**MINUTES**

**32ND LD General Monthly Meeting**   
**Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 6:30 pm**

[**Facebook Zoom Video**](https://www.facebook.com/32democrats.org/videos/841048836997895)

*~ Thanks* ***Rosamaria Graziani*** *for your wonderful, live English-Spanish translation ~*

**6:30 PM WELCOME – Chris Roberts, Chair** (:09)

Happy New Year everyone! What we are seeing in Wash DC is exciting. Democrats are confident and organized and this is because of your hard work and the hard work of Democrats across the country. I’m looking forward to seeing what the US Senate will be doing in the next couple of years. We have more Democrats now, than ever before, in our State House and Senate. We have a chance to really push some good policies.

**Flag Salute/Land Acknowledgement** (1:13)

**ELECTED OFFICIALS & WA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**Rep. Lauren Davis** (3:10-11:50)

The legislative session begins on Monday, and because it is an odd year, we will have our 105-day budget writing session. Some priorities have been identified by the House Democratic Caucus: the housing crisis, affordable housing, reforming the tax code, the behavioral health crisis, K-12 education, climate change, workforce challenges, criminal legal system reform and additional supports for overburdened communities. Our caucus intends to take an equity lens to all of our work.

**Chair Roberts** (12:29)

Many of you saw the announcement that our State Chair, Tina Podlodowski, will not run again. She has been an amazing chair, electing so many new Democrats, both at the state level and federal level. Shasti, do you have anything you want to say at this moment?

**Shasti Conrad, Chair, King County Democrats** (13:45)

Hi everyone! Late breaking news. You are the first to hear this. Tomorrow I will be officially announcing that I will be running for state party chair. This is with the support of Tina. I feel so lucky that we get to build on the incredible organizing work she has done for the past 6 years. I have the support of Attorney General Bob Ferguson, Lt Governor Denny Heck, Public Lands Commissioner Hillary Franz, Rep. Pramila Jayapal, Rep. Adam Smith, and a whole host of state legislators. I hope to earn your support as well. The election of the state chair and vice-chair will be held in Olympia on January 28th. Thank you for supporting me as Chair of the King County Democrats. My website: [**https://shastiforwashington.com/**](https://shastiforwashington.com/)

**RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE IN TUKWILA TO $19/HR**

**Katie Wilson, General Secretary, The Transit Riders Union** (18:14-40:55)

Thank you for having me here to talk about the campaign. The Transit Riders Union is a multi-issue organization. In addition to transit issues, we work on affordable housing, homelessness, renter protection, and minimum wage.

See Slide show at (21:43) Raise the Wage Tukwila.

Seattle and SeaTac are the two cities in WA State that, prior to our campaign, had established minimum wages higher than the state minimum wage. Tukwila is a huge job center with about 45,000 jobs. It is a low-income city compared to other cities in the county and is very diverse with about half of the households speaking a language other than English in their homes. We started the campaign by talking to a lot of workers on the job. We then talked with community organizations, city councilmembers, business organizations and labor unions and decided to run an initiative – gather signatures, put it on the ballot, let people vote. We went door-to-door and gathered over 3,000 signatures. The initiative went on the ballot and we ended up winning with a vote of more than 82%. We are now working with the city on the implementation of the law. I think, given our margin showing pubic support, there are now opportunities for other cities in King County to enact higher minimum wage laws. Here’s an article I wrote for The Stranger:

**The Stranger (11/9/22)**

[**$19 Is the New $15: Lessons from Tukwila’s Minimum Wage — Now’s the Time to Raise the Wage Floor Across King County**](https://www.thestranger.com/guest-editorial/2022/11/09/78701556/19-is-the-new-15-lessons-from-tukwilas-minimum-wage)

**YES ON I-135, SEATTLE’S HOUSE OUR NEIGHBORS, FEBRUARY 14TH**

**Marc Auerbach, I-135 Outreach Coordinator, King County Democrats** (41:12-59:50)

I-135 creates a public development authority in Seattle with a mandate to create permanently, affordable public housing, publicly controlled, for people making up to 120% of median income. We are on the ballot on February 14th. House Our Neighbors has put a call out to allied organizations to run their own canvasses and run their own GOTV. The King County Democrats have taken up that call. Ballots will drop on January 26th and I would encourage everyone who can, to participate. You can contact: [**https://www.houseourneighbors.org/**](https://www.houseourneighbors.org/) > get involved.

