

## Minutes of the Progressive Caucus meeting in Des Moines 7-11-2015

The minutes of April 18, 1915 were approved. The agenda was approved with the addition of a resolution proposed by Judith Shattuck.

### *Treasurers Report*

Carolyn Potts submitted the treasurer's report, which was approved. David Spring has gotten the online transaction set-up to work, which will incur fees.

<b>Beginning Balance 3/18/2015</b>	<b>\$1,398.61</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
4/24/15 dues	\$60.00
6/29/15 dues	\$20.00
7/27/15 online contribution	\$40.00
7/28/15 online contribution	120.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 130.00</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Online transaction fees	\$1.73
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1.73</b>
<b>Ending Balance 7/11/2015</b>	<b>\$1,526.88</b>

### *Chair's Report*

Brian gave a brief description of caucus history. Most members are state committee people but everyone is welcome to join. Dues today will be \$10 today the year is half over. You can sign up for the newsletter even if you don't want to join

We did online voting with an electronic questionnaire to oppose fast track and faxed all names to our senators. We have 1000 followers on twitter @waproggressives.

Brian has consulted with state chair Jaxon Ravens about endorsements of federal candidates. The basic issue is that our caucus should not cause problems for the state party with PDC. We may not donate to federal candidates, but we can endorse them. The Progressive Caucus is not responsible for putting together precinct caucuses, so our endorsement would not affect that process. We should ever not shy away from advocating our values. The 33<sup>rd</sup> LD has passed a resolution reprimanding Senators Murray and Cantwell on TPP.

We want to create more structured process for our endorsements. The current process of friends of candidates walking in the door with recommendations isn't working optimally. Today's endorsements will be under existing rules

### *Endorsements*

Eric Labrant—running for Port of Vancouver commission. He is concerned about oil transport and current lack of transparency, brownfield rehabilitation and reducing the impact fossil fuels transportation. He is a Democrat but the office is nonpartisan. Endorsed 11 for 1 abstain.

Chris Roberts—running for King County Elections Director. We spend very little on collecting ballots and voter education I pledge to figure out where barriers are and remove them. For starters we need many more ballot drop boxes. Endorsed 13 to 0.

Fred Felleman—running for Seattle Port Commission. We should not be supporting arctic drilling  
Carin Chase—running for Edmonds School Director District 1  
Jill Geary—running for Seattle School Board. We need to rethink standardized testing.  
These three candidates were endorsed as a slate. 12yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.

Bill Bradburd's (Seattle City Council at large) questionnaire was not received. We can consider endorsing in September.

Steve Zemke and Judith Shattuck moved to renew our previous endorsement for Jason Ritchie for 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. He has been actively organizing since 2014 on the issues of public education, support of union organizing and generating more middle class family wage jobs. He is 100% opposed to TPP 2016 will be a perfect storm election for progressives. He will run phone banks every day and get out the student vote in Ellensburg with a doorknocking campaign  
Endorsement passed 14 to zero.

### ***New endorsement processes***

Candidates must speak in person at a caucus meeting or be interviewed by two members (phone interviews OK). A campaign manager or other representative may speak for candidate. Approved 14 to 0.

### ***Suggested questions for questionnaire***

Proposed by Steve Zemke: do you consider yourself to be a progressive Democrat? Why? This applies to non-partisan positions. Approved 10 to 4

Do you disagree with any part of the state Democratic Party platform? If so, why? Approved 12 to 1

A motion was made to endorse Bernie Sanders for president, with the stipulation that this position does not represent the state Democratic Party. Approved 14 to 0.

A bylaws amendment to allow new members to vote was proposed. This will be voted on at the September meeting.

### ***Resolutions***

The resolution on reprimanding those Democrats supporting TPP will be posted on our website. Judith Shattuck pointed out the TPP has not been voted on, just the fast track authority TPA. Those changes will be posted. Brian recommended that these modifications judiwalt be posted by the end of July. At that point we can take it to local organizations.

Steve Zemke proposed that we should thank those members of our Democratic delegation who opposed TPA. Passed 14-0.

### ***Other business***

Initiative 735 needs help getting signatures. We have 70,000 and need 300,000. This will help end Citizens United in an election year. Please volunteer.

Martha Koester  
Secretary  
July 29, 2015