Rinck was endorsed.

Good of the Order

Announcements and remarks were interspersed throughout the evening as votes were cast.

- Nathan Haerr, King County Regional Field Director, spoke of activities in the coordinated campaign. A field organizer, “Matthew from Minnesota”, has been hired for the 34th LD. There was to be a kickoff event on June 29th in West Seattle.
- Graham announced that there will be an event for the Burien minimum wage campaign at the home of Sam Mendez in the 33rd LD on June 21.
- Ann Martin informed us that the West Seattle Democratic Women would have a Seattle Council Position 8 forum on June 20.
- Steve Butts laid out a schedule of the Outreach events coming up in July, including parades and tabling events and asked for volunteers.
- Kelsey Vanhee highlighted the Wednesday night suppers for Burien unhoused at the Burien Park and Ride, as well as the Burien Community Fridge, a community pantry in Boulevard Park.
- County Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda thanked us for our endorsement and support of the Crisis Care Center Levy and announced other activities.
- Randy Winn invited people to join the Tuesday postcarding events at C&P Coffee 10:30 to noon.
- Dave Horn will host an event for Bob Ferguson at his home on July 22 on Vashon.
- Carla Rogers announced that the next Pop Up Social would be June 28, at Prost! in the Admiral District.
- Roxanne Thayer rose to thank Councilmember Mosqueda for the work she has done to help mitigate the SeaTac flight paths over Vashon.
- Chair Murphy told us there would not be a membership meeting in July, and that there would be a PCO lit distribution event coming in July. He also thanked the Endorsements

and Resolutions Committee for spreading the endorsement process over the year, making the June meeting easier.

- Chris Porter told us to get a copy of the Seattle Pride Magazine and look for “someone you might know” on the cover. (It was Chris)
- Senator Joe Nguyen asked us to work to defeat I-2117, which would undo much of the efforts against carbon reduction in the state.

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:14 PM.