

## Minutes of the Progressive Caucus meeting in Yakima 9-17-2016

The minutes of 6-17-2016 were approved. The agenda was approved.

### *Treasurers Report*

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

<b>Beginning Balance 6/1/2016</b>	<b>\$2486.07</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	
6/2/16 – 8/31/16 dues	\$1,205.96
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,205.96</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
6/17/16 Brian Gunn Sammamish meeting	\$39.26
6/16/16 additional online fee	\$2.19
6/30/16 additional online fee	\$0.54
7/5/16 additional online fee	\$4.45
8/3/16 additional online fee	\$4.65
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$51.19</b>
<b>Ending Balance 6/1/2016</b>	<b>\$3,640.84</b>

### *Chair's Report*

Brian will not be running for chair for the 2017 reorganization. We need someone who can organize the younger people who came into the party from the Sanders campaign. We also need to establish more local branches.

### *New business*

Coralee Brewer gave a presentation, noting that we have been pressed to endorse anyone with a D after their names regardless of whether they progressive values. Think of all the activism that we already do—how can we leverage that into better candidates?

Local Progressive Caucus groups would support local candidates, operating more like a workgroup than running formal meetings. The Labor Council is also talking about establishing more local councils. Darlene Miller and Rick DeWitt reported that the 44<sup>th</sup> LD has organized a progressive caucus.

We should work on getting an anti- “free” trade statement into the state party platform. For more information consult [washingtonfairtrade.org](http://washingtonfairtrade.org)

Local groups are working against the Grays Harbor oil terminal. How do we connect the various forms of activism? Accomplishments in one area encourage accomplishments in other areas. There will be a protest at here at noon in Yakima against the oil pipeline.

People in LD 2 are working with Brand New Congress and Our Revolution. Slack is a good organizing tool. Whatever it is you are doing, find a way to share it.

<https://brandnewcongress.org/home> <https://ourrevolution.com/>

Chad Lupkes recalled how Howard Dean was an inspiration to many people in 2004, resulting in the formation of Democracy for America. Actual Democratic Party members are doing just about everything (single payer health care, stopping the TPP), but we aren't going to see it on CNN. We are not done—we are just getting started. In the 46<sup>th</sup> LD in 2005, former supporters of Dean and Kucinich started meeting together. The group disbanded in two years because all of the members eventually got on the executive board. All party caucuses should do more local organizing

Joe Kendo from the WA State Labor Council explained why the labor community not supporting Initiative 732. Climate change and income inequality are our greatest challenges. Labor has been working with environmental and People of Color organizations. What kind of tax should we put on carbon? The 732 approach is bad science and bad environmental policy. It has been tried in British Columbia—affected companies just passed on their costs to consumers, so its potential good effect was lost. Cap and trade is much more effective. As in CA, the transition process should not be borne only by some communities. Unions are ardent supporters of fighting climate change. He also noted that the labor community supporting Chris Reykdal for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

A representative from the Inslee campaign reported that he is currently leading, but we should not be complacent. We have passed the largest transportation package ever, and are supporting the minimum wage initiative.

### ***Candidates***

Coralee Brewer reported that the 18<sup>th</sup> LD has also endorsed our previously endorsed candidate Eric Holt candidate running to replace Ann Rivers. We have a good chance of turning this LD blue.

Barb Olsen made a motion objecting to how candidate funding by the House Democratic Committee is done. Candidates not endorsed by any Democratic organizations are being supported to run against those who have. Committees of the legislature should consult with party organizations before spending money. They donated \$65K to a candidate running against Darcy Burner. State Chair Jaxon Ravens said that timeliness is an issue, and we should wait until January or April of 2017 for a vote. The motion passed—17 in favor, 7 opposed and 1 abstention.

Erik Miller is running as a write-in candidate for State Treasurer.

### ***Other issues***

Beth Lindsay advocated voting yes on Initiative 1501. Half of those affected by scams are seniors, who have lost \$2.9 billion due to fraud. It makes identity theft a Class A felony. The initiative is mostly unopposed—only the conservative Freedom Foundation is opposed. A vote was taken to support Yes on 1501, with 20 in favor and 2 opposed.

Martha Koester  
Secretary  
November 12, 2016