**MINUTES**32nd LD General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 6:30pm

Facebook Zoom Video

<https://www.facebook.com/32democrats.org/videos/605117800549716>

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

**WELCOME – CALL TO ORDER**

**• Chris Roberts, Chair** (video at 0:16)

Thank you everyone for attending. Filing week for PCOs went really well for us. We ended up with 88 or 89 precincts filed with a few contested races. Welcome to all of the elected officials who are here today and welcome to all of our wonderful PCOs.

**CANDIDATE RECOGNITION**

**PATRICIA WEBER, MD, 32ND ENDORSED CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE**

**• Pat Weber** (video at 3:42-6:41)

I want to thank the endorsement committee and the rest of the body for supporting me in this endorsement. I want to represent the 32nd issues and the 32nd platform to the very best of my ability. My website is VotePatWeber.com, email: PatWeber@PatWeber.com

**• Chris Roberts:** Congratulations as well, Pat, on winning the endorsement of the King County Democrats.

**EDMONDS ORDIANCE**

**INVITED EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS: SUSAN PAINE AND WILL CHEN**

**• Councilmember Susan Paine** (video at 14:33-45:56)

There is a current push to maintain status quo. Our council has shifted from a 3-4 solid majority, now to a 5-2 minority. There are two of us who are the solid Democrats. There was recently a 5-2 vote to *not allow* unhoused people to sleep on public property. This mainly pertains to parks. This ordinance shifts the human service burden from Edmonds, being responsible and taking care of our unhoused people, to Everett, Lynnwood and Shoreline to provide services for our unhoused people. We have to begin with human services and find out what is best for individual persons.

**• Councilmember Will Chen** (video at 41:12-1:12:10)

I want to give you my perspective on the Unlawful Occupation of Pubic Property Ordinance. This was not an easy decision for me to vote in favor of the ordinance. I was homeless as a child and homelessness is a complex issue. I tried hard to make amendments so that this ordinance would put service upfront and it would be documented whether or not homeless people would accept these services. In 2021, 64 homeless people in Edmonds died on the streets from weather or medical issues. Leaving people on the streets is not the right thing to do.

**ADOPTION OF MAY 4TH LD MEETING MINUTES and**

**MAY 25TH ENDORSEMENT MEETING MINUTES**

**• Sally Soriano, Secretary** (video at 1:12:37-1:14:00)

I want to alert everyone to a correction on the vote tally audit for the May 25th Endorsement Meeting. At the meeting, it was stated that Jason Call, candidate for 2nd US Congressional Representative, received 54% of the vote. In the audit, it was found he actually received 59.5%. This audited vote count still falls below the required 60% for endorsement, but it’s important to note that he received a higher vote than was announced at the meeting.

Unless there are any additions or corrections, I move the May 4th and May 25th minutes be adopted. Seconded.

**Adopted without objection**

**RESOLUTION**

[**END PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICARE**](https://32democrats.org/download/resolution-end-privatization-of-medicare/)

**• Submitted by Trudy Bialic, PCO** (video at 1:14:16-1:23:45)

I move we adopted this resolution. Seconded.

*Speaking in Favor of this Resolution*

**Trudy Bialic:** I originally saw this issue raised in the PSARA (Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action) newsletter. This privatization of Medicare has already started with some contracting programs. I’m sorry to report that this AOC Reach is just a rebranding, in name only, of the Trump plan and Biden is going along. It is slated to gear up in 2023. This privatization maneuvering is occurring under the radar and is intended to bypass Congress. This is why I’ve included in this resolution a request to contact our Congressional delegation about our opposition to AOC Reach.

*Speaking Against this Resolution*

**Eric Valpey**: There are a lot of holes in the system where it seems like the obvious solution is to transition to a Single Payer system. In the absence of Single Payer, we need to have pilot programs to figure out how we elevate equity and health outcomes to get more for the limited dollars that the Medicare budget allows. These kinds of experiments are crucial. We should not be micromanaging the Center for Medicare Services. I think instead, we should be clear what we are advocating for.

