

**Jefferson County Democratic Party - General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Tri Area Community Center – Chimacum**  
**October 17, 2019**

The Vice Chair introduced the program “Best Kept Secrets that Jefferson County Citizens should know: CHA, SHIBA, JCPH, Information & Assistance, Benefits Check-up, and More”. The members expressed their appreciation to the presenters and the Vice Chair for a very informative program.

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order 7:24 PM.

The Vice Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes of the of SEPTEMBER 19, 2019. William Taylor moved to approve the minutes. M/S/P

The Vice Chair called for a motion to adopt the agenda. John Hamilton moved to adopt the agenda. M/S/P

The Vice Chair recognized Cristina Brink, of JC Mash, a nonprofit that tries to meet the needs of people who fall through the cracks of the existing health care system and services, including providing free clinical services to person experiencing homeless, children, and low income residents. Services are provided at the Sanderlan Building, across from Quimper Mercantile, on Tuesday from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Cristina passed out information about the program. Average number of homeless in Jefferson County 2012-14, was 110 persons. In 2019 the number of persons increased to 290 homeless.

The Vice Chair reported that the Chair is absent due to illness. The Vice Chair acknowledged the passing of a hero, Maryland’s 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Rep. Elijah Cummings. The Vice Chair read from the Washington Post obituary to honor Rep. Cummings.

John Hamilton, Membership Committee Chair, gave the Membership report and report on quorum. The meeting has a quorum.

#### Resolutions by Petition

The Vice Chair reported that the resolution by petition “Calling for the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners to adopt Clear Regulations for a New Commercial Gun Range Ordinance for Jefferson County”, had met the requirements established by the bylaws committee in format, and had more than the required signatures.

The Vice Chair called for a motion to adopt the resolution. John Hamilton moved to adopt the resolution as presented. Dave Woodruff seconded the motion. The Vice Chair called for discussion.

Cynthia Koan, member and Jefferson County Planning Commission member, rose to speak to the motion. Cynthia agrees with the resolution, but would like it stronger, and also hopes that small, indoor, commercial gun ranges should be considered. Cynthia does not encourage the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) to strengthen the small commercial indoor gun ranges that is currently in our code; rather a new ordinance should be developed.

John Hamilton asked for the JCD members, who also are of the Tarboo Ridge Coalition, TRC) to explain the Commercial Gun Range ordinance that is being discussed, especially the difference between the gun club small range and the large commercial facilities.

Peter Newland, PCO Coyle, and Tarboo Ridge Coalition responded to the question. Peter explained the ordinance at issue is the ordinances being considered for large commercial facilities. Peter cautioned the group to understand that the ordinance would cover development of a facility in any part of Jefferson County. The JCD resolution is about asking the BoCC to go back and adopt ordinances to regulate the commercial gun range as directed by the Growth Management Act Hearings Board. Peter expressed concern that the process includes a 90 page document distributed three hours before a meeting of the Planning Commission where it was to be considered, accompanied by 60 page document. It is a challenging process. The Jefferson County Planning Commission are being asked to complete their work by December, within 30 work days. This proposed JCD resolution is trying to put the Jefferson County 'democrats on the record to request that the County have a rational process to adopt an ordinance that does not turn 75% of the county into shooting facilities. That is the ask for this moment before the JCD.

Bill Taylor asked why the Growth Management Hearings Board rejected the ordinance passed by the BoCC. Peter responded to the question saying that the Board was concerned that the County did not do sufficient SEPA work on the Title 18. Peter also reported that the Board found that the Title 8, Health and Safety, was related to the Title 18.

George Yount spoke to the resolution stating that how we adopt resolutions is an issue before us tonight. Generally, the JCD has a first reading of an resolution, questions and answers. However a resolution by petition, if moved to adopt on the same night as read, requires a two thirds vote for passing the resolution. George asked the Vice Chair to move to the "for and against" speakers on the resolution.

The Vice Chair stated that the motion was read, and we are we are trying to give members greater clarity before moving to the vote.

A member called the question. The Vice Chair called for a vote on the question. The motion passed. The Vice Chair called for a vote on the motion to adopt the resolution. The motion passed 43 votes for, no votes opposed. M/S/P

#### BYLAW REVISION

The Vice Chair called on the chair of the ad-hoc By Laws Committee to present the Revision of the JCD Bylaws to the members. John Collins, Chair, presented an overview of the Bylaws Revision. John Collins acknowledged the work of the members of the Bylaws Committee, and called on Cynthia Koan, Deborah Pedersen, and David King, Committee members, and asked those members who wished to speak to make comments.

Ruth Gordon thanked the members of the Bylaws Committee for their good work.

Bruce Cowan thanked the Bylaws Committee and commented that he found the Committee to be very open to input and took member comments seriously. Bruce called on the Central Committee and members to circulate any ideas, or comments on the Revision in writing in advance, so that the Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> meeting language discussions don't delay the meeting.

Wilma Hackman spoke saying the document was coherent and wonderful, she was glad to see to the telecoms meeting section to allow West End PCOs and members to participate. Wilma asked if the Bylaws Committee would be ad hoc or a standing committee.

John Collins responded that the topic must be established by policy to be adopted in future by the EBoard.

Wilma said the list of standing committees does not include the By Laws Committee, her concern is that given the discussion during the process, she would like to see a standing bylaws committee. Wilma also pointed out that in the bylaws membership of committees and how they are appointed is not clear, but all members are encouraged to participate. Wilma would like to see committee chairs and committees made known to members, and what they are working on, what their needs are, so that members can participate.

