**MINUTES**

**32ND LD GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, May 5, 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/events/466524204562054

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

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

**-** **Land Acknowledgment** **- Trudy Bialic, PCO**

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

**-Approval of the Agenda**

**Chair: Adopted without objection**

**-** **Approval of the** [**April 7, 2021 32LD Minutes**](https://32democrats.org/download/draft-minutes-wed-april-7-2021-32nd-meeting/)

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

**4:19 min:sec -** **CHAIR'S REPORT - Chris Roberts**

• Bill Phillips will serve as parliamentarian this evening. I would like to ask for a moment of silence for Karen Besserman, Executive Director of Emerge Washington. Today, May 5th, is the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Our Executive Board has decided that our 32nd LD Endorsement Meeting will be on May 22nd, 1:00PM. This is the day after candidate filing. We will give endorsed candidates permission to add the 32nd LD to their voter pamphlet statement, due on May 28th.

**10:14 - CONTINUATION OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY ALTERNATE ELECTION**

**\*\*\*This is a 'PCO Only' vote\*\*\***

**Chair:** Options to vote are: Will Chen, Write-In (Other), or Abstain.

At the end of our last meeting, there was a motion to table this item. I am ruling that motion out of order, because there was only one candidate, and the motion was made to table until this meeting tonight and we are now in this meeting.

**37:30 - Parliamentarian gives ballot outcome:** **9 abstentions; 7 for Chen; 4 for Mike Eckart; 3 for Luke Distelhorst; 2 for Stephanie Harris; 1 for Rosamaria Graziani; 1 vote to table; which means Will Chen has won the election**. There were a total of 27 responses. The rule says members present. Therefore, abstentions do not count.

**58:18: Eric Valpey, Treasurer:** I understood the rules to require the candidate to have a majority of the votes. I think there should be a runoff because we didn't have a majority on the first ballot.

**Parliamentarian:** There were 9 abstentions and abstentions do not count. There were 18 non-abstentions. I would argue that the 'vote to table' is a throwaway.

**Chair:** I will confer with Bill, the Parliamentarian, before I give an answer.

**1:10 hr/min - Chair**: After conferring with the Parliamentarian, yes, it has to be a majority of the people present, and voting, so we will have to have a run-off. It will be between Will Chen and Mike Eckart.

**1:25 - Lael White, Membership Chair:** In addition, this vote requires that the candidate be a PCO, or the membership can drop this requirement with a 2/3rds vote.

**1:50 - Chair:** Our bylaws do require that all members serving in this position are PCOs, or had been a PCO in the past year. Otherwise, they need a waiver by the membership. We have now created a form that will determine their eligibility. The question on the ballot is, "should we wave the rules to allow Will to serve as SnoCo alternate?" And, "should we wave the rules to allow Mike to serve as SoCo alternate?"

**2:01 - Chair: Neither candidate has a 2/3rds vote for eligibility. We are therefore going to go back to square one at our June meeting.**

**18:26 - RECOGNITION OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH - Jenna Nand, Vice-Chair**

**Jenna:** I'd like to talk about this history here in WA State because when I was in high school it was never covered in our history class. The first Asian American and Pacific Islanders to come here, after the founding of the US, were Chinese immigrants who came in the 1850s and 1860s. There are three specific incidences that I want to call people's attention to: 1) "Outbreak in Tacoma": in 1885 when a mob of businessmen and police descended on the Chinese residents, rounded them up and forced them onto a train to Portland. 2) "Seattle Riot of 1903": 150 Chinese workers were rounded up, taken to a boat in the Seattle harbor and told they had to leave. 3) "Bellingham Historical Riots at Hindu Alley": In 1907, 200 Asian workers were rounded and driven out. It is important to understand that the AAPI community has been in this country for over 170 years.

**EARLY ENDORSEMENTS OF CANDIDATES**

\*\*\*These endorsement votes are open to all 32nd members and PCOs.\*\*\*

**24:44 -** [**Rod Dembowski, King County Council, District 1**](https://www.vote4rod.com/about)

**Council Member Rod Dembowski:** The 32nd was kind enough to endorse me when I first ran in 2013 and when I was re-elected in 2017. I would like to serve another term to continue the work I am doing in the areas of public health, housing, human service, environmental justice, and criminal legal system reform. I think we have a tremendous opportunity to implement progressive reform here in King County. We are one of the wealthiest counties in the country, we have the resources here, and I want to be a part of that.