*Speaking in Favor of this Resolution*

**Lael White:** I have read that these groups are paying giant bonuses to agents who will purposely racially profile customers or patients and target them for enrollment into these programs. So, I don’t see this elevating what Eric spoke about -- participation or health outcomes for patients and customers. This is only about elevating profits.

**Vote by ballot:**

**91% in favor of this resolution – it passes**

8% opposed

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**• Eric Valpey, Treasurer** (video at 1:39:35)

We have been spending money in three areas: on Zoom for meetings; email distribution; and credit card transaction fees. We are doing well and now have a surplus, as we have not had to spend any money on meeting space, nor have we yet spent any money on campaigning.

 **GOOD OF THE ORDER** (video at 1:16:25-1:49:50)

**• Carin Chase, Director, Edmonds School Board**: We have talked this evening about our unhoused population. I want to invite community leaders, and councilmembers, who still might be on this call, to take a look at what the Edmonds School District has been doing. We’ve partnered with Housing Hope to build housing in our school district for our unhoused students. I think this is exactly the kind of collaboration between organizations and municipalities needed to get at the solution of increasing housing stock in our district.

**• Roger Pence:** I’m a new member in this district from the 21st LD. Since more and more of our cities and towns are meeting in-person, I’ve been hoping the 32nd LD would be able to also return to in-person meetings.

**Chris Roberts:** Yes, many members desire to meet again in-person. However, given the current COVID surge, our e-board voted unanimously to continue having Zoom meetings. We will continue to have this discussion, however. Our endorsed candidates are asking for volunteers to doorbell and drop literature and this is another way can meet other LD members.

**• Ted Hikel:** A comment on the Medicare resolution. I receive my medical care at the PolyClinic which was once owned by doctors. It is now owned by United Healthcare and my doctor is therefore now moving from the PolyClinic and I’m moving with him. Doctors and patients are being more and more confined in their choices with our current system.

Also, I want to compliment George and Pam Hurst for their hard work trying to solve the homeless problem in Lynnwood. And, I would like to say, to Councilmember Will Chen, that I think working on homelessness on a regional basis will be the best solution.

**• Lael White:** I am tired of this kicking all these cans down the road, year after year, decade after decade, when the result is allowing more and more profiteering and providing less and less service. If this continues, we are never going to arrive at Justice for ALL.

**• Chris Roberts:** Baristas at the Everett Starbucks at Broadway & 1st have voted to unionize. It is the first unionized Starbucks in Snohomish County. Congratulations!

**• Maralyn Chase**: June 1st is the beginning of Pride Month and the right to self-determination for LGBTQ+. I recall a time when LGBTQ+ were treated the same way that unsheltered people are being treated today. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights gives all people the right to shelter and respect, just like the respect the LGBTQ+ community had to struggled for, for so many years.

**• Rosamaria Graziani:** I want to comment on gun violence on behalf of the Latino community. We are totally against assault rifles and automatic rifles. Gun control should have the utmost priority. We have good laws in Washington State but we must also must have good laws at the federal level, otherwise we are all still vulnerable. We are horrified by the killings of children and educators – we must not kick this can on gun control down the road!

**• Sally Soriano:** To add on to Chris’ comment about the Everett Starbucks unionizing, in early May, the Starbucks on Holman Road (next door to QFC) in north Seattle, also voted to unionize. The Holman Road Starbucks is located on the border between the 32nd and 36th Legislative Districts so, if you are in the neighborhood, stop in and congratulate them!

**• Michael Brunson:** I wanted to let everyone know there will be a memorial service, on July 15th, for longtime very active, 32nd LD member, LaNita Wacker. It will be held at 4pm, at the Lake Forest Park Civic Club, 17301 Beach Drive.

Also, if you are working on disability issues that you would like to share with me, please send them to: Michael Brunson, PO Box 12548, Seattle, 98111 or call me and let’s talk: 206-542-3264.

**ADJOURNED** (video at 1:49:51)

Everyone is welcome to stay on Zoom after this meeting has been adjourned.

**NEXT MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING
Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 6:30PM**

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary
sally.soriano@32democrats.org