**DRAFT MINUTES**

32nd LD Democrats Monthly Meeting

March 5, 2025, 6:30 pm

[32democrats.org](https://32democrats.org/)

**Facebook Live Zoom Video**

https://www.facebook.com/32democrats.org/videos/1400327698045875 **6:30 PM WELCOME** (video at: 0:05-4:12)• **Chair, Chris Roberts**

Welcome to our March meeting. I’m sure we will have a much better meeting and much better speeches than took place last night! The resistance begins at home and we have a number of candidates and a number of local elected officials who are here tonight who are leading that resistance.

• **Welcome Elected Officials and PCOs**

• **Adoption of** [**February 2025 Minutes**](https://32democrats.org/2025-minutes/). Moved, seconded, adopted without objection.

**CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS**

**• Dionne Foster, Candidate for Seattle City Council, Position 9 (citywide seat)** (video at: 4:12-13:44)
I have had diverse career. I currently work as Exec. Director of Washington Progress Alliance, an organization that helps invest in other organizations that are doing incredible grassroots work. Last year, we worked to help defend our state’s capital gains tax and to ensure that the investments from that tax were driven toward the stated purposes of childcare, early education and school construction. I’ve also worked at the Seattle Foundation managing a public/private partnership which gives resources to organizations working on housing and youth development. Also, I’ve worked at the City of Seattle as a senior advisor. Q&A

**• Nathan Rouse, Candidate for Seattle City Attorney** (video at: 13:44-24:03)I’m excited to share my vision for a justice system in Seattle that works for everyone, not just the rich and powerful. Seattle deserves a leader in the City Attorney’s Office that gets the job done and develops a real evidence-based public safety plan, not one that just plays with performative politics. No. 1, we need to focus on the most serious misdemeanor crimes like DUIs and domestic violence and make sure we are getting meaningful results in those cases because they are threats to public safety. No. 2, we need to invest in rehabilitation and re-entry programs that actually work and we need to bring back a more robust version of community court. No. 3, we need to provide real support to victims of crime, such as providing access to a victim’s compensation fund, to property crime victims who suffer economic losses from theft or property damage. We need to fight for economic justice by taking actions such as cracking down on wage theft and enforcing legal protections for workers and tenants. I am the only candidate in the race that has experience handling both criminal and civil litigation. As a public defender, I have spent years in the courtroom. Q&A

 **• Ryan Calkins, Candidate for Seattle Port Commission, Position 1** (video at 24:06-34:37)

I enjoy working with my colleagues at the Port as I feel we have a great leadership team. Local government is extremely important in the transition away from fossil fuels toward a green economy. The good news is that I think the Port of Seattle has the capacity and leverage to make a real difference in that transition. The federal government is now actively working against that transition. Furthermore, we are committed to being a welcoming port for immigrants, refugees and asylees that may come through Seattle International Airport as their first step on American soil. Also, the Port of Seattle will be spending about a billion dollars on capital construction at the airport and seaport. Q&A

**• George Hurst, Candidate for Mayor of Lynnwood** (video at 34:38-40:41)

On February 27th, I announced that I would be running for Lynnwood Mayor. You have endorsed me in the past and I look forward to asking for your endorsement again. When I was elected in 2023, to my third term on the council, I didn’t think I would be running for mayor. However, over the past two years I have become concerned about what’s going on within the Lynnwood administration. The council passed a budget that I have real concerns about. It was based on an overly optimistic forecast and therefore resulted in an over-estimated sales tax. Our budget now assumes a 100% increase in red light tickets and we have also had a very large property tax increase. Another factor is that long term employees, with a tremendous amount of experience, have been leaving the city. And, finally, we have had tragic shootings of teenagers who were killed. Two council members want to start a youth council, to work on alternatives to joining gangs and self-harm, however, the mayor pushed back and said her staff did not have time for this project. The council will now support this project. Q&A