**Adrienne Fraley-Monillas: I move we early endorse Rod Dembowski for King County Council, District 1, Seconded.**

**Parliamentarian: 29 yes votes; 1 no vote; 1 abstention; Council Member Dembowski is endorsed.**

**42:56 -** [**Teresa Mosqueda, Seattle City Council, Position 8**](https://www.teamteresa.org/)

**Rep. Cindy Ryu: I move we early endorse Seattle City Council Member Mosqueda, Seconded.**

**Council Member Teresa Mosqueda:** Thanks for your passed endorsements for my citywide position. It's been good to work with you and advance so many Democratic progressive policies on the council. Since I've been there we have now been able to pass the largest progressive revenue bill in the city's history. A progressive-progressive tax. It's on the largest businesses and on the largest salaries so that we can invest in housing and homelessness. Over two-thirds of the funds that come in will go into housing and homelessness. The rest will go into equitable development initiatives so that we can truly create sustainability and more equity across our local economy and Green New Deal investments.

**Parliamentarian: 25 yes votes; 3 no votes; 1 abstention; Council Member Mosqueda is endorsed.**

**1:01 hr/min -** [**Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Edmonds City Council, Position 3**](https://adriennemonillas.com/)

**Council Member Adrienne Fraley-Monillas:** I'm hoping the 32nd LD will support me as you always have. I am now moving into my fourth campaign and have been on the council for 11 years. My priorities for the City of Edmonds won't surprise anyone in this group -- they have to do with homelessness, equity and justice, environmental justice and the development of Hwy 99. The folks who live in the Hwy 99 area are about 33% of the population but receive only about 4% of the tax dollars for development. We have a park, for example, that has only two parking spaces and it's the only park we have for all of the housing on Hwy 99.

**Ted Hikel: I want to move to endorse Adrienne early, because finally this council member, who has worked so long and hard, has a mayor who works well with the council, Seconded.**

**Parliamentarian: 35 yes votes; 2 no votes; Council Member Fraley-Monillas is endorsed.**

**1:11 -** [**Deborah Kilgore, Edmonds School Board, Area 4**](https://www.facebook.com/KilgoreforEdmondsSchools/)

**School Board Member Deborah Kilgore:** I'm running again because I am motivated to continue the work I started in 2017. I was a parent volunteer in a diverse, high poverty school, and I saw how scarce resources were distributed unfairly. If you were not in a wealthy school, you might just be out of luck for educational and enrichment opportunities. I've been able to hold our district to account with respect to equity. We've made progress, like slowly diversifying our faculty and administration, removing arbitrary barriers to accelerated learning, and increasing opportunities for career learning.

**Rep. Ryu: I move we early endorse Deborah Kilgore. Seconded.**

**Parliamentarian: 33 yes votes; 1 abstention; School Board Member Kilgore is endorsed.**

**CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS**

**1:29 - Sarah Cohen, Candidate for Shoreline School Board, District 3**

**School Board Member Sarah Cohen:** I was appointed to the Shoreline School Board in December and am going to be on the ballot in November to retain my seat. I am a parent in the district with twins, who are in second grade, and I also work in education. I taught college for 12 years and now work at the UW creating high quality on-line courses. These reasons, combined with the pandemic, is why I applied for the school board, because I saw my own kids struggling with online school, even though they had amazing teachers. My focus is on equity; ending disparities; broadening the curriculum so that students are learning about cultures and history that reflect the world we live in; and creating an atmosphere of safety and belonging for students and staff.

**1:35 -** [**Dow Constantine, Candidate for King County Executive**](https://www.dowconstantine.com/)

**King County Executive Dow Constantine:** I am wearing red today, as we really center on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in our Democratic Party meetings tonight. King County is leading the nation on COVID response -- the lowest rate of infection and the lowest rate of death. I proposed a $600M recovery package that includes $25M for BIPOC-led businesses; $100M for rental assistance, food security and $5M for the King County Coalition Against Hate and Bias for outreach through ethnic media to combat hate crimes. At King County, we are working to disrupt harmful cycles of racism in the criminal legal system.

