

Minutes of the Progressive Caucus meeting in Lynnwood 1-30-2016

The minutes of 9-19-2015 were approved. The agenda was approved.

Treasurers Report

Carolyn Potts submitted the treasurer's report, which was approved.

Beginning Balance 9/19/2015	\$ 1,787.81
Revenue	
9/21/15 dues	\$75.00
9/23/15 refund online fee	\$4.12
Total Revenue	\$80.12
Expenditures	
9/20/15 Brian Gunn reimbursement Pizza meeting	\$179.00
Total Expenditures	\$179.00
Ending Balance 12/31/2016	\$1,687.93

Chair's Report

We have a Twitter feed in addition to the Facebook page and our website. We have had lights and banners out for Bernie Sanders on Rte 167 and I-5 in South King County. There are many new people becoming involved and we need to invite them into our organization. We hark back to FDR values with new progressive updates. We need to maintain a focus on the positive.

Membership committee

Steve Zemke recommended that people sign up for the year now. Jean Thomas recommended putting together a training packet instructing people how to navigate the caucus process. Walt Kloefkorn asked that we develop a set of rules for establishing local chapters of our caucus. They would work on local issues, recruit PCOs and do everything except speak for the caucus as a whole. Brian will appoint a committee for this.

Candidates

Pramila Jayapal is running for 7th congressional district. She has been fighting inside and outside of the system for underdogs. She is a founder of One America. She is for expanding Social Security and Medicare and debt free college. She organized for \$15 Now in Seattle, and hopes to mobilize young people and people of color.

Joe Pakootas is running for 5th congressional district. His Republican opponent has been part of the most ineffective congress in history. He wants to be a voice for the voiceless.

Judith introduced Patty Kuderer, who was appointed to be a representative from the 48th legislative district and is now running to be elected. Political action has to go beyond voting. She has been active in the peace movement opposing the Iraq war. She wants better gun legislation and a higher minimum wage. An endorsement was moved and seconded, and passed without opposition

Coralee Brewer spoke for Jim Moeller for Lieutenant Governor. He is currently the Speaker pro tem. He wants to change peoples' opinion on the role of Lieutenant Governor. He is in favor of \$15 now and fully funding education as required by McCleary.

Cyrus Habib is running for Lieutenant Governor. He would like to use the office to move a progressive agenda, in particular stopping Republicans from blocking climate change legislation. In the Senate he was a co-sponsor of paid sick leave and the voting rights act. He is in favor of collective bargaining for state employees.

Brady Walkinshaw is running for 7th congressional district. He wants to promote union organizing, put a new Glass-Steagall into force, and establish a financial transaction tax. We must aggressively deal with climate change.

State senator Karen Fraser is running for Lieutenant Governor. She has 28 years of legislative experience, which is necessary for the prime function of presiding over the senate. No to funding charter schools.

David McDevitt is running for 3rd congressional district. Primary issue is lack of shared prosperity—millennials can't afford housing.

Tina Podlodowski is running for Secretary of State. The office needs to be more proactive in getting people registered to vote. She favors automatic registration at DMV and other venues.

Joe McDermott is running for 7th congressional district. He favors \$15 Now and campaign finance reform.

Mike Lapointe is running for 2nd congressional district and has submitted a questionnaire.

Erin Jones is running for Superintendent of Public Instruction. She is an educator who has worked for Terry Bergeson. She is against charter schools and taking resources away from teachers. We must recognize that race, zip code and language reduce opportunity

New eboard member

Coralee Brewer was nominated for the position vacated by Richard Champion. She is now living in Vancouver and has connections around the state. The vote was unanimous.

Resolutions

WA Fair Trade Coalition representative Gillian LoCascio is asking for WA State Democrats to come out against the Trans Pacific Partnership because it will make our labor and environmental standards unenforceable. The Resolutions Committee says that the anti-TPP resolution is redundant. We passed the resolution only on behalf of the Progressive Caucus.

Other business

Teresa Mosqueda requested support for Initiative 1433 which would mandate statewide paid sick leave and a \$13.50 minimum wage initiative on the ballot. There would be an option for higher minimum wages locally. Dionne Wasser from the state Labor Council asked us to oppose Initiative 732 on the grounds that it is revenue negative, not neutral. Given that we have a \$932 million deficit, we need an alternative that does not get us further into a hole.

Martha Koester
Secretary
February 2, 2016