

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD  
March 30, 2013, Democratic Headquarters, Port Angeles

- Attendance: Pat Johansen, Roger Fight, Kris Grier, John Marrs, Bill Lowman, Barbara Jepson, Marcia Farrell, Paula Doherty, Steve Tharinger, Norma Turner, Leroy Martin, Scott Clausen, Steve Vause, Tanya Alstatt Menchaca, Patsy Bain, Joe McGimpsey, Mike Doherty, Sean Callahan, Mike Holloway.

- Meeting convened at 11:10 a.m. by Pat Johansen.

Quorum declared, including proxies: Tanya Alstatt Menchaca holds Julie Johnson's; Patsy Bain holds Ron Johnson's; Kris Grier holds Ed Grier's.

Agenda approved without objection on a motion by Kris Grier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Fight.

- Minutes approved as amended without objection on a motion by Kris Grier, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Fight.

- Treasurer's Report: Kris Grier reported that the CCD unlimited account has \$8,741.37; and limited account \$2,834.70. (The full treasurer's report is appended to the hard copy of the minutes in the Democratic headquarters file.)

- Chair's report:

Judith Morris will open Derek Kilmer's local office with an open house Tuesday morning in the same location as the former Norm Dicks office.

Chair Johansen said the St. Patrick's Day event expenses and receipts virtually equaled, and the event was a good test for headquarters seating and the use of new tables. She estimated that we have enough furnishings to comfortably seat 45 people. "I think it was fun and I think we'll do another one," she said. Marcia Farrell complimented her on the quality of the decorations.

Chair recommends that we should have liability insurance. Several members of board agreed that the chair should explore the possibility. No objections stated.

Office remodeling: Will close Monday for work and until further notice. Will include a handicapped-accessible restroom, and a prep sink area in the main room with a dishwasher, and new carpeting. Might take two weeks or more.

Chair Johansen announced committee appointments: Nancy Chambers, Hospitality, and Kris Grier, Finance Committee chair. Tanya Alstatt (with Julie Johnson proxy) moved, Patsy Bain (Ron Johnson proxy) 2<sup>nd</sup> to confirm appointments. Motion passed: Voice vote: Aye; no objections or abstentions stated.

Also announced were an ad hoc committee for PCO Recruitment, to be led by Norma Turner in Port Angeles and Bill Lowman in Sequim. Patsy Bain and Tanya Alstatt volunteered to help on the county's West End. The Chair also said she hopes to appoint three other members to the Finance Committee, including Sylvia Hancock and Leroy Martin.

The Chair said we need an office manager. Kris Grier said Ed Grier, who earlier offered to recruit volunteers, might assume that duty. No decision was made immediately.

- Bylaws revision: Roger Fight said one major change proposes removing proxies. The Bylaws Committee recommends that the Executive Board decide to recommend adoption of the proposed revisions to the CCD. Fight so moved; Kris Grier 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed on a voice vote without objection. During discussion it was noted that the proxy proposal should receive full debate and consideration when the proposed revisions are taken up by the Central Committee and the general membership.

The chair charged the Bylaws Committee to prepare alternatives for consideration regarding the proxy initiative. One idea discussed was the possibility of limiting proxy holders to members who would not hold two votes as a result of holding a proxy (such as non-Executive Board members at Executive Board meetings.)

- Roosevelt Dinner Committee, Marcia Farrell: Planning for Aug. 9 or 10 at the Red Lion in Port Angeles, and hoping to have Sen. Patty Murray as our featured guest. Counting also on attendance by Rep. Derek Kilmer and the local Democratic legislators, and will invite State Chair Dwight Pelz. The committee is still recruiting greeters. Farrell moved, Alstatt 2<sup>nd</sup> to set the ticket cost at \$60 per person. Voice vote: Aye, with no stated objections or abstentions.

- Chair moved a proposed gun-control resolution up on the agenda at the request of Norma Turner, who presented wording adjustments in the proposed resolution. Roger moved recommendation of resolution as amended to Central Committee. Joe McGimpsey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rep. Steve Tharinger reported that a bill on gun-show restrictions is dead for this legislative session, but it may get revisions in negotiations and be revived. Said that an adoption of resolution by CCD at the end of April would be reasonable timing. McGimpsey said "it's time to take stands and we should start doing it." Voice vote: Aye, with no stated objections or abstentions. (The resolution is appended.)