**REPORT: EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL**

**Councilmember Jenna Nand** (1:00:11-1:13:14)

I would like to let you know what we are doing about extreme weather management in the City of Edmonds. We just added our third snow plow to pubic works and approved an update to our comprehensive emergency management plan. After what we saw happen recently in Buffalo, New York, I would encourage everyone to contact your city resources and find out how you can be a resource in your own neighborhood if there is an extreme weather event. Public Works could then contact you with advice on helping vulnerable neighbors.

**REORGANIZATION - SNOHOMISH COUNTY DEMOCRATS**

**David Parshall, PCO** (1:13:43-1:18:10)

The reorganization meeting is this Sunday, January 8th, 10am, in-person at the PUD building in Everett on California Street. We will be electing officers and we want to amend the bylaws so we can meet virtually on Zoom.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES** (1:18:18)

[**December 7 Minutes**](https://32democrats.org/meeting-minutes/)

**Adopted without objection.**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER** (1:19:06-1:39:05)

**Alicia Crank:** I am now the Executive Director of the [**Seattle CityClub**](https://seattlecityclub.org/?gclid=CjwKCAiA5sieBhBnEiwAR9oh2rzah_lK3oP-Hu17Sp_H5IEbevQZTbTqT5jvT2_u8v2JXMTUbkYkzxoCk4cQAvD_BwE)**.** We are having our annual legislative preview, January 6th, Friday morning, 7:30am at the Collective Seattle, South Lake Union. Our speakers will be leadership from the WA State House and Senate. You can also live stream this event. We are going to be hosting debates for the Seattle City Council’s upcoming election, including District 5 which is in the 32nd LD. We also will be doing Civic Cocktail. The first event will be February 1st, centered on Black History Month. Snohomish County Black legislators will be on the program.

**Janet Way, PCO**: The Fircrest Master Plan is out for review and for public comment. I sent out a list of talking points to the 32LDChat. From my perspective, there are a number of concerns about this plan. The proposed plan will level several acres of historic trees. I think the historic trees could actually be incorporated into the building plan. Another talking point is that the City of Shoreline is now on record favoring the protection of open space. We hope they will listen to the city and that councilmembers will express their opinions as well. Send comments to: fircrestschoolSEPA@dshs.wa.gov  
Helen Stanton | Project Planner

**Pat Weber, PCO**: My understanding is that, at the most recent Fircrest meeting of state level people and local level people, they are now open to making it a two-story facility and moving it further north away from the trees. So, now is the time to send comments to support this change in the plan.

**Pat Weber:** It’s January and I want to encourage anyone, that is even remotely thinking about running for office, to do it. It is the most fascinating experience you will ever have. I would personally be glad to help support you if you want to be a candidate!

**France Giddings:** This year, in the legislature, there will be a great deal of discussion about hospital systems -- losing money and gaining huge profits. I urge you to come to our [**Meaningful Movies**](https://meaningfulmovies.org/neighborhoods/kirkland-meaningful-movies/) this month. It is always on the third Friday. On January 20th, we will be showing the documentary called: [**Inhospitalble**](https://inhospitablefilm.com/watch/)**.**

This film looks at the “non-profit” hospitals and how they function. It looks at where the money goes when you go into a hospital and what happens to people who cannot afford huge hospital bills. You can come to our space in Kirkland in-person or you can join us on Zoom.

**Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, former Edmonds City Council Member, PCO:** First, I want to thank Janet for all her work with *Friends of Fircrest* as it is so important to have the community involved. And, thank you Dr. Weber for your important input. I want to encourage everyone to follow the Edmonds City Council and watch what is happening there. We now have Republican control of this council, which hasn’t happened since the early 2000s. I think it is important to hold people accountable. The fact that they make it illegal to be poor in Edmonds sends out a strong message to Democrats.

**Ted Hikel, former Lynnwood City Council Member, PCO:** At last night’s Lynnwood City Council meeting, a large number of people came to talk about a methadone clinic that is moving from Bothell into Lynnwood. The problem is, it is very close to the Boys and Girls Club. This change of location had apparently been going on through the Planning Commission without the council’s knowledge.

**7:59 PM MEETING ADJOURNED**

**NEXT MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING**   
Wednesday, February 1, 2023, 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary  
[sally.soriano@32democrats.org](mailto:sally.soriano@32democrats.org)