

37th LD Democrats Membership Meeting (On Zoom)
Monday, March 13, 2023

1.

Call to Order

Land Acknowledgement

Appointment of new Precinct Committee Officers:

Ethan	Sharrigan	Angel City
Henrietta	Price	37-1553
Chukundi	Salisbury Sr.	37-1636
Bailey	Medilo	37-1619

Adopt [February 2023 Meeting Minutes](#): corrections and additions:

Meredith Means said one PCO needs to be removed, Andrew Oommen.

1.

Robby Stern

Proposed resolution: [Opposing Privatization of Medicare](#)
[More information](#)

Desegregation of hospitals with 1965 Medicare Act but

we are now facing the possibility of losing Medicare. The Medicare Trust Fund is in trouble.

Resolution: Asked the 37th oppose all forms of privatizing Medicare, and that we send a copy of the resolution to Adam Smith and HHS Secretary Jilma Meneses. Robby also asks that we become knowledgeable about this; it will affect all of us. We don't want health care decisions based on profit. Please note the webinar coming up.

Motion to approve, 24 in favor. Opposed: 0.

2.

Report from the King County Committee Representatives

Khalid Bulale: KCCD saw a record turnout; I-135 passed in every district in Seattle. There will be a special April election, ballots due 4/25. Someone from the Public Defender Association spoke about the diversion program; they also heard about the Third Avenue Project improvements.

3.

King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay spoke regarding the [Crisis Care Centers Levy](#) on the 4/25 ballot.

He is in favor of this levy; this crisis of mental health keeps him up at night. Last year saw a record of overdose deaths.

There are 3 problems:

1) no place for immediate care

2) few places for long term care

3) work force is depleted, being paid poverty wages, record job vacancies

Building 5 crisis centers would bring long term care back to 2019 numbers. One center will focus on youth.

We endorsed this levy, 22 in favor, 2 against motion. Questions were asked: Increase of how many beds? What is the time frame? Can vacant office buildings can be configured for this?

4.

King County Superior Court Judge Coreen Wilson introduced herself. She was appointed by Gov. Inslee last year. She was a trial lawyer for 20 years. Her expertise is in remote advocacy. She wants to help the community become better. Her contact info is:

judgecoreenwilson@gmail.com

5.

Legislative update with Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos

She spoke about the House of Origin bill and other bills she has sponsored which are moving forward. She serves as the chair of Education committee. She has returned to House Finance Committee (she was removed in 2010 and has requested each year to be put back on it. She talked about the challenges of the Transition to Kindergarten Bill. Two other areas: special education funding and gun responsibility. Also there is a bill about vehicular pursuit and one concerning the private detention center in Tacoma. She urged us to come to the Town Hall meeting on March 18th with her and Rep. Chipalo Street and Sen.Rebecca Saldaña

Councilperson Tammy Morales weighed in on social housing. How well did the initiative do in south end? It won by 66%. Two council seat appointments will be in her committee in April. They will have their first meeting on May 31st. Questions: reach out at tammy.morales@seattle.gov

6.

Proposed resolution: [Support a Washington Tax on Extreme Wealth](#)
(Executive Board recommends passage of this resolution)

Is anyone from that campaign at meeting? Alex Cooley spoke about it. Bailey Medilo spoke for the wealth tax to improve schools, community infrastructure. It sets aside funding for disability services.

Motion made to support this resolution: 24 voted in favor, 1 against.
Resolution is supported.

8.

City Council District 3 candidate Ry Armstrong spoke to us about 1575 change on cultural tax; he asked that we please support this bill. His

concerns are shelter, safety, sustainability. He wants to qualify for Democracy Vouchers. His email: ry@vote4ry.com

Remember, Monday, May 22nd is the endorsement meeting for 37th LD.

Alex Cooley is also running for District 3 along with Ry Armstrong.

www.CooleyforCouncil.com

9.

Meredith Means: PCO update

Lyn McKay is her backup if you can't reach Meredith. We need to find the rest of the Democrats to be in Vote Builder. Starting tomorrow the emails will go out. We can't win races unless we do this.

10. Jeanne Legault: [Annual budget](#) (postponed)

11.

Good of the Order

Nancy Truitt Pierce on "woke", we need to give it a positive spin: "Woke is someone who is open minded, open hearted, compassionate and inclusive."

Robert Stephens: "Woke" came from the fight for freedom from slavery. Susan Sherbina commented on spewing of hatred by Republicans.

Alec had a note of sadness: Andrea Brenneke lost her fight to cancer and passed away on March 4th. She was an attorney and specialized in Restorative justice and other areas. There will be a memorial for her on April 16th.

Adjourned by 9 pm

Minutes by Carla McLean