**DRAFT MINUTES**

**32nd Legislative District Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 12, 2020, 7:00 PM**

**Via Zoom & Call-in**

32democrats.org • chair@32democrats.org

**6:30 PM Sign In**

**7:00 Call To Order by Alan Charnley, Chair**

**7:01 Pledge of Allegiance**

**7:02 Land Acknowledgment**

We in the 32nd LD acknowledge that we live and work on the ancestral lands of the Duwamish, Tulalip, and the Puyallup Tribes, and next to their ancestral waters, the Salish Sea. We honor with gratitude this land, water and the Puyallup, Tulalip, and Duwamish Peoples.

**~ Moment of Silence to recognize the departure of**

**our former PCO and E-Board Member, Jin-ah Kim ~**

**7:03 Approval of** [**July 8, 2020**](https://32democrats.org/download/2020-07-08/) **Minutes, M/S/C, Approved**

**7:04 Approval of Agenda, M/S/C, Approved**

**7:05  Remembering John Lewis with**[**Representative John Lovick**](https://www.facebook.com/reelectjohnlovick/)

Rep. Lovick: Everything John Lewis did, he did it to bring the community together. I met Congressman John Lewis in his office in D.C. and I asked him, "How he was able to stand so firm in the face of so much hate?" He answered, "I keep walking and you should never be bitter and you should never be angry. Don't let anyone break your spirit." He also said, "We need to be socially kind to each other. And if you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have to speak up. You have a morale obligation to say something and to do something." These are messages that I've been able to use for a long-time. Meeting him that day meant so much for me in my life and I miss him very much. Thank very much for letting me share these memories. Some of us go to Olympia, but you here in the LD do this great work as are the foot soldiers of our democracy, helping us get elected and letting us know about issues that come up in your neighborhoods.

**7:20 Primary Election Recap with Chris Roberts, State Committee Rep**

Chris Roberts: There are some good results and there are some results we should be concerned about. The voter turnout, over 53%, was the highest it's been in recent elections. The other good result is that, at the top of our ticket, most of our candidates have done pretty well.

A down side is in Pierce County where **Rep. Schrier** might have problems as she received only 31% of the vote. She received at total 43% when combined with King County but the Democratic vote in the 8th Congressional District vote was under 50%.

**Gov. Inslee is** over 50%. For **Lt. Gov,** **Denny Heck** (32nd LD endorsed) is 8 to 10 points ahead of **Marko Lillas.** He is ahead in all counties except for King. In the other races, all of our endorsed candidates at the top of the ticket are doing well except for **Gael Tarleton**. We need to do a lot of work here.

The other race that needs our attention is with **Supt. of Public Instruction** **Chris Reykdal**, our endorsed candidate. He is only getting about 40% of the vote. It is a non-partisan race so we need to let people know that Supt. Chris Reykdal is the Democrat we are supporting in this race. We have a lot of work to do to make sure he is re-elected.

On the legislative side, in the **42nd LD**, **Rep. Shewmake** is under 50% in her race in Whatcom County; in the **10th LD**, **Rep. Paul** is under 50% in his race; and Candidate **Helen Price Johnson** is behind the appointed senator in the **10th**.

In the **19th LD**, **Sen. Takko**, I'm sorry to report, is ahead with 44% but the rest going to two Republicans and **Rep. Blake, Pos. 2**, is similarly down against his challenger.

Northwest Progressive Institute put it well, many of the blue districts did well but in districts that are red, the Republicans did even better.

Closer to home in the **5th LD, Ingrid Anderson**, a nurse, running against **State Senator Mark Mullet**, Anderson is ahead of Mullet at this point -- probably will be the most expensive race in WA State history.

In the **29th LD**, **Rep. Steve Kirby**, opposed same sex marriage when it came up, is only about 100 votes ahead of his Democratic challenger.

In the **32nd LD**, our endorsed candidate **Shirley Sutton** made it through to the general election. In Pos. 2, the non-partisan candidate will advance but our endorsed candidate, **Rep.** **Lauren Davis** is way ahead.

Our job now is to make sure people vote for the right candidates on November 3rd.

**7:35 APPROVE Referendum-90 with Matthew Grover, Planned Parenthood Votes NW**

Matthew Grover: Our State Legislature passed SB 5395 in the 2020 session, and it was signed into law by Governor Inslee, March 2020. Opponents then gathered enough signatures to refer it to the ballot this November 3rd. So we are now working to APPROVE R-90 which is comprehensive sex education for K-12 education.

