

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE
Special meeting, Aug. 21, 2013, Port Angeles headquarters office.

Attendance: Pat Johansen, Roger Fight, Kris Grier, John Marrs, Earl Archer, Judith Morris, Marcia Farrell, Norma Turner, Chuck Hatten, Graham Hutchins, Andrew Shogren, Joe McGimpsey, Tom Harper, Katherine Harper, Glen Harper, Leroy Martin, Del DellaBarre, Lee Whetham, Paul Martin, Steve Tharinger, Joe Landoni, Chris Shea, Anna Barrigan, Dan Duncan, Bud Johansen; proxies, Mike Doherty (John Marrs), Paula Doherty (Norma Turner), Sylvia Hancock (Roger Fight) and Leroy Martin (Lorraine Martin).

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Pat Johansen.

- The agenda was approved unanimously by a voice vote.
- The minutes of the previous CCD meeting were approved on a unanimous voice vote subject to the addition of the attendance list (Hank Warren moved; Roger Fight 2nd).
- The treasurer's report was delayed. Treasurer Kris Grier reported later in the meeting that the party's unlimited account was up to \$10,000 with a bill still pending payment to the Red Lion Hotel; and he estimated the limited account was up to \$5,000. He reported that 120 tickets were sold for the Roosevelt Dinner and that the silent auction netted \$1,700.
- Regarding PCO recruitment, the chair reported that Norma Turner and Bill Lowman continue to work toward filling all open spots.
- Endorsement of candidates for non-partisan offices was considered. Earl Archer questioned whether the meeting notice had adequately specified that such endorsements would be considered, but he won no support and withdrew his objection. Before votes were taken, there was some discussion regarding whether it was a good idea for a partisan organization to endorse non-partisan office seekers.

Lee Whetham, candidate for Port Angeles City Council, and Del DellaBarre, candidate for the Port of Port Angeles Commission, addressed the meeting and asked to be endorsed. Both emphasized the importance of jobs and local hiring in their remarks. DellaBarre also said that the port commission has become dysfunctional and needs a new, businesslike perspective brought in by a candidate from outside of the port.

Joe McGimpsey moved the endorsement of Whetham (Chuck Hatten 2nd). The motion passed on a voice vote with Hank Warren voting no and John Marrs noting that he abstained.

Chris Shea moved the endorsement of DellaBarre (Leroy Martin 2nd). The motion passed on a voice vote with four members noting that they abstained.

- Rep. Tharinger reported on the state's final session during which the state budget was adopted. He said they managed to budget adequately for education, but the budget overall was not enacted on a sustainable basis, in part because money was borrowed from funds set up for other purposes. He said it wasn't easy, because resistance from the right pushed the deliberations right up to the deadline, and he hopes the Legislature can do a better job of funding education next year.

• Proposed resolutions:

1. WAmend Resolution: Be it resolved, that the Clallam County Democrats endorse the WAmend campaign and urge our members, other Democrats, and all citizens of Clallam County to get involved in and to enthusiastically support the WAmend campaign to get the voters of Washington State to approve a public initiative in November 2014 that calls for the passage of a U.S. Constitutional amendment clarifying that:

Constitution and the Bill of Rights; ~~the~~ spending of money to influence elections is not speech under the First Amendment; and, shall regulate, limit, or prohibit political contributions and expenditures and require their public disclosure.

1. corporations are not person

3. federal, state and lo

The resolution was adopted on a motion by Chuck Hatten (Joe Landoni 2nd) by a voice vote with no objections or abstentions noted.

2. The wording of the gun safety resolution did not change from the original that was submitted to the CCD by action of the Executive Board on March 30:

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 restrictions on firearms; and
Whereas, research by Boston Children’s Hospital found that states with the strictest firearm 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.

The resolution was adopted on a voice vote on the motion by John Marrs (Kris Grier 2nd) with no objections or abstentions noted.

3. A resolution calling for support for the petition campaign spearheaded by Norma Turner urging that Port of Port Angeles commissioners' terms be changed from six years to four years was adopted on a voice vote on a motion by Norma Turner (Ann Barrigan 2nd) with no objections or abstentions noted.

4. A resolution opposing the transportation of any additional coal shipments through Washington state, originally proposed by Julie Johnson, was adopted on a voice vote after a motion by Joe McGimpsey (Leroy Martin 2nd) with no objections or abstentions noted.

The resolution:

WHEREAS several coal and transportation companies propose to ship millions of tons of coal to Asian markets from the Gateway Pacific Terminal at Cherry Point, Washington; and

WHEREAS the proposal could result in more than 400 cape-class ships departing annually from Cherry Point through Washington state waters and on through the narrow Unimak Pass in the Aleutian Islands; and

WHEREAS the proposed shipments would number at least 18 transits a day by trains 125-150 cars long and require up to 100 acres of storage for coal and machinery at the Cherry Point stockyard and an average of 5.3 million gallons of water per day to cool stockpiled coal; and

WHEREAS the Cherry Point stockyard is located on a well documented 3,500-year-old Lummi village site and lies within an 1,100-acre archaeological project area, including a site (45WH1) listed on the Washington Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS environmental risks are unavoidable in shipping coal in open railroad containers and in shipment through adjacent marine waters that are critical for crabbing and for herring and salmon fisheries, not only in the Salish Sea but throughout the Strait of Juan de Fuca; and

WHEREAS vessel routes and associated risks represent unavoidable interference with treaty rights and all fishing in the Salish Sea and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, as well as neighboring Pacific Ocean waters, all involving the existence of more than 60,000 jobs in the commercial and sport fisheries; and

WHEREAS one of the proponent companies, PIT/SSA Marine, agreed to a settlement in a lawsuit that established that the company had engaged in unpermitted bulldozing at the site for the sake of financial gain; and

WHEREAS bunkering coal ships in Port Angeles Harbor would create mitigation expenses and present risks of environmental damage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Clallam County Democratic Party and Central Committee opposes permitting or siting to allow the transportation of any additional coal through the state of Washington or Cherry Point; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee is urged to oppose the Cherry Point proposal and join in urging state and

federal elected officials to oppose transporting coal through the state of Washington for export at Cherry Point.

- Good of the Order comments: Kris Grier reported that dues-paying CCD membership has reached “about” 100; Roger Fight urged best wishes for Bill Lowman, who is suffering from a bout with pneumonia; Steve Tharinger urged members to check out his new website; Andrew Shogren expressed thanks for all who helped with the party’s booth at the County Fair; Joe McGimpsey announced that Sen. Cantwell would attend Neah Bay’s Makah Days on the weekend; Judith Morris announced that Rep. Kilmer would be available during a visit to Olympic National Park headquarters on Saturday afternoon.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Draft of minutes submitted by John M. Marrs, Aug. 27, 2013.