

## CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 24, 2015 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1<sup>st</sup> St.

Attendance: Carlyn Syvanen, Paula Doherty, Kris Grier, Julie Johnson, Steve Vause, Barbara Jepsen, Marcia Farrell, LeRoy Martin, Lisa Unger, guests Lee Whetham and Tom Harper, Catherine Harper

Acting Chair Carlyn Syvanen called the meeting to order at 11:30.

- Three items are added to the Agenda: First, an update on Roger Fight's condition; second, Paul Doherty suggests that PCOs be issued business cards to help with outreach; third, Lee Whetham and Tom Harper both attended the All Call meeting and will report on their impressions.

Paula Doherty has spoken to Pat Johansen, and reports that Roger Fight's condition is unchanged. Kristi Fight has taken temporary residence in Bremerton. She would welcome cards or notes; her address was provided.

Paula Doherty discussed the idea of business cards to be issued to all PCOs. These could be used when doorbelling, or welcoming newcomers to the neighborhood. They would provide information about the CCD website and there would be space on the back for a personal message, if desired. All agreed this is a good idea. Paula Doherty will draw up a layout and will research cost.

Lee Whetham reported on his attendance at the "All Call" event sponsored by Dale Wilson of Port O Call. Approximately 50 people attended, and it was a wild crowd. The upshot seems to be that 3-4 people intend to be candidates for the City Council; Mr. Whetham himself is running for Port Commissioner, District 3. Cheri Kidd is running for re-election. There is also a candidate named Connie Bovay who is being groomed to run against Mr. Whetham for Port Commissioner, District 3. It is shaping up to be a partisan race, as Republicans Peach and McEntire are backing Ms. Bovay's candidacy. Candidates are also discussing the possibility of limiting campaign spending to \$5,000. Lee Whetham is seeking State Labor Council's endorsement, and will also seek the CCD's endorsement.

Mr. Whetham was asked if he felt Mr. Wilson's goals in holding this event had been met, and he answered that he thought so.

Tom Harper's report on the event was very similar to Mr. Whetham's. Mr. Harper also felt that this was a worthwhile event.

It was noted that none of the 3-4 possible new candidates have filed yet. The deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Approval of Minutes of March 13 meeting

Motion to accept the Minutes by Julie Johnson, Marcia Farrell seconds.

Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

♣ Treasurer's Report: Kris Grier

Report was discussed. Mr. Grier noted that he has changed the reporting of funds slightly, with some monies now being listed in the Unlimited Account which were formally listed in the Unlimited Account.

We do not yet have precise figures on the fundraising event "Give 'Em Hell Harry" but it is believed we broke even, or possibly made a few dollars. 70-72 people attended, and 7 Cedars billed us for 70. Several bills relating to this event have yet to be paid. Exact figures should be available soon.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted without formal motion and vote.

♣ Report of Chair

Carlyn Syvanen is acting Chair in the absence of Roger Fight, who is ill. She asks for help as needed from the Executive Board.

**Bumper Stickers**

Bill Ellis bought 50 stickers to send to the Democratic Parties of each state and try to drum up interest in using these as fundraisers. We also now have these in stock, offered for sale at \$2 each. These cost approximately 47 cents, so are a good fundraiser. Money raised will be reported as "Misc. Fundraiser", a category which also includes coffee money.

**Tuna Drive**

We have approximately 700 cans (or money equivalent) and our goal is 1000. LeRoy Martin suggested we extend our "challenge" deadline one week, to end May 5. This event has taken a back seat to "Give 'Em Hell Harry" so we need a final push to achieve the goal. It was suggested that the District Captains talk to the PCOs to excite the challenge, and that some perks be created for the winning district. A poster will be done of the winning district, with the American flag, the donated tuna, etc., and this will be sent to local media for publication.

Paula Doherty will send this message to all PCOs, extending the challenge. The deadline was extended without formal motion and vote.

**PCO Training**

Carlyn Syvanen reported that four PCO Training sessions have been held, with 9 people trained. The sessions went well, and good ideas were suggested. Sissi Bruch suggested that we have a meeting in 6 months as a progress report. One of the suggestions which will be acted upon is that we have informal "assistance PCOs" to help with the work.

Julie Johnson and Andy Pascua have talked about holding some PCO Training sessions in Neah Bay. Carlyn will try to do that; Julie and Andy will discuss logistics.

It was clarified that Elected and Appointed PCOs may vote; Acting PCOs may not. A person must be a CCD member in order to vote.

## **PCO Recruitment**

Julie Johnson, Paul Doherty and Marcia Farrell are working on this. Julie Johnson volunteers to be an Acting PCO for Quilleute. It is agreed that we need to fill more of the vacant positions. All of the current Board Members are working at capacity; more help is needed by new recruits. PCOs are critical for getting people active in the Party. A "PCO drive" should be an agenda item at every month's E-Board Meeting.

Julie Johnson discussed VoteBuilder's new policy of charging for outside access. People who have legitimate need for the service, such as campaign managers, will not be charged, but broader access will come at a cost.

## **Membership Activity**

Catherine Harper reported that membership drive activities are underway. It is slow going, but we will continue the effort. Catherine will work with Marsha Farrell to try to set up a meeting with Jessica Hernandez of Clallam County Democratic Women. Tim Wheeler is helping with calling prospects, and Catherine Harper will follow up.

## **Program Meeting**

Carlyn Syvanen discussed the last Program Meeting which was a presentation on the Navy's proposed Electronic Warfare (EW).

This event was extremely well attended, about 40 people. Ron Richards got a PDN reporter to attend, and subsequently two articles have appeared in the PDN.

