

Minutes to the DFL Senior Caucus Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, DFL Headquarters

DFL Senior Caucus Chair Don Bye (8<sup>th</sup> District) called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Don welcomed the Officers and Directors in attendance. Attending were:

- Vice Chair Karla Sand (4<sup>th</sup> District), Membership Director Josey Warren (4<sup>th</sup> District), Treasurer John Larva (2<sup>nd</sup> District), and Secretary Jim Reed (3<sup>rd</sup> District);
- Directors Earl Bower (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Roger Gehrke (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Norm Hanson (4<sup>th</sup> District), Kay Hendrikson (4<sup>th</sup> District), Julianne Johnston (4<sup>th</sup> District), Dwayne King (5<sup>th</sup> District), Bonnie Lokenvitz (8<sup>th</sup> District), Joe Mullery (5<sup>th</sup> District), Charlie Rike (8<sup>th</sup> District), Georgiana Ruzich (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Tony Scallon (5<sup>th</sup> District), Don Slaten (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Sandy Trudeau (6<sup>th</sup> District), Russ Warren (4<sup>th</sup> District), and Gary Westorff (8<sup>th</sup> District).

Vice Chair Karla Sand presented the following agenda for the meeting:

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Approve Agenda;
2. Executive Reports:
  1. Chair;
  2. Vice Chair;
  3. Secretary;
  4. Treasurer;
  5. DFL Executive Committee;
  6. Membership;
  7. Chapter Reports;
3. Committee Reports:
  1. Finance;
  2. Education;
  3. Political Involvement;
  4. Newsletter;
  5. Documents;
  6. Technology;
  7. Events;
4. Old/New Business:
  1. Business Cards;
  2. Community Reports;
  3. Special Project;
  4. Other;
5. Announcements and Adjourn.

**Agenda:**

**MSC** – Director Gary Westorff moved to accept the agenda. Director Don Slaten seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**Executive Reports:**

**Chair:**

Chair Don Bye reported that he was in CD8 meetings and watching candidates for CD8 offices.

**Vice Chair:**

Vice Chair Karla Sand stated that she was involved with the resolution and endorsement planning of the Political Involvement Committee. Chair Don Bye felt that endorsement procedures are OK; it is time to apply them. Karla noted that voters in her senate district are 40% seniors. Our endorsements matter.

**Secretary:**

Director Dwayne King stated that he attended the December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting but was not listed.

**MSC** – Director Russ Warren moved to accept the minutes from the December 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting as amended. Director Kay Hendrikson seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**Treasurer:**

**MSC** – Chair Don Bye requested that the treasurer's report for January 2020 from Treasurer John Larva be filed without objection.

**DFL Executive Committee:**

Executive Committee representative Kay Hendrikson reported that the DFL Executive Committee mostly discussed the upcoming precinct/district caucuses and the presidential primary. The DFL has set up a caucus finder web page for voters.

**Membership:**

Membership Director Josey Warren noted that the SC chapters will provide endorsement recommendations for local candidates. Chapters should ask for dues from those attending chapter meetings especially those for endorsement decisions. Josey added that Membership is working with the Technology Committee to help increase membership. Sandy Trudeau suggested that Membership provide business cards to SC members. Such reminds members of their commitment and advertises the Senior Caucus.

**Chapter Reports:**

**North Metro:** Director Norm Hanson that chapter listened to a presentation on protecting water resources.

**South Metro:** Director Roger Gehrke reported that the chapter listened to State Senator Greg Clausen about education issues.

**East Central:** Director Bonnie Lokenvitz reported that the chapter listened to Senate District 11 candidate Michelle Lee.

**Northeast Minnesota:** Director Gary Westorff reported that the chapter is continuing to review and interview candidates.

**Tri-County:** Director Sandy Trudeau reported that the chapter listened to a presentation on protecting children from abuse.

**East Metro:** Director Kay Hendrikson reported that the chapter listened to a presentation on Social Security.

**Anoka:** Secretary Jim Reed reported that the chapter listened to Lori Anderson of Transformative Circle, a non-profit bringing people of diverse backgrounds together.

**Minneapolis:** Director Tony Scallon reported that the chapter is continuing review of candidates.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance:**

Secretary Jim Reed presented a draft SC budget for 2020. The budget assumes that membership can be increased by twenty percent over the year. Expenditures are forecast to be inline with spending during 2019.

**MSC** – Vice Chair Karla Sand moved to increase the budget for “Day on the Hill” by 14%, for the Annual Membership Meeting by 11%, and the summer picnic by 9%. The motion passed by voice vote with one (1) opposed and two (2) abstained.

**MSC** – Director Kay Hendrikson moved to increase the budget for the Technology Committee by 50%. The motion was approved by voice vote with one (1) opposed and two (2) abstained.

