

Minutes – 02/09/2009

33rd LD Executive Board Meeting

9 February 2009
Home of Paula Joneli

Proposed Agenda

1. Biennial District Plan
2. Kit Dexter Dinner
3. Appointed Positions
4. LAC Day/PCO Training/Crab Feed Day
5. Good of the Order/Other issues

Attendees

Omaha Sternberg, Chair
Bob Loeliger, Vice Chair
Cheryl Birdsong-Juneau , Treasurer
Mysty Beal, Secretary
Lionel Forde, Washington State Committeeman
Tiffany McGuyer, Washington State Committeewoman
Kyle Forar, King County Committeeman
Florence McMullin, King County Committeewoman Alternate
Bob Polwarth, King County Legislative Action Committee Rep. 1
Carol Anne Maier, King County Legislative Action Committee Rep. 2
Paula Joneli, King County Legislative Action Committee Alternate

Omaha opened the meeting at 7:14 and suggested changing the agenda to discuss the Biennial District Plan at the end, as it would probably take the most time.

1. KIT DEXTER DINNER –

Purpose: to review where we are with the Kit Dexter Dinner, including hearing from every member who is currently involved in making the project happen.

Goal: To nail down any other actions that need to be taken and find members to be responsible for them; to expand on ways to sell tickets.

- a. Due to complications with surgery, Elizabeth Brant can no longer support - Mysty Beal to take over the program.
- b. Steve and Cheryl Juneau are in charge of food and have decided on Galliano's to cater. Vegetarian options are available. Galliano's service includes meal, set- up and utensils. Omaha got an OK to use the kitchen for the warming ovens.
- c. **Carol Anne noted that she and Elizabeth Albertson would do the decorations.**
- d. **Mysty Beal to provide drinks, but Bob Loeliger said he had some in his garage he'd check thru and report back to MLB what he had.**
- e. **Paula Joneli to take care of desserts** - she suggested either sheet cakes or homemade desserts, and suggested we could put an envelope on each table and people could bid on a certain dessert. Everyone really liked this idea, as it's a great fundraiser, and homemade is better than Costco sheet cake. **Paula will find volunteers to provide desserts.**
- f. Live auction – **Florence is in charge of the auction** – Dave Upthegrove is to be auctioneer, but Florence announced that **Steve Juneau would be back-up**. On the proposed Silent Auction, Omaha noted that she has heard nothing from Elizabeth A., so cancelled it. Preference was to do one only, as two would split the bidder's pool.
- g. **Paula is in charge of set up and break down and is seeking volunteers for help.**

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- h. Omaha estimated the number of attendees, cost and profit and the group determined the following payscale: Full price: \$25; Living Light: \$15; and Kids: \$10. The scale guaranteed a profit from ticket sales, and the auction / desserts would garner more.
- i. **Omaha and Lionel will contact the people on the membership list and sell tickets this week.** She asked others to help.
- j. There was some confusion about the theme – Omaha said it was basically to celebrate ourselves and the work we've done this past election cycle. **She said she would find out if our state and county representatives plan on attending.**

2. APPOINTED POSITIONS –

Purpose: Review the appointed positions that Omaha presented to the board and vote on them.

- a. Sergeant-at-Arms – Omaha nominated Cass Prindle. Cass has a conflict that might preclude him from attending E-Board meetings, but the board didn't foresee a problem, as he would attend regular meetings. Motion to appoint passed unanimously.
- b. Parliamentarian – Omaha nominated Bob Stephens. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. PCO Liaison – Omaha described the position, saying that it would provide coaching to PCOs, and provide resources and training. She said that Michael Miele had the qualifications she was seeking, and that he'd be invaluable in this position. All believed that this position would relieve the Chair of tasks, would better manage the PCOs and make them more effective. Motion to appoint passed unanimously.
- d. Registrar – Omaha said she asked Glenda Berg to assume this position, but she has not responded yet. If she declines, **Cheryl Juneau offered to take on the position, and Kyle Forar would assist as Administrative Coordinator.** Currently, **Mysty Beal is handling the Newsletter and Lionel Forde will maintain the website, splitting the task with Omaha,** until permanent replacements can be found.

3. LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY/PCO TRAINING/CRAB FEED –

Purpose: Review how we can get the district involved in this, and put together some carpools.

- a. Omaha suggested carpooling for those wishing to attend the day and/or evening portion. **Bob L will arrange transportation** and said he had 4 seats available. –said everyone meet at the Carpenter's Hall on Pac Hwy – Omaha will post on the website.
- b. Omaha made arrangements with Reps. Orwall and Upthegrove that they'd be available for discussions.

4. BIENNIAL PLAN -

Purpose: To outline the goals of the 33rd district over the next two years.

Goal: To create plan for the 33rd district that will include actions to take, deadlines for those actions, and members who are responsible for those actions.

Omaha noted that last time the 33rd LD came up with a Biennial plan, we produced a bunch of great ideas, then put them away and never saw them again. She said that plans are living documents to be revisited to measure progress. She offered the following ideas:

- a. Improve in the Assistance of the Election of Democrats and Candidates Who Share Democratic Values (CAMPAIGNING) - In the past, it seemed that there was no coordinated effort of E-board/33rd LD for assisting local candidates – we need to

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create policies and standards to show PCOs and other volunteers what they might do to help. Early endorsement policy, for example. Must educate the electorate about candidates. Use this election cycle as primer.

- b. Improved Support for PCOs PCO Liaison is big part of this. PCOs should turn out their neighbors to support a 33rd LD candidate or cause. Need polices/standards for expectations for participation. PCOs must know we expect them to take the position seriously. PCOs should know candidates and party platform for each election cycle - check DNC site. PCOs should walk their precinct with candidate literature, door-hangers, and create tri-folds. Bob P said all of E-Board should know what charter says (available on website). Omaha said the intent of this idea was improved education; communication between PCOs, politicians and district voters.

c. Improved Recruitment, Retention, and Increased Participation of Members

(1) *Recruitment* – Review Caucus list and get those attendees to become active members of the 33rd. Create script for phone banking to get those members. The Membership List is full of people who don't participate. Members should call known absent members and try to get them back. Members will be presented with precinct list and select people they know and call them.

(2) *Retention* - Give members something meaningful to do! Include volunteer details into regular meetings. Breakout sessions by city - here's your goal, go do this and report back. Add a Campaign 101 topic to each meeting and teach members to write an effective Letter to the Editor, research PDC filings, design campaign literature, proper phone banking, etc.. Make everyone leave with a “go-do”. People could send out agenda items on their e-mail chains and invite friends to attend if they're interested. Have PCOs report on what's going on in their cities and advise the body. Grant posting privileges to the website. Use Meetup and Facebook to attract a younger demographic. During March meeting, take caucus list, split by precinct, have members select at least 3 names of people they're going to contact. **Omaha will contact Dave for caucus list.**

(3) Improved Implementation of E-Board Policies (Transparency) Suggestion made to post E-Board minutes to website. No objections were voiced. In the past, decisions made at E-Board were brought before the body, and the body was completely unaware of them. No one was certain as to who was in charge of a given function. Omaha suggested (a) better methods at formulating our decisions to be brought before the body - word in such a way that it is clear, and who the contact person is. (b) Ensure this is continuous and can be re-visited. Unwritten charter/policies - must have these documented. Membership list usage must be discussed among board to ensure it is used properly. Ask members if they want to be advised of events/news. K. Forar moved that approved E-Board minutes be posted to website; Florence seconded and motion passed.

Offer alternatives for volunteer activities for those that can't attend meetings such as writing LTEs, phone banking, or writing representatives. Seek volunteer opportunities in the community - contribute to the growth of the community. Attend City Council meetings, take minutes or highlights and post to website.

Omaha closed by noting we had a lot of work ahead of us but it would help the Legislative District Democrats grow. Got a lot of ideas and go-dos. Meeting was adjourned at 9:50.