

## **34th Democrats Membership Meeting Minutes, September 11, 2024 – Held via closed Zoom**

### **Pre-Meeting Program: Project 2025**

Colin Seeberger from the Center for American Progress gave a presentation on the Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, a foundational document embraced by the Republican Party that is a blueprint for the removal of our current system of federal checks and balances. Seeberger described how it would allow the Executive Branch to usurp power from the Congress and from State and Local governments to enact a wide-reaching rightwing agenda across the country.

See the presentation at: [https://youtu.be/D2zBShMRbi8?si=a\\_tVR28MbrKNi4e](https://youtu.be/D2zBShMRbi8?si=a_tVR28MbrKNi4e)

### **6:43 PM – Meeting Call to Order – Chair Graham Murphy**

- Graham thanked Lisa Dawson for coordinating the 34th Picnic on the previous Saturday, September 7th.
- He also thanked Gina Topp, Carla Rogers, and Rachel Glass for organizing the presidential debate party on September 10th at Mission Cantina. Graham said that it was a great debate, and there will be a lot to do to see a Harris/Walz victory.

### **Meeting Business**

- The meeting agenda was presented.
  - Julie Whitaker moved to adopt; Danny Pinsker seconded.
  - The agenda was approved without objection.
- The chair presented the Minutes from the August meeting and gave the opportunity to request changes.
  - Rachel Glass moved to approve them as is; Danny Pinsker seconded.
  - The minutes were approved without objection.
- The financial report for August was given by Treasurer Julie Whitaker.
- The September Outreach events schedule was presented by Steve Butts.

### **Opening Ceremonies**

#### **Land Acknowledgement – Rachel Glass**

- Rachel recited the Land Acknowledgement.
- Rachel highlighted Chief Seattle Club as an organization to which members could donate to honor Indigenous peoples of our region. It is a Native-led housing and human services agency that provides “sacred space to nurture, affirm, and strengthen the spirit of urban Native people”. [www.chiefseattleclub.org](http://www.chiefseattleclub.org)

### **September 11th Recognition**

- Jordan Crawley gave a Patriot Day tribute to those who lost their lives during the 9-11 World Trade Center attack, and to those who have served and died while serving in our armed services.

## **PCO Appointments**

Three individuals seeking to be PCOs were introduced by Chair Murphy:

- Betsey Bruce – SEA 34-3175
- Michael Davey – BUR 34-0705
- Sofh Davenberry - BUR 34-1189

They were given the oath by Chair Graham.

- Gayle Sommers moved to appoint; Richard Bartlett seconded.
  - The appointments were approved unanimously via voice vote of the PCOs present.

## **Campaign Update – Defend WA**

Calvin Jones from Defend WA gave a presentation on how best to defeat 4 initiatives put forward by the group Let's Go Washington, funded by hedge fund millionaire Brian Heywood.

- I-2066 would hamper the state's ability to decrease use of natural gas.
- 2109 would eliminate our capital gains tax on stock sales over \$250,000
- I-2117 would revoke the Climate Commitment Act.
- I-2124 would make enrollment to the state's long-term care program voluntary, starving funding.

A slate card for the NO position of each initiative is available at [defend-washington.com/](http://defend-washington.com/)

## **Endorsement Vote – Seattle Transportation Levy, Proposition 1**

Jordan Crawley described the levy and answered questions.

- Jordan moved to endorse an Approve position; Gayle Sommers seconded the motion.
  - Jordan spoke in favor, then ceded time to Alex Hudson from the Keep Moving Seattle campaign.
- The motion passed via a voice vote.

## **Campaign Contributions**

Chair Murphy presented the Executive Board recommended contributions for September:

- \$2,000 – Defend Washington to defeat the initiatives 2066, 2109, 2117, and 2124.
- \$1,000 – Dave Upthegrove, Comm'r of Public Lands
- \$1,000 – Nick Brown, Attorney General
- Hannah Cameron moved to approve; Dave Horn seconded.
  - Hannah spoke in favor of the contributions.
  - The motion passed via voice vote.

**A Resolution calling for the Impeachment of Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito Jr.**

The Executive Board put this resolution before the membership without a recommendation. It was originally written only for the impeachment of Alito, but Thomas was added after Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez later put forward articles of impeachment against Thomas.

Ann Martin assumed authorship; she summarized the resolution.

- Danny Pinsker moved to adopt; Art Chippendale seconded.
  - Danny spoke in favor
  - Motion is passed via a voice vote.

### **Good of the Order**

- Ann Martin announced that the West Seattle Democratic Women will have a dinner meeting on October 24th at the West Seattle Golf Course. Speaking will be former Rep. Eileen Cody and former County Councilmember Joe McDermott.
- David McLanahan rose to announce that Physicians for a National Healthcare WA will have speakers from Public Health Seattle at their next meeting. They will speak about well-being and Racial Equity.
- Hannah Cameron said that the West Seattle Food Bank will be holding their annual “Taste of West Seattle” on September 19th.
- Graham Murphy announced that the monthly Pop up will be September 27th at the Future Primitive Brewery, and the next Executive Board meeting will be September 18th.

**The meeting was adjourned by Chair Murphy at 8:09 PM.**