**• Neil Weiss, Candidate for Edmonds Municipal Court Judge** (video at 41:03-48:38)

I’m here to talk about retaining my position as Edmonds Municipal Court Judge. I am a longtime resident of Snohomish County. I grew up here and my family now resides here. I therefore understand the values of our community. I graduated from Washington State in accounting and then went to Seattle University for my law degree. I’m very proud to be able to bring both the financial background and the legal background to the judgeship. After law school, I built a career with a law group in Everett and was a managing partner there. What I’m most proud of in my legal career was the founding of the first legal clinic to help parents with newborns. Q&A

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**• Carin Chase, State Committee Person** (video at 50:46-51:35)I move thatRobert Petersenbe removed as 32nd LD Democrats State Committee Person  **• Chris Roberts, Chair**

Under our bylaws, 10% of the 32nd LD Democrats PCOs must sign a petition to remove an individual from office. Thisnumber of ‘required seconds’ has been met. Also, under our bylaws, the discussion of this motion will take place at the next membership meeting. This meeting will be April 2.

**NOMINATION BY CHAIR FOR AN E-BOARD POSITION**

**• Chris Roberts, Chair** (video at 51:37-51:35)

I would like to nominateGray Petersen as our Labor Chair.

Moved and seconded. Gray Petersen is appointed without objection.

**APPOINTMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE BY CHAIR
• Chris Roberts, Chair** (video at 51:37-51:35)
Over the last several months we have asked for individuals to become members of the endorsement committee.
I appoint these individuals as voting members:

> William Paige
> Marguerite Dekker

> Alan Charnley
> Julie Kang

> Hammad Hashmi
> Stephanie Harris

I appoint these individuals as voting non-voting members:

> Ted Hikel, representative to the Snohomish County Democrats Endorsement Committee
> A female representative to the Snohomish County Democrats Endorsement Committee (this position is vacant)

> Pat Weber, representative to the King County Democrats Endorsement Committee

Moved and seconded. Endorsement Committee voting and non-voting members are approved without objection.

**CONSIDERATION OF PCO POSITIONS**

**Sally Soriano, PCO Committee** (video at 56:30-51:35)

Each of these individuals have submitted their PCO paperwork to become a PCO:

> Annette Ademasu, SHL 3705, Acting PCO
> Nick Coelho, LYNN 36, Appointed PCO
> Linda Grimsson, SHL 1101, Appointed PCO
> Sally Soriano, SEA 2216, Acting PCO

Moved and seconded. Council Member Annette Ademasu, Linda Grimsson and Sally Soriano are approved without objection.

Moved and seconded. Council Member Nick Coelho is approved without objection.
[**RESOLUTION**](https://32democrats.org/2025-pending/)(video at 1:09:03-1:12:27)

**Resolution Supporting: Freedom of Conscience and the Principle of Separation of Church and State**

Submitted by Sen. Maralyn Chase

This resolution has been forwarded to the 32nd LD Democrats by the WA State Democratic Party Separation of Church and State Caucus and will be considered at our April 2nd monthly meeting. Our caucus is beginning to educate people on the history of the separation of church and state in our country. There are some groups across the country who are attempting to implement theological doctrine as our public policy and, even though it will go to court, this is an opportunity for us to educate our communities about the history of Thomas Jefferson and the importance of separation of church and state in our civics education.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

(video at: 1:22:33-1:45:03)

**• 7:45 PM ADJOURNED**

**Next Monthly Meeting**

**April 2, 6:30 pm on Zoom**

**Join us at a 32nd LD Dems Meet-up—**

**Thursday, April 3**
Monthly King County meet-up: First Thursday of each month at [**Jerseys**](https://jerseysgreatfoodandspirits.com/)**,** Shoreline, 6:30pm (1125 N 152nd St off Aurora)

**Thursday, April 17**

Monthly Snohomish County meet-up: Third Thursday of each month, at [**Diamond Knot Brewpub**](https://diamondknot.com/brewbrewpubmlt)**@MLT**, 6:30pm (5602 232nd St SW)

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary

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