**MINUTES**

**32nd Legislative District Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 6:30 pm, Via Zoom & Call-in**

32democrats.org • chair@32democrats.org

Here is the [video](https://www.facebook.com/32democrats.org/videos/201148591794065) link to our meeting,

each agenda item starts at the time indicated on the left.

**6:30 PM -** **Meeting called to order** **by Chair, Chris Roberts**

**:16-:40 -** **Land Acknowledgment** **- Edie Loyer Nelson, Duwamish Tribal Elder**

**3:10-3:45 -** **Approval of the** [**February 3, 2021 Minutes**](https://32democrats.org/download/minutes-32nd-ld-meeting-wed-feb-3-2021/),

**Chair:** **Approved without objection.**

**3:46-13:32 -** **Chair's Report - Chris Roberts**

• An election is now taking place for [**King County Conservation District Supervisor**](https://kingcd.org/about/board-of-supervisors/elections-and-appointments/)and you can view candidates at this website. King County voters can vote now through March 23rd.

• I have made appointments to the King County and Snohomish County Endorsement Committees: Stephanie Harris and Jenna Nand to Snohomish County and Lillian Hawkins, Alan Charnley and myself to King County.

• We will have a chance at our next meeting, on April 7th, to make early endorsements.

**13:41** - **Candidate Introduction**

**13:41-17:29** [**John Comerford**](https://kingcd.org/2021/02/05/position-3-candidate-statements/#JohnComerford)**, Candidate for King County Conservation District Supervisor**

I would bring a needed background in finance, 45 years of experience, to the KC Conservation District. At the state level, I worked on the State Bank and on environmentally sound pension fund investments. Currently there is no one on the board with a background in finance.

**18:04-23:17** - **Bylaw Amendment Proposal - Carin Chase and Alan Charnley, 32nd State Committee Reps**

This bylaw change is being proposed so that our 32nd LD bylaws align with the State Democratic Party bylaws.

[**32nd LD Bylaws 4.1.A Elected Officers**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-ld-bylaws-april-12-2017/)

1st Vice Chair, ~~to reside in a different county from the Chair~~, to be a different gender than the Chair
2nd Vice Chair, to reside in a different county from the 1st Vice Chair

**Janet Way: I move we adopt the bylaw amendment, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Without objection, the bylaw amendment is adopted.**

**24:14** **Candidate Introductions**

**24:14-33:18 -** [**Dow Constantine**](https://www.dowconstantine.com/)**, Candidate for King County Executive**

Despite being the first place with a major COVID outbreak and having no roadmap or help from the federal government, King County is maintaining the 49th lowest rate of infection out of 50 of the largest counties in the country. Seventy percent of people who are eligible have been vaccinated. Also, we have a chance this fall to invest in our kids by expanding Best Start for Kids, a program which I created in 2015, that has helped over 500,000 children and youth.

**Meeting is now being chaired by Vice-Chair, Lillian Hawkins**

**34:39-47:11 -** [**Kyoko Matsumoto Wright**](https://www.facebook.com/Kyoko-Matsumoto-Wright-125322268960/)**, Candidate for Mountlake Terrace City Council**

I have been on the council since 2008 and for two and a half years I was mayor. I am working on affordable housing and transportation choices. We don't have housing stock for people in the $50-80,000 income range, and we need transportation available to working people at all hours.

**47:21-1:09 -** **Report from** [**Congresswoman Pramilia Jayapal's Office**](https://jayapal.house.gov/)**, Rachel Berkstrom, District Director**

Congresswoman Jayapal would want me to thank you for your support. Once again, she got the most votes of any member of Congress in the country! She's been working hard to include survival checks and to keep $15/hr in the COVID relief package; is calling for filibuster reform; worked on justice and policing legislation, which just passed; introduced the millionaires tax with Sen. Warren; introduced bold, progressive immigration reform, called 'the Roadmap to Freedom'; and will re-introduce Medicare for All later this month.