**1:43 -** [**Joe Nguyen, Candidate for King County Executive**](https://meetjoenguyen.com/)

**Senator Joe Nguyen:** I am Joe Nguyen and I'm from White Center, the son of refugees. People like me have been underestimated our entire lives. In 2018, I ran for the State Senate on a platform of bold change, and back then, nobody expected us to win, but we did. Even this past legislative session, we passed progressive policies that have been held up for decades. We can accomplish a lot when we have elected leaders who understand communities impacted by bad policies and will fight with urgency to fix systemic problems. It's been years since declaring a state of emergency on homelessness, yet our leaders have prioritized tax breaks for billion dollar sports teams, instead of building housing for those in need.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**1:53 -** [**Regarding Voter Suppression Laws**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-ld-resolution-regarding-voter-suppression-laws/)**, Carin Chase**

**Alan Charnley: Motion to Approve, Seconded**

**Synopsis:** In addition to Georgia’s new law SB 202 known as “Jim Crow 2.0”, which makes it less convenient and unnecessarily difficult for Georgians to vote, there are more than *350 bills* with restrictive voting provisions circulating before lawmakers in 47 states. We urge the US Senate and US House to pass H1, “For the People Act of 2021,” to expand Americans’ access to vote, end logistical and discriminatory impediments to voter disenfranchisement, and conduct all elections by paper ballots sent to voters, which can be returned by mail or at any county drop-box, until polls close. And, we urge Washington state legislators to continue their support for “one person, one vote” equality in the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

**Ted Hikel - Speaking in Favor:** The principle is that the most important activity any citizen can perform is to vote. With the opposition party, where they control legislatures, preventing people, or making it more difficult for people to vote, is something we all need to speak out about.

**Chair: Hearing no objection, the resolution is adopted.**

**1:57 -** [**Expanding the Size of the US House of Representatives**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-ld-resolution-expanding-the-size-of-the-us-house-of-representatives/)**, Chris Roberts**

**Chris Roberts: Motion to Approve, Seconded**

**Synopsis:** With each new census, the US House becomes a less representative chamber.

The 2010 Census counted 309,183,463 Americans for purposes of apportioning 435 seats in Congress. That meant that the average member of the House represented 710,767 people. The 2020 Census has counted 331,108,434 Americans for purposes of apportioning the same 435 seats in Congress. However, because the overall population has increased by more than 7 percent, the average member of the House is now expected to represent 761,169 people—an increase of 50,402 constituents.

By rigidly sticking with a membership of 435, as defined by the Constitution, representation is diminished. A simple act of Congress could address this problem so that an expansion of the House would reflect this country’s continual growth and increasing diversity. The 32nd District Democrats call upon our federal delegation to co-sponsor H.R. 996, or similar legislation, which would establish a commission to make recommendations on the appropriate size of the US House.

**Chris Roberts - Speaking in Favor:** This resolution calls on our federal delegation to support increasing the size of the US House.

**Vice-Chair, Jenna Nand: Hearing no objection, the resolution is adopted.**

**2:01 - REPORT TO THE 32ND ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, Lael White, Chair, 32nd LD Environment and Climate Caucus**

This is not a comprehensive list. Bills with numbers starting with 5 are Senate bills.

**Bills passed:**

[5141](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5141&Year=2021&Initiative=false)HEAL ACT (Healthy Environments for All – Env. Justice Task Force)

[5165](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5165&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Transportation Budget, after concurrence, included $500 K for a new Service Development Plan for the Amtrak Cascades; also nearly $6 M overall for rail projects than the Senate version, $3 M more than the House version.

[5026](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5026&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Purchasing zero and near zero emissions equipment for ports

[5126](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5126&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Washington climate commitment act (Cap and Trade) (is subject to passage of a transportation revenue bill that includes an additional and cumulative tax rate of at least five cents per gallon of fuel)

[1091](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1091&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuel (this is also subject to passage of a transportation revenue bill that includes an additional and cumulative tax rate of at least five cents per gallon of fuel)

[1287](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1287&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Concerning preparedness for a zero-emissions transportation future (formerly called ‘Clean Cars’ and had prior number 5256/1204; after 2030 new cars must be non-internal combustion engines but older models can still be sold and driven; it was watered down to be ‘aspirational’ rather than a mandate)

[1220](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1220&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Supporting emergency shelters and housing through local planning and development regulations (as part of the Growth Management Act)

[1139](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1139&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Taking action to address lead in drinking water

