

## **34th Democrats Membership Meeting Minutes, November 13, 2024.**

Held in person at the Fauntleroy Church.

**6:40 PM – Meeting Call to Order** – Chair Graham Murphy

### **Meeting Business**

- The meeting agenda was presented.
  - Michael Parker moved to adopt; Richard Bartlett seconded.
  - The agenda was adopted without objection.
- The chair presented the Minutes from the October meeting and gave an opportunity to request changes.
  - Richard Bartlett moved to approve as is; Michael Parker seconded.
  - The minutes were approved without objection.
- The financial report for October was given by Treasurer Julie Whitaker.

### **Opening Ceremonies**

**Land Acknowledgement** – Rachel Glass, 1st Vice Chair

- Rachel recited the Land Acknowledgement.
- As a means to further provide appreciation and support to Indigenous peoples of our region, Rachel suggested donations to the WomenSpirit Coalition. The group “provides culturally specific technical assistance to Tribes/Tribal programs in the work of preventing and eliminating domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and sex trafficking” in Washington State. [www.womenspirit.net/](http://www.womenspirit.net/)

### **2024 Holiday Service Project**

- Rachel also announced that we will be partnering with the Westside Neighbors Shelter, the only cold-weather shelter in West Seattle. It is hosted in the American Legion Hall and is open to any adult in need of shelter, regardless of gender or veteran status. [westsideneighborsshelter.org/](http://westsideneighborsshelter.org/)
- Donations of adult-sized warm socks, hats, gloves are sought. Members can also give cash donations.
- Contact Rachel Glass to help.
  - Volunteers will be needed on December 21 at the shelter.
  - Several places within the district to serve as donation drop-off points are also needed.

### **VIP Acknowledgements and Announcements**

- State Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon rose to speak about the election
- Washington State did well, but questions need to be asked about the national results.
- Three of the 4 “Let’s Go Washington” state initiatives, 2109, 2117, 2124, were “crushed”. The 4th, 2066, passed, but is facing a legal challenge.

- 2024 was the 2nd election in a row to hold all Democratic seats in the state legislature, and also the 2nd election to gain at least one seat in both the House and the Senate.

### **Chair's Remarks**

- Chair Murphy said that Democrats need to take time to listen to constituents and to reflect on what went wrong.
- We need to take care of ourselves and our families.
- We knocked on over 10,000 doors in the district, 82% of voters in the 34th returned their ballots.
- All of our endorsed state and local candidates won.
- Washington State Democrats are well organized; we may be the bastion for democracy.

### **Washington State Democratic Chair Shasti Conrad**

- We did well in Washington State, and we need to present hope for the country, and build trust in government.
- Maria Gluezenkamp Perez will return to the House to represent the 3rd CD.
- Washington put forward representatives that reflect the communities they come from.
- We cannot turn on each other, especially minorities.
- We are ready to fight. Washington State will be on the front line against Trump and can be a model for the country. Incoming Governor Ferguson and Attorney General Brown will be in the vanguard.
- Washington will serve as a sanctuary to protect people and rights, such as immigrants and women's reproductive choices.
- After her remarks, Chair Conrad took questions from members.

### **2024 Achievement Awards**

- The ad hoc awards committee consisted of Ann Martin, Hannah Cameron, Ted Barker, and Chris Porter, who also presented the awards.
- Award winners were:
  - Lifetime Achievement Award - Leslie Harris
  - Jackie Dupras Member of the Year - Karin Engstrom
  - Rising Star - Randy Winn
  - Executive Board Member of the Year - Bunny Hatcher
  - Committee of the Year - Programs & Community Partnerships Committee - Rachel Glass, Chair
  - PCO of the Year - Heather Engel
  - Elected Official of the Year - Representative Pramila Jayapal
    - The award for Rep. Jayapal was accepted by her Deputy Chief of Staff Rachel Berkson.

### **2025 Reorganization**

- 2nd Vice Chair Jordan Crawley reviewed officer positions and the standing committee chair positions which will be filled during the January reorganization meeting.

### **Good of the Order**

- Carla Rogers noted that the November 8th Pop Up Social was the largest to date. She also spoke of her trip to Montana to canvass for Jon Tester. While he lost reelection, Tester won the county where Carla canvassed in.
- Terry Jorgesen announced that there would be a Duwamish Native Art Market, November 29th through December 1st at the Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center.
- Ann Martin said that the West Seattle Democratic Women would hold their Holiday Meeting and “White Donkey” exchange on December 19th.
- Pamela Jorgensen informed us that the public comment period for the Port of Seattle's Sustainable Airport Master Plan draft Environmental Assessment ends on Friday, December 13. She feels that Port's growth plan is too large.
- Michael Parker was at the Lumen Field in-person voting site, working as a “voter shepard” providing directions. He noted that the turnout was large.
- Shasti Conrad invited people to a State Party gathering on November 15th at Stoup Brewing on Capitol Hill.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.**