**MINUTES**

**32ND LD GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 6:30 pm

For those of you unable to attend our last meeting, here is a link to the recording—

log time for each section is on the left margin of this recap.

https://www.facebook.com/32democrats.org/videos/335504264656121

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

• 6:30 PM - Welcome, **Carin Chase**, Chair Pro Tem

• Land Acknowledgment, **Cathy Baylor**, of European and Ql̓ispe descent

• Pledge of Allegiance, **Ted Hikel**, PCO

• Approval of **Agenda** without objection and approval of the [**May Minutes**](https://32democrats.org/download/draft-minutes-32nd-ld-meeting-may-5-2021-2/)without objection

0:00-25:14 - Congressman [**Rick Larsen**](https://larsen.house.gov/)

Rep Larsen: I want to thank you for all the work done by the 32nd LD Democrats to elect a majority US House, control of the Senate and have the White House. This was so important because it has allowed us to pass important legislation: [Anti-Asian American Hate Crimes Bill](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/20/biden-anti-asian-hate-crimes-bill-489936%20https%3A//www.politico.com/news/2021/05/20/biden-anti-asian-hate-crimes-bill-489936) and the [American Rescue Plan 2021](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/03/11/biden-signs-covid-relief-bill-475344) that has given us our strong, latest rounds of stimulus. The greatest benefits from the stimulus will be by poorer households with children. Next month, with expansion of the childcare tax credit, checks will go out to households, of $300 a month for children 0-5 years, and of $250 a month for children 5-17 years.

25:38-37:40 - [**People for Patty Murray**](https://pattymurray.com/) - **Kate Baumgartner**, Political Director

Kate: Sen. Murray has launched her re-election campaign. The Senator is focused on the on the [American Jobs Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/american-jobs-plan/) and the [American Families Plan](https://www.whitehouse.gov/american-families-plan/). Provisions of the AFP have been central to her work for decades: childcare, universal paid family leave, and [America's College Promise Act](https://www.aacc.nche.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ACPSummary_Final2.pdf) (two free years of college. She's also working on draft "public option" healthcare legislation and she would like your feedback on this draft.

37:53 - 1:11 - Representative [**Lauren Davis**](https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/davis/) and Representative [**Cindy Ryu**](https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/ryu/)

Rep. Davis: The legislative session defied most people's expectations as such significant legislation was passed. Our state led the nation in passing legislation on police reform: police tactics (banning chokeholds and neck restraints), use of force, required de-escalation training, and setting up an office of independent investigations. We passed a bill creating a universal healthcare commission. We also made huge strides around our regressive tax structure by funding the working families tax credit, which will impact 400,000 families who will receive between $300 and $1,2000 in tax credits.

Rep. Ryu: Several months ago we were worried about not having enough revenue to fund everything necessary. Our priority goals were: COVID-19 response, economic recovery, racial equity and justice, and climate change. Housing was a major topic and many of the bills passed. HB1128, Housing Benefits Districts, did not pass however we will continue to work on it so we can have housing density around the light rail stations. Another housing bill that did pas was HB1070, Acquisition & Construction of Affordable Housing which will allow King County to purchase, not just build, supportive housing for homeless populations.

1:12-1:22 - Discussion of [**PRO Act**](https://aflcio.org/pro-act)**(Protecting the Right to Organize)** - **Thom Garrard**, Edmonds Education Association, 7th CD Rep to the WA State Democrats Labor Caucus, 32nd LD Associate Member

\*\*See PowerPoint at 1:14\*\*

Thom: The National Labor Relations Act (1935) granted basic protections to most workers, but not to all of them, and those who were left out were invariably some of the country's most marginalized: farm workers, domestic workers, independent contractors, and public sector employees as a whole. The PRO Act would change this. It would be the first major worker-friendly labor law reform since the NLRA of 1935.

The PRO Act has passed the US House with all Democrats and 5 Republicans voting in favor. Forty-seven Democratic senators have signed onto the bill. Kelly, Sinema, Warner and at least some Republicans will be needed to get it to Biden's desk.

Key provisions of the PRO Act are:

-Override so-called right-to-work laws that weaken unions by allowing members to opt out of paying dues.

-End the 1947 Taft Hartley Act ban on secondary strikes.

-Update the union election process allowing workers to vote online or by phone.

-Enhance protections for whistleblowers.

-Address the issue of worker misclassification by giving independent contractors (left out of the NLRA), the right to organize collectively.

-Outlaw captive audience meetings.

-Implement card check -- a mechanism that allows a union to be certified if a simple majority of employees at a workplace sign union cards.

-Make arbitration and mediation available to newly certified unions when negotiations stall.

-Prohibit the use of employee immigration status against workers when determining the terms of their employment.

-Impose monetary penalties for companies and executives that violate workers rights.

