

37TH DISTRICT DEMOCRATS: MINUTES – Online Zoom Meeting (April 13, 2020)
(John Stafford; Roughly 75 Attendees at Peak)

I. Meeting Commenced at 7:09 (Stephen Reed)

- Phone calls have been precluded from this meeting due to security concerns. This policy may change in future online meetings.
- We recognize the Duwamish land that we reside on as we “meet”.
- Stephen recognizes the efforts of Justin and others for doing the technical work necessary to facilitate the meeting.
- Stephen explains features of Zoom (e.g., hand raising, chat, etc.).

II. Proposal to Pass Changed Bylaws (7:13 – Stephen Reed)

- Stephen discusses agenda. He acknowledges the efforts of Gwen and Alec to create changed bylaws to facilitate online meetings.
- These proposed bylaw changes pass unanimously.

III. Adopt February Meeting Minutes (7:17 – Stephen Reed)

- The minutes are approved.

IV. The Legislative District Caucuses (7:19 – Stephen Reed)

- This meeting will be held by the elected PCOs. This will include those PCOs elected or appointed before March 17, 2020. These names will be given to the State Party, and the State Party will provide ballots to these PCOs. This will be the first time we have used this type of system. We will be voting for delegates for the Congressional District Level. The delegates selected will have impact in several ways, including platform creation. The campaigns (Biden and Sanders) have the right to challenge and disqualify delegates. There are quotas for gender and racial background. We currently have about half of the delegates that are needed for each candidate.
- If individuals are interested in attending the Democratic National Convention, they must submit a statement of intent by May 5, 2020.

V. Adam Smith Update (7:37 – Adam Smith)

- The Pandemic:
 - Social Distancing has made a huge difference in new cases.

- This social distancing is having huge economic implications – especially for lower-income individuals. The CARES Act is meaningful legislation to partly address this challenge. There may be another legislative package to fill in the gaps of the CARES Act.
- How can we move back to a more economically viable environment. This has to be predicated on creating a safe environment, and this will be predicated on mass testing. The Department of Defense is the only federal institution that has the capacity to deal with protective equipment and other supply needs.
- Questions:
 - The decision to fire the Naval Captain Crozier was atrocious. This decision may reflect the “Trumpification” of the DOD. There is a movement afoot to reinstate Captain Crozier. Modly was likely not instructed by Trump to fire Crozier, but appears to have been trying to do what he thought Trump would have wanted him to do.
 - Pramila and Adam are working on benefits for undocumented individuals. Pramila has raised the question of how undocumented immigrants can be both illegal and essential. The U.S. economy is dependent upon undocumented immigrants. This administration’s anti-immigrant sentiment and racism are huge obstacles.
 - The Green New Deal needs to be an important part of the economic recovery program. There needs to be a more just economy – lower pay for executives and higher pay for workers.
 - There will be (and already has been) more support for state and local governments.
 - Adam will continue to support Medicare for all (or some other version of Universal Health Care). It is important to get health care costs under control as a part of moving to Universal Health Care.
 - It will be critical for Democrats to forge a coalition that can further progressive causes and still win elections. This is challenging in a party with diverse constituents.

- It will be critical to rebuild government competence after the devastation to governmental institutions that have occurred under the Trump administration.
- There is funding for housing and homelessness and small businesses in the CARES act.

VI. UPCOMING MEETINGS (8:27 – Stephen Reed)

- The next meeting will be on the third Monday of May – May 18 at 7:00 pm (because the filing week is May 11 to May 15). It will likely be online.
- We will be discussing the endorsements process – we have not decided upon how this process will work yet.
- Individuals must be a member in good standing 25 days in advance of the endorsements meeting. Thus, people will have to be paid by April 23 in order to vote in the endorsements meeting.

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Comments by Candidates (8:39 – Stephen Reed)

- Senator Marco Liias: Candidate for Lieutenant Governor.
- Judge Nelson Lee
- Judge Cindi Port
- Judge Hillary Madsen
- Judge Nicole Gaines Phelps
- Kirsten Harris-Talley
- Chukundi Salisbury
- Andrea Caupain
- Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos

VIII. ADJOURNMENT (9:20 – Stephen Reed)