

Minutes of the Progressive Caucus meeting in Yakima 9-22-2012

The minutes of June 1, 2012 were approved. The agenda was approved. Western WA Vice-Chair Martin Cheney presided, as Judith Shattuck was busy attending her daughter's wedding.

Treasurers Report

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

Area reports

1st CD: David Spring is interested in forming a chapter in order to officially endorse candidates.

3rd CD: Carolyn Potts reported that local party organizations did not nominate Haugen to run against Herrera-Beutler. There should be more effort put into candidate selection in CDs that are currently represented by Republicans.

2nd, 4th, 6th and 10th CDs need coordinators

5th CD: Walt Kloefkorn reported that organizing against the coal train is still a highly critical issue. Rich Cowan is working very hard as a candidate running against McMorris-Rodgers.

7th CD: A coalition of most of the organizations working to get big money out of politics has formed. Communications are handled through the listserv amendlist@lists.riseup.net. The Social Security Works coalition continues to be active in defending Social Security and Medicare from cuts justified by the supposed "fiscal cliff."

8th CD: Brian Gunn continues to campaign hard in the 31st LD on the theme of getting money out of politics. Karen Porterfield is very much worth supporting for Congress.

9th CD: Richard Champion reported that Involved Democracy has taken on the coal train issue. At a recent Progressive Advisory Council Adam Smith came out in support of single payer. The Progressive Majority has become active in defending Social Security

New Business

We lost Craig Salins a couple of months ago. The best memorial possible would be to make clean elections a legislative priority in the coming year.

We discussed the inadequate financial support given to Secretary of State candidate Kathleen Drew, the only female Democratic candidate running for statewide office. A resolution to the central committee requesting more support for her candidacy was proposed and adopted unanimously (appended).

DNC representative Lona Wilbur discussed 2012 outreach to Native American voters. matters is Voter registration and turnout are both important.

There was discussion about a coal train ad which implied that the Cherry Point terminal proposal had broad bipartisan support. Both our platform and resolutions passed by the WSDCC contradict

this. State party should proactively defend its brand. It was moved and seconded that we would direct the Progressive Caucus eboard to write a formal letter to the state party on the coal train ads and request that the matter be clarified by press releases, and to take other actions as appropriate. Passed unanimously.

Evening meeting

Adjourned to Bert's Pub after the afternoon meeting for informal discussion.

Martha Koester
Secretary
September 30, 2012

WA State Progressive Caucus Resolution 2012-1

Increasing Financial Support for the Secretary of State Race

WHEREAS we nominated and endorsed Kathleen Drew for Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS she is the only Democratic woman running statewide for a state elected position; and

WHEREAS voting is the foundation of democracy,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington State Democratic Central Committee increase their financial contribution to Kathleen Drew for Secretary of State so that she may run a more competitive race, including TV.

Submitted by the WA State Progressive Caucus for immediate consideration by the Washington State Central Committee on September 22, 2012.

Disposition: Passed unanimously
Martin Cheney, Vice Chair
WA State Progressive Caucus