\* Sean Callahan, Rep. Kilmer's new political director, introduced himself and spoke briefly.

- Mike Holloway spoke and encouraged Democrats to support Nippon mill workers in any strike action. He said he spent time with mill workers during their recent Nippon walkout, and he said they're likely going to go out again to oppose a 16%

pay cut. "They're trying to take unions away from us, and it's time for Democrats to stand with us," he said. He said the union reps say Nippon is unwilling to open their books.

Tharinger commented that the margins in the paper mill industry are "incredibly small." Workers have taken cuts in other places and now those mills are "more competitive." There is no question that labor is being squeezed, but "the market is squeezing them." He said he fears that the Nippon owners might just shut the plant down and walk away. "There's no question that it's a very difficult issue for labor ... but their package right now is way above market." He said there are 170 employees and 130 in the union.

Chair Johansen said she wants to make contacts with union leaders and she'll get the word out for Democrats who want to participate.

- Membership in community organizations: The Chair wondered if the CCD should join chambers of commerce. Consensus of discussion was that we might go ahead. John Marrs moved that the chair be given authority to join the chambers so long as she has recruited someone to represent us at the said chamber. Patsy Bain 2<sup>nd</sup>. Voice vote: Aye; Joe McGimpsey voted no.

- Office equipment: The Chair said the office needs a copy of Microsoft Office and she hopes that someone has an available copy that might be donated.

- Bumper stickers: The Chair said she envisions a bumper sticker that reads: "Washington wines are red and white; Washington politics are blue." After a brief discussion, she said she would see to the preparation of a possible design and propose that to the membership at a later date.

- Other business:

Marcia Farrell said she is making an application to include the CCD in Sequim's May 11 Irrigation Festival parade, and she invited people to contact her if they want to participate.

The Chair said there is not likely to be an April meeting of the Executive Board because of the office closure for remodeling.

She also said she plans to hold one program meeting every month for all Clallam County Democrats on the second Wednesday of the month. She said some of these meetings may include a business agenda.

The March 31, 2013, Executive Board meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Minutes submitted by John Merton Marrs, recording secretary.

## Appendix A: Gun Violence Resolution

**WHEREAS:** The Declaration of Independence states “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are *Life*, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness; and  
Whereas, the U. S., Constitution embodies similar values, expressed in its preamble, “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare...;” and  
Whereas, the Washington State constitution endorses these principles in Article 1 Sec 2 by stating the “Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land...;” and  
Whereas, Washington State legislators have instituted measures to promote the general welfare with laws regulating traffic safety which have decreased the number of deaths by automobiles; and  
Whereas, in Washington State gun deaths now outnumber traffic deaths, which disturbs the general welfare and deprives citizens of life; and  
Whereas, Washington State Article 1 Sec 5 grants citizens freedom of speech but also notes they must be “responsible for the abuse of that right...;” and  
Whereas, it is equally important to develop responsible rules regarding gun purchases and ownership to reduce the rate of gun deaths in our state; and  
Whereas, several states have adopted measures to reduce gun violence; and  
Whereas, Research by Boston Children’s Hospital found that states with stronger gun-violence prevention laws have the lowest rate of shooting deaths; and  
Whereas, polling shows that most citizens of Washington State desire to decrease gun deaths in our state; and  
Whereas, the majority of citizens endorses universal background checks for gun sales as a means to control the access to firearms by those persons deemed most dangerous;  
**THEREFORE**, the Clallam County Democrats resolve that Sen. Jim Hargrove, Rep. Kevin Van de Wege and Rep. Steve Tharinger work to pass reasonable measures, such as universal background checks for gun purchasers and limiting the capacities of ammunition clips, which are likely to reduce Washington State’s high rate of gun deaths.

Endorsed March 30, 2013, by the CCD Executive Board and recommended for adoption by the CCD Central Committee and general membership at their next meeting.