[1168](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1168&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Concerning long term forest health and the reduction of wildfire dangers

[1216](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1216&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Concerning urban and community forestry

**Bills not passed:**

[5373](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5373&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Concerning carbon pollution (WA Strong Green Recovery bonds) (died in Carlyle’s Env/Eng/Tech) committee)

[1084](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1084&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions by achieving greater decarbonization of residential and commercial buildings (Clean buildings, healthy homes)

[1147](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1147&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Ryu’s bill to create a state office to develop a natural disaster resiliency program

[1099](https://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1099&Initiative=false&Year=2021) Improving the state’s climate response through updates to the state’s comprehensive planning framework (Climate considerations as part of Growth Management Act) (died in Hobbs’ Senate Transportation after considerable activity)

**2:13 -** [**EMERGENCY RESOLUTION: URGING GOVERNOR INSLEE TO SIGN "EQUITY NOW" EXECUTIVE ORDER**](https://32democrats.org/download/32nd-ld-resolution-urging-governor-inslee-to-sign-equity-now-executive-order/)**, Lillian Hawkins, Vice-Chair**

**Lillian Hawkins: Motion to Consider, Seconded:** There is a strict timeline to submit this resolution to Governor Inslee.

**Winona Hollins Hague, Co-Chair Diversity & Inclusion Committee - Speaking in Favor of the Motion to Consider:** This is time for equity and the 32nd LD can be the first to set that equity in motion.

**Chair: Hearing no objection, the rules are suspended to hear this resolution.**

**Lillian Hawkins: Motion to Approve, Seconded:** The 32nd LD urges Governor Jay Inslee to reaffirm Washington state’s commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion by immediately signing the “EQUITY NOW!” EXECUTIVE ORDER rescinding Governor’s Directive 98-01 and correctly implementing I-200 (Now RCW 49.60.400) to eliminate systemic inequities for all Washingtonians; and urge all members to support the “EQUITY NOW!” EXECUTIVE ORDER and publicize the 32nd LD’s support of the “EQUITY NOW!” EXECUTIVE ORDER on the 32nd LD website, via all local and social media and to all state and local elected officials; and that the CHAIR of the 32nd LEGISLATIVE DEMOCRATS shall email this resolution directly to Governor Jay Inslee’s Chief of Staff, Jamila Thomas, at jamila.thomas@gov.wa.gov before June 1, 2021.

**Rep. Jesse Wineberry - Speaking in Favor of the Motion to Approve:** Thank you Lillian, thank you Winona and thank you everyone at the 32nd LD. Whether you know it or not, this started with the 32nd District and Senator Maralyn Chase. Senator Chase introduced legislation, in 2018, to correct the implementation of I-200, from when it was started in 1998.

The problem was that a Governor's Directive, No. 9801, which was even worse than I-200, in terms of killing affirmative action programs, was put in place.

I-200 specifically stated that the only affirmative action programs it wanted to discontinue were those that elevated a lesser qualified candidate over a more qualified candidate, for a job, a seat in college or a contract based on race or gender. But, the Governor's Directive, which went to all agencies and cabinet members, actually implemented a different law that we never passed -- that is that all affirmative action be discontinued if it used race or gender for employment, education or contracting.

So for the last 23 years, we have put limitations and created impediments for people to achieve their dreams, whether it's a college education, or a great job at the state, county or city level, or the ability to own their own business.

And, so currently the Governor's Office has convened a task force. I am a member of it and Winona Hollins Hague is a member, to work with the Governor to draft an executive order that corrects the implementation of the last 23 years and replaces it with proper implementation which truly unleashes equity, diversity, and inclusion, and enables this state to move forward as it should have been doing over the last 23 years.

And, there could be no better place for this resolution to pass than at the 32nd LD, which sent a Senator to Olympia, Senator Maralyn Chase, who started this process with a bill in the State Senate. I urge you to support it.

**Winona Hollins Hague - Speaking in Favor of the Motion to Approve:** Working as the Co-Chair for Diversity & Inclusion within the 32nd**,** I think this is a great opportunity for us to co-sign something that is just doing the right thing.This isn't about a hand out. It's about equity for all. It's about women, minority and businesses. So please look kindly upon this resolution. Again, you always are trendsetters in this District and I'm proud to be a part of it. Let's set some trends this evening!