The Vice Chair reported that as of October she is chairing the Resolutions Committee, and there is information and a clear process for proposing and adopting resolutions on the web site available to members, and she reported that her goal is to ensure that resolutions are handled better.

John Collins reported that the teleconference provision for the Central Committee had some concerns expressed by David McDonald, the Washington State Democrats Central Committee, but the Committee decided to go ahead.

A member asked if under the Bylaws it is the JCD Chair who appoints members of the committees, or who is responsible for appointing members of the committee.

John Collins responded that the policy to be adopted for each committee will enumerate how committee members will be selected. There is a great diversity of standing committees and one standard would not fit all committees.

Linda Brewster spoke about her concerns with regard to committees and adoption of policies. Linda gave an example of how a policy was adopted, but not followed (the data policy). How will the policy be developed and followed?

John Collins stated that the policy will be adopted by the Eboard. John said it is our hope there will be a policy manual that will carry on the institutional memory of the JCD, that members can be aware of.

The Vice Chair affirmed that it is the role of the EBoard develop policy.

David King said that the policy development is set out in the Bylaws. The Eboard adopted policies following discussion and [adoption] by members. David said that as to the membership for Committees: member participation encouraged; the policy developed for all the committees must accommodate tht members in the committee represent the diversity of opinion of the JCD. David read the excerpt of the Revision [Sec. Article 8, JCD officers duties, page 10 of the draft, Section on committee appointments].

Bill Taylor spoke, saying he was the shortest term chair of the Resolutions committee, and he suggests from his experience that the policy or bylaws specifically enumerate how the chair is appointed, and who is eligible to vote on the committee. Without these clear being, the committee work is difficult and people will resign.

John Collins requested members to bring their ideas, to a committee member, and at the Central Committee Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be at 6 PM, October 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Tri Area Community Center.

WSDCC Meeting Update / Wrap up Report (Claire Roney)

Claire Roney, our JCD State Representative, attended the WSDCC (WA State Democrat Central Committee) on Sept. 27 - 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, in Yakima. Clair reported the meeting was abbreviated due to a national holiday. The WSDCC is made up of 2 reps from each Legislative District (49 Districts), and 2 reps from each county, and DNC member David McDonald. The WSDCC is in good shape financially. Tina Podladowski is a good fundraiser for large and small donors, and for volunteers through-out the state, and for identifying candidates for office, including the "All Rise and Run" campaign. Claire believes that the JCD has worked very hard in the past 3-4 years coming together through difficult times, we should be proud of our work. Clair reported that the WSDCC has a code of conduct that is being put into practice for the first time. Claire reported that the implementation of the Code of Conduct in the case at the state level was delayed down as the WSDCC worked to revise the Code. Claire reported that the JCD must pay attention to developing its Code of Conduct with the elections ahead. Clair reported that Washington state passed the primary process, and the primary is set for, March 10<sup>th</sup>. She reported there is a state convention is May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and a 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Convention on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Claire is the chair of the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Democrats.

John asked if the WSDCC will contest every race in the state?

Claire reported that the WSDCC will field candidates in every race, in every place.

Signature requirements to get a presidential candidate on the ballot?

Report from the 24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats (Bruce Cowan, LD24 Chair)

Bruce Cowan reported that the JCD and the 24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District are very lucky to have Claire on the Executive Board, and as the co-chair of the WSDCC resolutions committee. The LD24<sup>th</sup> Vice Chair Julie Johnson, is also on the WSDCC Executive Committee. Bruce congratulates the JCD in its work to try and find a way to get the needs met in the county. Bruce reported that the 24<sup>th</sup> LD voted to endorse a "no" vote on 976, a "yes" on R88 / I1000, and "maintain" on all other measures.

Bruce looked ahead to the change we need at the presidential level in the country. He said JCD members are engaged in the process and joining campaigns. The big day for WA is March 10<sup>th</sup>, the primary. The campaigns are trying to get as many people to vote on March 10<sup>th</sup>, so we will likely see some candidates come to WA in January up to ballot drop in mid-February. Delegates will be elected to the national convention in the process building up from the local conventions to the state convention. Bruce said the 24<sup>th</sup> LD will not have a full District caucus. There will be sub caucus' by county (Jefferson, Clallam, Greys Harbor) on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Everyone attending the caucus participates in choosing the delegates to the Washington State Convention from their district. Each sub caucus will have a number of delegates to elect, and the meeting will vote on the delegates.

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Congressional District conventions, caucus delegates will attend the meeting, and will elect delegates.

June 11-14<sup>th</sup> , in Tacoma, the Washington State Democrats convention.

July 13-16, the Democratic National convention, in Milwaukee, WI.

The list of convention dates, meetings, is posted on the JCD web site, under elections.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Linda Abbott Roe there is a Dems Dine Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> – the Dusty Green, middle of the golf course in Port Townsend. Start at 5:30. Luncheon menu – a little cheaper and smaller portion. Burgers, sandwiches, wraps – \$9-12. Beer and wine. Vegetarian, local sourcing, in house items. RSVP needed.

The JCD Holiday Party will take place on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, at Alchemy in Port Townsend, probably the JCD will fill the room. Members must RSVP because the venue is small. More information to come.

There is a Fun With Dems event, a John Maxwell concert on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, at the Quimper Grange, 7PM. It is a Fund raiser \$25 at the door. The artist is an Acoustic Guitar player.

Diane Jones announced a PSARA climate change presentation – next Thursday night at Uptown.

John Collins moved to adjourn at 8:51. M/S/P

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia A. Jones". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Patricia A. Jones, Recording Secretary

(As approved by the Membership on 2/20/20)