Tom Harper reported on the Save the Olympic Peninsula (STOP) meeting which he recently attended. STOP is a concerted effort against the proposed EW agenda. Lisa Unger is also involved; she and Tom Harper are on work groups. They (and Catherine Harper) are going to Olympia next Tuesday for a National Forest Service Listening Session, and all will be given the opportunity to address the group with concerns.

Paula Doherty pointed out that the CCD has passed a resolution regarding our concern about the EW project. She asks if she may post the STOP brochure and other materials on the CCD website. Steve Vause moves that this be done, LeRoy Martin seconds. Voice vote – motion passes unanimously.

## **Official Office Hours**

Carlyn Syvanen reiterated that we now have official office hours, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am – 1 p.m. All shifts are covered, with Catherine Harper covering Roger Fight's shift on Wednesday and chairing the Wednesday Discussion Group. We will have some back-up coverage and every effort will be made to keep the scheduled office hours.

**Port O Call "All Call" for Candidates** – this was covered previously in these Minutes.

## **Activity Night**

Marcia Farrell has been organizing this. It hasn't been consistent, as Marcia is overly busy. We need a new Coordinator, and input from the group, ideas, etc. The idea is to make this more of a fun evening, and save the heavy stuff for the Program Meetings. Marcia is willing to continue as a Co-Chair, and will entertain ideas and suggestions. Paula Doherty will add the notice of these Activity Nights to each E-Board Meeting agenda. Carlyn Syvanan pointed out that the responsibility for organizing these events is too much for one person, and needs to be shared.

Julie Johnson suggested we have a meeting with Sissi Bruch to discuss the pluses and minuses of her campaign. Such a meeting was held, and John Marrs took minutes. This was a well-attended meeting, and Paula Doherty will find and distribute the minutes. It is noted that it is hard for members in Neah Bay to attend so many meetings in Port Angeles.

Carlyn Syvanen suggested that we approach Ed Chadd for the May Program Meeting, to discuss the Polar Explorer rig in the harbor and its implications. It was noted that the May meeting had been tentatively booked for Steve Tharinger and Kevin van de Wege to discuss plans, budget, etc. It was noted that having Ed Chadd's group would be more timely.

There probably will not be an Activity Night this month, due to the illness of Roger Fight and the event is cancelled. We will work on getting future events organized. The office will also be available for letter writing sessions and other programs related to the EW protest.

## **Flag**

It was decided that the flag donated by Derek Kilmer is too large to use in front of the office. Catherine Harper has bought a smaller set of flag and bracket; Kris Grier will help with the installation.

## **Give 'Em Hell Harry**

Marcia Farrell reported on this event. It was a great evening, wonderful ambience and dinner at the 7 Cedars Casino. Attendance was not as high as was hoped, partially due to the number of other events that night, and partially due to lack of publicity. Paula Doherty put together a Marketing Plan for this event and sent out press releases; for some reason, the media did not publish them. In the future, Paula Doherty will make personal contacts with all media; they should not need to be "cajoled" into doing their jobs, but this seems to be the case. It was speculated that there is some hostility toward the CCD, and a slightly different approach may be needed for next time. The media may need to be asked if their policy on this kind of publicity has changed.

## **^ State Committeewoman**

State Committeewoman Julie Johnson was appointed to the WSDCC Affirmative Action committee. This committee works to ensure diversity in the State Party and sets representational goals for the National Convention. The aim is to include all ethnic groups, LGBT, persons with disabilities, and youth (age 17-24). The numbers and demographics were discussed. It was noted that some categories cross, e.g. LGBT persons with disabilities, so the "numbers" are difficult to interpret.

The Democratic National Convention starts at the precinct level, then goes to the County level, and then the State level.

It was noted that some meetings are date sensitive, due to filing deadlines, etc. Julie will keep us updated.

There was a good turnout at the April 17-18 meeting in Pasco. The next meeting will be September 18-19 at the Coast Hotel in Wenatchee. Julie suggests making room reservations early if you plan to attend. (The phone number is 509-662-1234).

Julie is the Chair of the Native American Caucus; their recent reception was well attended. No alcohol was served, and the "urban legends" regarding Native Americans and alcohol were noted.

There will be a Listening Session on May 29<sup>th</sup> in Bellingham, preparing for the 2016 platform. Many speakers will be present, including elected officials and congressional officials; topics will include health, economics, priorities of tribes. Tribal leaders will speak.

⤴ State Committeeman

State Committeeman Joe McGimpsey is not present; no report.

⤴ New Business/Discussion

**Appointment of PCO – Catherine Harper**

**Date of CCD Endorsement Meeting**

The CCD Endorsement Meeting will be on June 20. The next Executive Board meeting will be moved to June 12<sup>th</sup>. Motion to move the E-Board meeting by Paula Doherty, Marcia Farrell seconds. Voice vote, motion passes unanimously.

Paula Doherty volunteers to maintain the CCD calendar in Roger Fight's absence. She requests input from the Board as necessary. She also will take charge of communications to the CCD and group e-mails. Carlyn suggests that a "live" link to the CCD website be included prominently in all e-mails.

⤴ Unfinished Business

Pat Johansen will be leaving the area at the end of June. She has done a great deal for the CCD, and will be missed. We should plan an event in her honor; some suggestions include a no-host dinner at a local restaurant such as the Oak Table or Nourish. This will be planned.

⤴ Good of the Order

The next Executive Board Meeting will be May 15<sup>th</sup>.

⤴ Motion to adjourn, Steve Vause, Paula Doherty seconds.

Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

Meeting is adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

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