

## **Minutes of the 34th District Democrats Board Meeting**

**August 19, 2024, held virtually on Zoom.**

### **Attendees:**

Graham Murphy, Rachel Glass, Jordan Crawley, Ted Barker, Bunny Hatcher, Jules Williams, Julie Whitaker, Steve Butts, Ann Martin, Gina Topp, Hannah Cameron, and Rebecca Rego

### **7:05 pm – Call to Order by Chair Graham Murphy**

- The meeting agenda was shown and adopted without objection.
- The Minutes from the July board meeting were presented and adopted without objection.

### **Resolution Calling for the Impeachment of Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samual Alito**

– Ann Martin

- Ann presented the resolution which had been previously discussed at the July Board meeting. At that time was focused on actions of Samual Alito.
- The resolution was taken up again by the committee to add Clarence Thomas after Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez filed Articles of Impeachment against Justice Thomas. Ann rewrote the resolution to add Thomas.
- The Committee recommended presenting it to the membership with “No Recommendation”.
  - Julie Whitaker rose to say that it was important we present the resolution as “Do Pass” regardless if the impeachments were likely to happen.
  - Rachel Glass also favored giving it “Do Pass” status, as it “shows our values” and gives membership a chance for involvement.
  - Ted Barker supported the “No Recommendation” position. He felt that the addition of Thomas made it more worthy for consideration, as his transgressions are the more serious of the two. However, he felt the impeachment process was abused. Nonetheless he felt it is important that the membership weighed in.
- Rachel moved to submit the resolution with a “Do Pass” recommendation; Julie seconded the motion.
  - A vote was conducted in Zoom Chat.
  - The motion failed: 4 YES votes in favor to 7 NO votes against.
- Ted moved to submit the resolution with a “No Recommendation”; Bunny Hatcher seconded.
  - The motion passed unanimously via votes in the Zoom Chat.

### **Campaign Contributions – Graham Murphy**

- Graham noted that we have \$4,000 remaining in our budget for donations.
- He reviewed candidates’ funding levels, and while both are well-resourced, he recommended we favor Nick Brown’s race for Attorney General over Bob Ferguson’s gubernatorial campaign.

- Ann felt that we should emphasize the 4 “Let’s Go Washington” initiatives, both with our contributions and on our walk piece.
- Gina Topp moved that we give \$2,000 to Defend Washington (the umbrella group fighting the 4 initiatives), \$1,000 to Dave Upthegrove running for State Lands Commissioner, and \$1,000 to Brown; Rebecca Rego seconded.
  - The motion passed unanimously via YES responses in Zoom Chat.
- Ann moved that should Dave Upthegrove fail to clear the Primary that we take his contribution of \$1,500 (\$500 from the July meeting plus the \$1,000 just allocated) and apply it to Defend Washington; Steve Butts seconded.
  - The motion passed unanimously via responses in Zoom Chat.

### **General Election Canvassing Piece**

Chair Murphy solicited thoughts about what we should do for a November doorbelling piece. He noted that the piece would be a die-cut doorhanger on a somewhat lighter stock than the Primary piece. A few of thoughts from board members were as follows:

- We need to amp our values, especially our opposition to the 4 initiatives.
- Include photos of the candidates.
- A photo of Harris and Walz with smiles.
- Look at the order, maybe put the initiatives first.
- Put candidates to match the ballot order; highlight the initiatives with a box.
- Could we include more explanation of the initiatives.
- A “Just Say No” type of theme for the initiatives.
- Use one side strictly for the 4 initiatives.

### **September Meeting and Pre-Meeting Program – Rachel Glass**

- The Center for American Progress will be delivering a talk on Zoom describing Project 2025, a detailed agenda laid out by the Heritage Foundation that is set to be enacted by a new Trump administration.
- The Pre-Program will start at 5:30pm to accommodate the speakers. The regular meeting will start at 6:30.
- Rachel wishes to extend invitations statewide to increase awareness; She asked that members to think of groups that she can contact.
- Carla can increase the attendee capacity of Zoom for the event, and has a Bitly link ready for distribution through social media.
- Ann went to see Rep. Jayapal’s Project 2025 presentation. Jayapal urged attendees to spread the word.

- Ann also stated that as the meeting is on September 11 we should acknowledge the attack on the World Trade Center in some manner.

#### **2024 Achievement Awards Committee – Chair Murphy**

- Ann Martin volunteered to serve on the committee, and in his absence, volunteered Chris Porter. Ted Barker also volunteered.

#### **34th Annual Picnic – Chair Murphy**

- It will be September 7th, 4-7pm.
- Member Lisa Dawson will be doing the planning.
- Volunteers are needed at 3:30 to help with setup.
- The event will be catered.

#### **King County Democrats – Bunny Hatcher**

Bunny reported that the KCDCC Endorsement Committee is working on candidate questionnaires for next year to lighten the burden for next year.

#### **State Party – Ted Barker**

Ted announced that the next State Party meeting will be the last weekend in September, and will be at the Yakima Convention Center.

#### **In-Person Meetings**

Members from Vashon Island must often leave meetings early to catch the ferry. It is suggested that we start pre-meeting programs at 6pm, and the business meetings at 7.

#### **Good of the Order**

- Ann Martin announced that the West Seattle Democratic Women would hold their annual “Pizza, Potluck, and Politics” picnic at her home on August 22nd.
- Ann also noted that while serving as a monitor at the High Point Ballot Dropoff that 10-12 people just missed the 8pm cutoff for receiving ballots. Those ballots go into the “Red Bag” and won’t be counted. She emphasized that we need to tell voters to submit their ballots early.
- Bunny wondered about the possibility of a recount in the Lands Commissioner race. Ted pointed out that the counties needed to have their counts imminently.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.**