1:24-1:38 - **Endorsement Considerations**

**•** [**John Ramsdell**](https://electjohnramsdell.com/), Shoreline City Council, Pos 1

Chair Carin Chase: John has been recommended by our endorsement committee and by the e-board.

John: I'm a PCO, and you might know me as the resident who initiated and facilitated the city purchase of a privately owned lot, which is now the Westminster Triangle Neighborhood Park. I have a master's degree in public administration and in clinical psychology. I am a licensed mental health counselor. Public engagement and participation are critical components for sound public policy and I feel I am uniquely qualified for this. I was active in supporting Prop 1, the parks measure, and was chosen by the council to write the pro-statement for the voter pamphlet.

My priorities as a council member will be: improve public open space; champion affordable housing; support police reform (including body cameras and mental health and social workers on the force); and support policies that reduce our dependency on fossil fuels.

**• Without objection, ballot sent out, endorsed by the 32nd LD**

• **Sarah Cohen,** Shoreline School Board, District 3

Chair Carin Chase: Sarah has a school board study session this evening and will try to join us later. Sarah has been recommended by our endorsement committee and by the e-board.

Stephanie Harris, Chair, Endorsement Committee: Sarah has been in this position for about nine months and is very knowledgeable about school district issues.

**• Without objection, ballot sent out, endorsed by the 32nd LD**

1:38-1:51 - **Consideration of Resolutions**

[**• Support for the PRO Act**](https://32democrats.org/download/a-resolution-in-support-of-the-protecting-the-right-to-organize-pro-act/)

Thom Garrard:

"Therefore, be it resolved, that the 32nd LD Democrats thank Senators Murray and Cantwell for being co-sponsors of the PRO Act, and encourage them to continue their efforts to rally support from 60 or more Democratic, Republican, and Independent senators, so that a filibuster cannot be used to block its passage, and

Therefore, be it further resolved, that the 32nd LD Democrats vocally support the PRO Act and encourage its members to message this support via electronic means, at meetings, in letters to the editor, on social media, and in their precincts, neighborhoods, and communities, and

Therefore, be it further resolved, that the 32nd LD Democrats send copies of this resolution to the King County Democrats, the Snohomish County Democrats, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, MLK Labor, the Snohomish and Island County Labor Council, the Washington State Labor Council, and the Washington State AFL-CIO."

Liz Brown:

I speak in favor of this resolution. There has been a systematic whittling away of the NLBA and no pro-worker legislation to speak of. The penalties for violating our labor laws are ridiculously minimal. This law would go a long way in addressing these injustices that have occurred against employees who were simply exercising their legal right to form a union

**• Without objection, endorsed by the 32nd LD**

[**•Resolution Supporting the Passage of the Equality Act**](https://32democrats.org/download/resolution-supporting-the-passage-of-the-equality-act/%20https%3A//32democrats.org/download/resolution-supporting-the-passage-of-the-equality-act/)

Carin Chase:

This resolution was crafted by Equal Rights now and is timely as this is Pride month. Even though many states have passed legislation calling for equality, this resolution calls on Congress to also enact federal laws fully prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex are essential to furthering the wellbeing of the residents and visitors of Washington State; and

"We affirm that LGBT people and women have a right to live free from discrimination in the core aspects of their lives included but not limited to, employment, education, housing, public accommodations, all government funded programs and jury service.

We call upon Congress to pass the Equality Act to ensure that federal civil rights laws are fully inclusive of protections on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and sex.

32nd Legislative District Democratic Organization will send end a copy of this resolution, duly adopted, to Members of Congress representing Washington State; Senator Merkley, Representative Cicilline, the Director of the LGBT Congressional Equality Caucus and President."

**• Without objection, endorsed by the 32nd LD**

1:51-1:54 - **Candidate Introduction**

[**• Scott Marshall**](https://www.facebook.com/Elect-Scott-Marshall-101448522162207/)**,** Port of Edmonds, Commissioner-at-Large, Position 5

Scott: I was recently endorsed by the Snohomish County Democrats, and by the 21st LD Democrats. I've been a PCO for some time now and I've been a longtime environmental activist. I want to make sure the port is not just carbon negative but is carbon neutral. I'm also a strong labor candidate and want to make sure with my fellow commissioners that port contracts require unionized labor. I'm the only Democrat PCO in the race and I want to bring our shared Democratic values to the Port of Edmonds.

2:00 - **Good of the Order**

Sally Soriano - I wanted to say 'congratulations' to Alan Charnley and the Mongers for making the most phone calls, on the phone bank to voters, for Prop 1, the Shoreline parks levy!

8:30 PM - **Adjourned**

**Next 32nd LD Meeting on Zoom**

**Wednesday, July 7, 6:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary

sally.soriano@32democrats.org