At its heart, this is about equity throughout our state's education districts. Because there has been no state law requiring sex education to be taught, even though many districts have been able to develop their own curriculum, others have not. Approving R-90 would require all school districts to teach age-appropriate, medically accurate, and inclusive sexual health education. Importantly, all parents and guardians will have the ability to opt their student out. Also, the exact curriculum is not mandated by the state. There are only guidelines of subject areas, therefore local control by individual school districts remains in place. We hope the 32nd LD will support R-90 so that all students, in every zip code, can receive the education they need and deserve.

Q: I've been seeing a lot of Phyllis Schlafley moral type attack ads about sex education. Could you let us know some of the misinformation being used by opponents so we could counter it?

A: Opponents have been spreading a lot of misinformation about what comprehensive sex health includes. Please check out our website, Facebook, Twitter -- Approve90wa.org. We are educating people about what this curriculum will do and the fact that the legislation includes parental opt-outs and local control -- meaning parents will have the opportunity to select a curriculum for their students and then be able to work hand-in-hand with educators on developing it.

Q: Are you going to give scientifically sound information?

A. Yes, definitely. Without comprehensive sex education being taught within our public schools, students and young people are going to sources online, word-of-mouth from friends and other non-reputable sources and so that is a huge component, making sure it is medically accurate or scientifically accurate.

Q: The criticism I hear the most is that you are teaching 4th-graders sex positions.

A: That is simply not true. Yes, it is one of the lies that opponents to sex ed are promoting. The focus of the K-5th grade curriculum is on creating a foundation of developing healthy relationships and then waiting until middle school and high school to talk about the sexual health component.

Q: Many people focus on the curriculum starting K-3 and that this is much to early to start sex education?

A: The K-3rd grade curriculum focuses only on social emotional learning. Here we are talking about the characteristics of a friend and knowing, for example, what is appropriate and in-appropriate touching so that we can prevent any form of abuse that any young people might experience. So again, the K-5 curriculum is only about developing relationships and focusing on body autonomy.

**7:45 Conversation on Voter Registration with Gary McCaig**

Gary McCaig: I'm focusing on voter registration for this critical election, November 3rd, 2020. Voter registration efforts have been seriously impeded by the pandemic. I worked with Cindy Black at *Fix Democracy First* to develop a voter registration poster with QR codes (a square that can be accessed with a smart phone) and in several languages, to help people particularly immigrants, register to vote. I would like the 32nd LD to approve printing 100 copies of the poster. It will include the 32nd LD identification along with union bug. The posters I've placed so far in store windows have been highly effective in registering voters.

**M/S/C, Approved**

To obtain posters, contact: gary.mccaig@32democrats.org

**League of Women Voters - Voter Registration Links**

**Help your neighbors and friends register to vote on-line. Forms are available at**

**this website in 15 languages:**

<https://www.vote411.org/register>

**8:05 Conversations with Endorsed Candidates**

• [Shirley Sutton, State House of Representatives, Pos. 1](https://www.voteshirleysutton.com/)

• [Lauren Davis, State House of Representatives, Pos. 2](https://electlaurendavis.com/)

• [Douglass North, King County Superior Court, Pos. 30](https://www.reelectjudgedougnorth.com/)

**8:15 PCO COVID Update, Sally Soriano, for the 32nd PCO Coordinators Group**

Sally Soriano: I'm reporting back on our August 4th COVID PCO phone canvassing effort -- in which many of you on this call participated. Instead of our usual, tried & true, PCO lit drops at voter's doors, this year, with COVID, we instead, only called voters. PCOs were each sent a list of about 90 "strong democrats" or "likely democrats" with phone numbers (so the calls were all friendly). We also sent addresses and a map (so you could see where the voter lives) and a sample script. These lists were compiled from the State Democrats' Votebuilder database. The downside of the lists, however, was that about 1/3 of the phone numbers were not current. We warned PCOs about this problem though. When PCOs called, they told voters they could find our 32nd endorsed candidate list at our 32nd LD website -- 32democrats.org Overall, it sounded as if voters were generally appreciate to receive these calls.

From this experience, one PCO recommended that for the Nov. 3rd General Election, our 32LD supply each PCO with about 30 printed postcards listing our endorsed candidates. Then, when a wrong number is reached, the PCO could either mail the postcard or drop it on the voter's porch. This approach would ensure all voters on the precinct list would then be contacted. The cost of 30 printed postcards and stamps would be about $20.

Last Saturday (8/8), King County held their monthly PCO meeting, chaired by Anne Udaloy. The 32nd was both acknowledged for having highly visible voter registration information on our website and for having over 50% of our PCO positions filled. Two main topics were discussed: First, several legislative districts have started using "text banking" instead of "phone banking" to contact voters. They've found it to be highly successful and will teach all the LDs how to "text bank". Second, we discussed automating the PCO sign-up process given the current, overly complex system. Several LD Reps did caution that this new automated system must be based in the LDs because the PCO applicant can then be both vetted and there can be a discussion about all of the volunteer possibilities in the LD, in addition to PCO duties.