**1:09** **Candidate Introduction**

**1:09-1:26 -** [**Deborah Kilgore**](https://www.facebook.com/KilgoreforEdmondsSchools/)**, Candidate for Edmonds School Board**

Our intensive-support students are now back in school. We've opened hubs where students can come and get wifi if they are having trouble accessing classes remotely. We will be opening K-2 in a hybrid model at the end of the month. Right now 57% of our families want to return to school and about the same for teachers and staff. We are now shifting around trying to keep cohorts of kids together and cohorts of teachers together. The governor, yesterday, announced he was moving teachers up on the vaccine schedule, so that changes things again.

**1:28-1:44 -** **Women's History Month and**

**the Equal Rights Amendment - Former Senator Maralyn Chase**

**Maralyn:** First, I'd like Alicia Crank to talk about the organizing she has done, here in Edmonds, for International Women's Day.

**Alicia:** This is the 3rd year we have celebrated [**Edmonds International Women's Day**](https://www.facebook.com/IWDEdmonds/)**.** Please join us for the virtual 2021 celebration, over two days, 5 sessions. It will be live-streamed on our Facebook page and is free! Register for each session separately.

• Sunday, March 7th, 3 sessions: Education / Philanthropy/Volunteerism / Mental Health

• Monday, March 8th, evening, 2 sessions: Happy Hour / Women & Sports with the Seattle Kraken and Seahawks. Keynote: Seattle Storm's Sue Bird

**Maralyn:** In 1923, Alice Paul, of the National Woman's Party, put forth an equal rights amendment to the Constitution. The ERA was passed by Congress in 1972. It had to be, however, ratified by 38 states. We've been fighting for this for a long time -- but this is our year! Here's some excellent history. [**ABC News: Movement to Enact the ERA Renewed**](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/video/movement-enact-equal-rights-amendment-renewed-75935169)

**1:45-2:06 - Ratification of Endorsement Committee Members - Stephanie Harris, Chair, 32nd Endorsement Committee**

Stephanie: This year we have several new members on our committee, as confirmed by the executive board: Rosamaria Graziani, Liz Brown, Nara Kim and Lillian Hawkins. Returning members are Ted Hikel-Vice Chair, Brent McFarlane, Pat Weber and Maralyn Chase.

**Stephanie:** **I move to accept this endorsement committee slate, (Seconded).**

**1:59 - Stephanie:** The endorsement committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. And, as Chris mentioned earlier, we will have one marathon endorsement meeting, in May, with the membership. Anyone can be an observer at these interviews. Please email me and I will send you the link: stephanie.harris@32democrats.org

**Elizabeth Lunsford: Motion to remove Ted Hikel from endorsement committee slate, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Motion (by ballot) fails, 6 yes; 32 no**

**Stephanie: I amend my motion to ask that the entire endorsement committee be adopted by acclamation, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Hearing no objection, the committee slate is adopted by acclamation.**

**2:07-2:08 -Treasurer's Report, Chris Roberts**

In order to vote at the April 7th meeting, you have to become a 32nd LD member by March 10th. Click [**here**](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/32membership) for membership. If you are a PCO, you are already a voting member. If you are already a member, please let us know if you need to re-confirm before March 10th. If you need a reduction of dues, or waiver, please just contact me. Then you will be eligible to vote in April. chris.roberts@32democrats.org

**2:08 - New Business**

**2:08-2:13**

**a.** [**YES on Shoreline's Proposition 1**](https://www.shorelineparksprop1.com/) **- Shoreline Parks for Everyone, Betsy Robertson, Shoreline City Council**

**Betsy: I move we endorse Shoreline's Prop 1, (Seconded).**

In addition to Chair Roberts, we have Deputy Mayor Scully, Council Member McConnell, and Council Member Chang with us this evening. Proposition 1 was unanimously placed on the ballot by the Council. It is a $38M continuation of the parks and improvement bond that was passed in 2006, allowing us to fund the parks we have, expand our park system, and also to let us develop some land that has been underutilized. There's a focus on equity -- for playgrounds, trails, play equipment, off leash areas, ADA accessibility, and public art. Ballots drop the first week of April, and the election will be the 3rd week of April. Please see more about Prop 1 on our [**website**](https://www.shorelineparksprop1.com/)**.**

