

34th District GOP Pooled Precinct Caucus Minutes for February 20th, 2016

West Seattle High School, 3000 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98116

Caucus called to order at 10:16am by temporary Caucus Chair Craig Keller. Pledge of Allegiance led by temporary Caucus Chair Craig Keller.

Molly Connelly appointed to be temporary Secretary.

Election of permanent Caucus Chair

Joann Butzerin nominated Craig Keller for permanent Caucus Chair. Dick Hurley nominated Armen Yousoufian for permanent Caucus Chair, and Armen Yousoufian respectfully declined the nomination. No other names put forth. Vote was taken, and Craig Keller was unanimously approved to be the permanent Caucus Chair.

Election of permanent Caucus Secretary

Becky Nicholas nominated Molly Connelly for permanent Caucus Secretary. No other nominations were put forth. Vote was taken, and Molly Connelly was unanimously approved to be the permanent Caucus Secretary.

Resolutions and Platform Discussion

Chairman Keller reported that our 34th District GOP representative to the King County Convention Platform Committee is Philip Irvin, and encouraged attendees to contact Mr. Irvin with any input they have for the KCGOP Draft Platform which will be proposed at the King County Convention on April 16th, 2016.

Resolution put forth concerning Justice Antonin Scalia. [See attached PDF]. Point of Information requested by Armen Yousoufian to ask who and where the author of the Resolution is and where the text of the Resolution is; Chairman Keller responded that Eric Stahlfeld is the author, and he is participating in the pooled caucus at Evergreen Campus, he is an attorney, and husband of 34th District GOP Precinct Committee Officer Susan Stahlfeld, and the text of the Resolution will be sent to Philip Irvin (34th District GOP member of the KC Convention Platform Committee). Chairman Keller read aloud the entirety of the Resolution text, and then opened the floor for discussion. Frank Bradley spoke in opposition stating that the Resolution does not honor the Justice, and is instead just a way to make a statement to the Senate Republicans. Bill Hartvig spoke in favor of the Resolution stating it would show our support to the Senate Republicans who oppose confirmation hearings. Matthew Benson spoke in opposition and suggested amending the Resolution by focusing the language on honoring Justice Scalia and thanking the Justice for his service. George (last name?) spoke in opposition, stating that he is an attorney and had been a student of Justice Scalia's, and that we should focus on honoring Justice Scalia, and if the situation was reversed we would want the opposing side to move forward with a confirmation. Bruce (34-1502, last name?) said that the Resolution in it's current state loses the continuity of honoring the Justice, and proposed that we split the resolution into two parts, one part focusing on honoring Justice Scalia, and the second part focused on our instruction to the Senate.

Unidentified person spoke in favor and stated that it would be better to just not have a hearing at all since we're having a real battle and Socialists are trying to take over the country. Carl Sells spoke in opposition and stated that he had served in the military for over two decades and continues to honor his oath to defend and support the US Constitution, and the Constitution says that the Senate will do this [appoint SC Justices] and so it should. Unidentified person spoke in opposition saying 1. we need to follow the Constitution, and 2. this type of stuff gives fodder to the Democrats and takes our focus away from our goal of electing a Republican president. Motion to call the question. Motion passed unanimously. Voice vote was taken, and Chair was in doubt. Standing vote was taken, with results of Ayes = 25, Nays = 39. Motion fails.

Chairman Keller noted that there were costs associated with holding the caucus, including \$300 for the building rental, and that there are upcoming needs for funds to support Republican efforts in the 34th District, including helping to pay filing fees for candidates, and as such any donations would be much appreciated and can be placed into the caucus packet envelopes, and please write down the required PDC information with your donation.

Report from Courtney Lyle, KCGOP 2nd Vice Chair. We have a website, 34thgop.org, you can donate online here. We meet regularly on the 3rd Wednesday at the American Legion in the Alaska Junction, next meeting will be held on March 16th at 7pm. Dick Hurley spoke and noted that the 34thGOP online donation form has misinformation about tax deductibility; Molly Connelly said she will fix this.

General discussion of the proceedings for the precinct caucuses. Purpose of the precinct caucus is to elect delegates to move forward to the Legislative District caucus on March 12th, 2016 at Evergreen Campus. It's allowable to nominate a registered voter in your precinct even if they are not present today. Question: can we send a proxy voter to the Legislative District caucus? Answer: no.

Individual precinct caucuses began at 10:45am.