**MSC** – Director Kay Hendrikson moved to increase the budget for miscellaneous

**expenditures by 177% to cover purchase of tablets for Senior Caucus use. The motion was approved by voice vote with one (1) opposed and two (2) abstained.**

**MSC – Membership Chair Josey Warren moved to increase the budget for the Membership Committee by 67%. The motion was approved by voice vote with two (2) opposed and one (1) abstained.**

**MSC – Director Don Slaten moved to increase the budget for the State Fair by 215% to cover the entrance fees for volunteers. The motion was approved by voice vote with four (4) opposed and one (1) abstained.**

**MSC – Director Tony Scallon moved to accept the budget as amended. Director Gary Westorff seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote with one (1) opposed.**

#### **Education:**

Secretary Jim Reed announced that the book club will review “Soul of the First Amendment”.

#### **Political Involvement:**

**Endorsement:** Vice Chair Karla Sand announced that the committee had completed development of endorsement rules and a questionnaire for candidate review. Director Gary Westorff asked that the endorsement materials be redistributed to the chapters. Chapters may have their own issues for interviewing candidates. Director Tony Scallon agreed and announced that the Minneapolis chapter was ready to endorse. Chair Don Bye suggested that caucus endorsement of DFL endorsed candidates be automatic. Director Dwayne King felt that the endorsement procedures may be too cumbersome.

**Resolutions:** Vice Chair Karla Sand announced that the twelve draft resolutions were ready for review. Director Joe Mullery suggested that in the future Senior Caucus resolution focus on senior issues. Some of the twelve drafted aren’t really about seniors.

**MSC - Chair Don Bye asked that the resolution on lifelong learning include the text “adequately funded, publicly funded lifelong education with special emphasis on our pre-K and earliest years”. Director Don Slaten seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

**MSC – Director Dwayne King moved to accept the twelve (12) draft Senior Caucus resolutions with the lifelong learning text so amended. Director Gary Westorff seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote with one (1) opposed.**

#### **Newsletter**

Director Norm Hanson announced that the January newsletter edition was out with an interview of SC Chair Don Bye, a discussion of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> “Super Tuesday” presidential primary, and a discussion of education issues. The April edition is in development.

#### **Documents:**

Director Russ Warren reported that the committee had met twice and was making progress. A report will be out soon.

#### **Technology:**

Director Kay Hendrikson asked that chapter chairs provide their chapter schedules and topics for the caucus website and Facebook pages. The website should advertise the chapters since it is the chapters which can grow the caucus. Membership Director Josey Warren asked that the committee ensure that website and Facebook pages have accurate information. Kay added that the website can direct readers to the DFL precinct finder.

Kay added that the Technology Committee is continuing work on online dues payment and donations. The Senior Caucus “Act Blue” page for dues/donations has been up for some time.

**Events:**

Vice Chair Karla Sand reported the “Day on the Hill” planning was progressing. Speakers have been contacted and some have committed. The event will be in room 316 in the state capitol. Director Roger Gehrke asked for volunteers to help setup.

**Old/New Business:****Business Cards:**

Director Sandy Trudeau announced that she has a prototype business card for the Senior Caucus. The Tri-County chapter may use them as a trial. The cards have both chapter and caucus content. Membership Director Josey Warren suggested that cards be individualized for members.

**Community Reports:**

Director Kay Hendrikson noted that the Minnesota Board on Aging has released funds for addressing maltreatment.

**Special Project:**

**MSC – Director Earl Bower moved to have the Senior Caucus send a letter to Minnesota House Health and Human Services Committee Chair Rita Moran asking for a hearing on the end-of-life options bill. Director Roger Gehrke seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

Secretary Jim Reed volunteered to write the official Senior Caucus letter from materials provided by Director Earl Bower.

**Other:**

**MSC – Director Bonnie Lokenvitz representing the East Central chapter moved to have the Senior Caucus endorse Michelle Lee for state Senator for Senate District 11. Director Gary Westorff seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.**

**Announcements:**

Vice Chair Karla Sand reminded the Board of the following events: (Contact Secretary Jim Reed, 763-213-5171, for the phone numbers of those representing the events.)

- Wednesday luncheons - 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Egg and I;
- East Metro Chapter meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month - contact Kay Hendrikson;
- South Metro Chapter meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month - contact Roger Gehrke;
- North Metro Chapter meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month – contact Norm Hanson;
- Anoka Chapter meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month – contact Mel Aanerud;
- East Central Chapter meeting in Mora – contact Bonnie Lokenvitz;
- Minneapolis Chapter meeting – contact Tony Scallon;
- Storytelling on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month – contact John Martin.

**Adjournment:**

**MSC – Director Tony Scallon moved to adjourn. Director Don Slaten seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.**

**Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the DFL Headquarters.**

Respectfully submitted, James Reed, DFL Senior Caucus Secretary.