**8:25  PCO Appointment - Chris Roberts, SHL-32-0001**Chris Roberts: I recently moved and I look forward to continuing to be a very active PCO.

**M/S/C - Approved**

**8:30 Resolutions**

• [In Support of Referendum-90 (SB 5395)](https://32democrats.org/download/resolution-in-support-of-referendum-90/)

Carol McMahon: We've had a presentation tonight on APPROVE R-90, so I'll just go through some of the text of the resolution:

• Whereas, a strong majority of Washingtonians support requiring schools to offer scientifically based, medically accurate, age-appropriate, comprehensive sex education (86% support, 70% “strongly support,” according to Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest); and

• Whereas, SB 5395 would require school districts to adopt or develop, consistent with state standards, comprehensive age-appropriate sexual health education, as defined, for all students, and excuse students if their parents request;

• Therefore, be it resolved that the 32nd Legislative District Democratic Organization urges all voters to vote “Approve” on Referendum 90 (SB 5395) in the November 2020 election.

**M/S/C - Approved**

• ["Scrap the Cap" on Social Security Payroll Deductions](https://32democrats.org/download/scrap-the-cap-social-security-payroll-deductions/)

Trudy Bialic: This was the biggest issue on my mind when I was elected 32nd LD Senior Advocate. Trump and the Republicans are announcing that they will defund Social Security if he is re-elected. This resolution would not only stop their action but it would secure Social Security pass the 2035 date when the surplus runs out. Congress has made adjustments to the Social Security Act before. The Act started in 1935. In 1983, there were amendments made: cutting the Cost of Living increase out and made Social Security taxable as income. So they actually have cut it by 13% already for people born after 1960. But now it's being threatened with absolute defunding. This resolution would eliminate the cap on payroll deductions so millionaires and billionaires will pay the same tax rate as lower and middle-income families making below $137,000 a year. This current system is arbitrary, it is unfair, and it needs to be fixed. It would improve benefits for current retirees and would strengthen benefits for future generations -- especially for millennials who do not have pension plans. This is an essential support and security system for millennials.

Dean Fournier: Having the cap is the antithesis of a graduated income tax. We all pay a flat rate up to $137,000. Trudy put this into the resolution. Scrapping the cap is a leveler and it is important.

**M/S/C - Approved**

[• Wild Wallace Forest Reconveyance](https://32democrats.org/download/wild-wallace-forest-reconveyance/)

Mary Rollins, 38th LD: Off of Route 2, near Index, Gold Bar and Sultan, there's state land and there is federal land and in between you have 5,300 acres which is called the Wild Wallace. Right now it is being logged by the Department of Natural Resources. We are asking that Wild Wallace be returned to Snohomish County as a park. They are logging right now within 500 feet of Wallace Falls. We want what's left to be preserved: <https://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/wallace-falls>

We've talked with three members of the County Council and we are talking to the Tribes. We have the support of the Snohomish County Democrats and the 38th and 1st LDs. Residents want a place to hike, not a place to have to look at clear-cutting. We've temporarily named it "Wild Wallace County Park".

**M/S/C - Approved**

**8:55 New Business**

-none

**9:00 Good of the Order**

Carin Chase: I'm coming to you as a 32nd LD State Committee person and a delegate for the National Delegate to the DNC and the Convention is coming up next week. It is all virtual, and there are many programs. I'll be sending the schedules to our Facebook page. We've been able to meet in this State with Black Lives Matter and we have been able to make sure that the National Platform includes a ban on chokeholds. Also, there is wording on an infrastructure bank and language on Native American boarding schools that is included in the national platform -- all important work by our WA State National Delegation. Everything will be online.

Gray Petersen: Today is the third year anniversary of the passing of a martyr named Heather Heyer. She was the sole person killed during the car attack in Charlottesville by a neo-Nazi. There's a movie called "Hate in Charlottesville". Her last post of Facebook was "if you're not angry, you're not paying attention." We're doing our best to keep her in our thoughts given what is happening with White Supremacy violence in his country.

Gray Petersen: There is going to be a demonstration on Saturday for Black Lives Matter -- see the Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BlackLivesMatterShoreline/>

**9:05 Adjourn**

**Next Meeting, Wednesday, September 9th** (2nd Wednesday of the month)

**Respectfully submitted,**

***Sally Soriano,* 32nd LD Secretary**

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