**Chair: Without objection, the 32nd District Democrats have endorsed Proposition 1.**

**b. Resolutions**

**2:13-2:16**

**•** [**Support for Confirmation of Deb Haaland as Secretary of the Interior**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-democrats-urge-senate-confirmation-of-deb-haaland-as-secretary-of-the-u-s-department-of-interior/) **- Carin Chase, WA State Federation of Democratic Women**

Carin: This resolution has been written by tribal leaders in conjunction with the Federation of Democratic Women. We had expected Rep. Haaland would have been confirmed today, but the confirmation is still pending. The resolution reads:

'That U.S. Representative Deb Haaland..is eminently qualified to be Secretary of the Interior; and that the 32nd District Democratic Organization hereby urges Senate confirmation of U.S. Representative Deb Haaland as the Biden Administration's Secretary of the Interior.'

**Carin: I move we adopt this resolution, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Without objection, the resolution passes.**

**2:16-2:22**

**•** [**Resolution addressing exhaustion of the Social Security Trust Fund reserves**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-ld-resolution-the-social-security-payroll-tax-and-the-social-security-2100-act/) **- Trudy Bialic, 32nd Senior Issues**

Carin (for Trudy): The resolution reads:

-'We advocate deleting from the proposed [**Social Security 2100 Act**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/860) provisions that would raise the payroll tax from 6.2% to 7.4% on wages and salaries below $147,800 to avoid making this capped payroll tax even more regressive on low- and middle-income people, and

-We advocate raising gradually the payroll tax on wages and salaries of $421,926 or more from the current 6.2% to 7.4% to compensate for the extreme growth in income inequality between the top 1 percent and the bottom 99 percent in the U.S.,. the "most unequal developed nation" in the world.'

**Carin: I move we adopt this resolution, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Without objection, the resolution passes.**

**2:22-2:24**

**c. PCO Appointment**

**Carin: Motion to appoint James Trefry as PCO for precinct LYNNWOOD 12, (Seconded).**

**Chair: Without objection, the motion passes.**

**2:24-2:34 Good of the Order**

**• Ted Hikel** - I have lived in segregation in Texas, and in Virginia. I've been given what is called the "colored room" in a motel in Texas. I have never had the intention to insult or demean any person. I thank the 32 people who voted for me, but I would like to discuss this further with the 5 people who didn't. It is very important to me.

**• Janet Way** - I think we should ask a spokesperson from Recology King County, recycling company, to come to our next meeting to explain the implications of the recent hack of their system. It is fairly serious in light of the other ugly hacks including the Employment Security and other utilities and public, governing payment systems. These are losses of millions of dollars and huge impacts on poor, unemployed people.

**• Shoreline School Board President, Meghan Jernigan, and Shoreline School Board Director, Sara Betnel -** We would like you to contact [**Sen. Jesse Salomon**](https://senatedemocrats.wa.gov/salomon/), requesting that he support [**SB 5340**](https://fastdemocracy.com/bill-search/wa/2021-2022/bills/WAB00013078/), as this bill came out of an experience we had here in Shoreline to expand eligibility criteria for serving on school boards. It is important for the school board to represent the diversity of the students and community which it serves.

**• Brent McFarlane, PCO and 32nd Labor Liaison** - I wanted to talk about the fact that President Biden and Governor Jay Inslee have issued directives that teachers and childcare workers be eligible for the vaccine. We also, however, have many frontline workers who have been out there in harms way -- grocery store workers, postal workers, farmers. Please ask [**Governor Inslee**](https://www.governor.wa.gov/contact/contact/contacting-governors-office) to keep his word that we will prioritize all frontline workers across the state as soon as possible.

**2:34 Adjourn**

***~ Thank you Rosamaria Graziani for your wonderful live English-Spanish translation! ~***

**Next 32nd LD Meeting — Wednesday, April 7th, 6:30 PM**

(our new meeting date is now the 1st Wednesday, of each month)

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary

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