**Chair: Seeing and hearing no objections, I declare the resolution passes.**

**2:29 - GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**• Janet Way:** The [**Shoreline Preservation Society**](https://preserveshoreline.wordpress.com)will be holding a benefit to help **Save FIRCREST FOREST AT our SPRING SOIREE in the Dunn Garden**, **Friday, May 21st, 4-7pm** (13533 North Shire Rd NW, Seattle 98177) to talk about the work we are doing -- broadly about the Shoreline environment and specifically, protecting the Fircrest forest. Tour the Gardens; Learn about SPS's work to Landmark Historic Seattle Naval Chapel at Fircrest School; Enjoy light refreshments; Listen to lively musical accompaniment by Folk Voice Band Duo. Contact Janet at: 206-734-5545 or janetway@yahoo.com

**• France Giddings:** [**Meaningful Movies**](https://meaningfulmovies.org/) is showing **a movie from Tonga, *Ladies in Waiting***, the only nation in the Pacific that has never been colonialized. The film is about how a group of people has indigenous priorities, and how they work out a conflict when a Western group comes and tells them how they should live. We have discussions about the films on the third Thursday of each month.

**• 2:31 - SNOHOMISH COUNTY DEMOCRATS CENTRAL COMMIITTEE REPORT - Ted Hikel, 32nd LD Rep**

- The Finance Committee would like to have the LD Treasurers as ex-officio members of their committee for budgeting, fundraising and events.

- It's up in the air whether or not we are going participate at Evergreen State Fair this year. If we don't do it, we will lose the booth and never get it back.

- The SnoCo Democrats are updating their logo because currently it only shows mountains and trees and it should have some kind of urban scene in it as well.

- The SnoCo Democrats special endorsement meeting will be held on Sunday, May 23rd, 1pm.

- The next Central Committee meeting will be held Monday, June 7th, 6:45pm.

**•**[**Toshiko Hasegawa, Candidate for Port Commission, Position 4**](https://www.hasegawaforport.com/)

I'm running for the Port of Seattle because it has such a huge role to play in our economy. Economic empowerment leads to social justice. Workers deserve stability and I'm proud to share, since the last time I talked with you, I've been endorsed by SEIU Local 6, Ironworkers Local 86, WFSE 1488, and many local leaders. I would be honored to receive your support and a sole endorsement.

**• Deborah Kilgore:** On behalf of Carin Chase and myself, we want to thank you that we passed our [**Edmonds School District 2021 Capital Levy**](https://www.edmonds.wednet.edu/community/2021_capital_levy)**.** We appreciate everyone who voted for it and supported it.

**• Chris Roberts:** I expect the 32nd LD is going to be presented with a resolution next month about changing the current law for adopting bonds. Unfortunately, in Shoreline, our [**Parks Bond, Prop 1**](https://www.shorelineareanews.com/2021/05/shoreline-parks-bond-fails-to-validate.html)**,** received 70% of the vote, well above the 60% requirement, but looks like it is going to be 100 votes short, of the votes cast, to be validated.

**• Jerry Cronk**: I would like to congratulate Cindy Ryu and all the Democrats in the State Legislature who adopted the most progressive legislative agenda in recent history. Keep up the good work.

**• Winona Hollins Hague:** I wanted to thank everyone for voting your conscious and doing the right thing on the "Equity Now" resolution tonight. I work with an advocacy group— [**Grandmothers Against Gun Violence**](https://www.grandmothersagainstgunviolence.org/) and I sit on the board with Trudy Inslee. It's so important at this time in history as over 115,000 people a year are shot. Residents in this country are 10 times more likely to be shot and die than in any other developed country. Please consider joining this organization. Also, when you get off of this Zoom tonight, come to **kbcs.org, 91.3FM**, as I'll be hosting the [***Living the Blues***](https://www.kbcs.fm/programs/living-the-blues/) **show, 9-11pm, Wednesdays.**

**• France Giddings:** I wanted to thank Rep. Jesse Wineberry for his history of the 32nd LD. I didn't know how instrumental the 32nd LD and Senator Maralyn Chase have been in trying to limit Initiative 200.

**8:46 PM - Adjourned**

**Next 32nd LD Meeting**

**Saturday, May 22nd, 1:00 PM**

**32nd LD Primary Election Endorsement Meeting**

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Soriano, 32nd LD Secretary

sally.soriano@32democrats.org