



MDC votes to support impeachment inquiry



MDC President Eleanor Munro moderates during the question and answer period following the formal debate between Allan Munro, left, and Lem Howell.

During the more than half-century they have belonged to the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, Lem Howell and Allan Munro have seldom disagreed on political matters. They do, however, disagree on the subject of the impeachment of President Donald Trump. They engaged in a formal debate on that issue before the July 10 gathering of the MDC. Following the debate the MDC voted on a motion made at its June 26 meeting to urge its congressional delegation to support an inquiry into impeachment.

The question was “Should the House of Representatives initiate an inquiry into impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump?” Mr Howell spoke in the affirmative, Mr Munro in the negative. Each had seven minutes to present his constructive speech and three minutes for rebuttal.

Mr Howell argued that “the known facts and the Mueller Report cry out for an impeachment inquiry.” He said there is sufficient evidence to justify such action. For example,

Foreign interference - The Russian government interfered in the 2016 presidential election by two methods: 1) social media campaign and 2) computer intrusion campaign and releasing stolen internal documents of the Clinton campaign.

Cover up - in an effort to cover up contact with Russia, a number of Trump advisers and appointees lied about it, including George Papadopoulos, Michael Flynn, and Paul Manafort. Mr Trump also ordered some of these persons to refuse to testify.

Mr Munro argued that a pre-impeachment inquiry commits the House Democrats to holding impeachment hearings and voting to indict; impeachment will fail because the Senate will not vote to remove Trump; and failure to remove Trump will allow him to credibly say he was tried and acquitted. He said this scenario will,

New budget changes state tax structure

Representative Gael Tarleton (36th LD), chair of the House finance committee, who spoke to the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle at its July 10 meeting, said she had two ground rules for the committee in the last legislative session as it developed the state budget for the 2020-2021 biennium: no new sales tax and no increase in state property tax.

Ms Tarleton, said she believes taxes should be imposed for specific purposes, not just to raise funds. The committee’s first plan would have raised \$2.7 billion by taxing extraordinary profits (stocks and bonds) of 13,000 of Washington’s

wealthiest people, 7,600 of whom live in King County. The Senate rejected that plan and a second plan adjusted to \$1.9 billion.



Representative Gael Tarleton

A back-up plan to raise \$2.7 billion by taxing corporate wealth was accepted. It specifies 1) taxing banks and global corporations, etc, at a tiered rate rather than a flat rate, 2) taxing professional services to fund a variety of educational programs, and 3) imposing a graduated real estate excise tax.

Ms Tarleton has been a member of the MDC since 2007.



Executive committee President Eleanor Munro ★ Vice President Jack Whisner ★ Immediate Past President Kiku Hayashi **Directors** Anquida Adams ★ Joanne Cullen ★ Dan Fievez ★ Sen Pete Francis ★ Judi Gibbs ★ Vinod Goswami ★ Lem Howell ★ Peggy Maze ★ Jayson Morris ★ Allan Munro ★ Dr David Rudo ★ Elizabeth Stanton ★ Harriet Wasserman ★ Bert Wyman
Lifetime honored members Kay Bullitt ★ Sen Pete Francis (former president) ★ Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles ★ Hon Nick Licata (former president)

mark your Calendar

MDC meetings

All MDC meetings take place at noon – 1:30 pm at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 911 Stewart St, Seattle, unless otherwise noted. To enter buzz 002.

August 14, noon – 1:30 pm

Senator Joe Nguyen (48th LD) will speak on “Prospects for a State Bank in Washington.”

August 28, noon – 1:30 pm

Representative Roger Goodman (45th LD) will speak on “Criminal Justice Policy, Progress and Prospects.”

Deadline to declare candidacy for two-year terms for officer of the MDC (email your declaration to Eleanor Munro at walkere1@msn.com). All positions are open: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer.

September 11, noon – 1:30 pm

The MDC Health Care Task Force presents Jim Vollendroff, director of the Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview Medical Center, who will speak on the mental/behavioral health crisis in Washington state.

September 25, noon – 1:30 pm

General endorsement proceedings led by MDC Vice President Jack Whisner.

October 9, noon – 1:30 pm

To be determined.

October 23, noon – 1:30 pm

Seattle Port Commissioner Fred Felleman. Title to be determined.



Membership renewal date appears on above label

MDC meeting notes

Jul 10

Impeachment motion

After formal debate between Lem Howell (affirmative) and Allan Munro (negative) and following discussion, the membership passed the motion made by Lem Howell at the June 26 meeting: that the MDC urge its congressional delegation to support an inquiry into impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump.

Clear Sky motion

After voting to sustain the rules, (bylaws require all members be informed prior to the vote) and after a motion to table the motion failed, the membership voted on a motion by Carol Simmons to urge the directors of the Seattle School Board to continue the Urban Native Education Alliance (UNEA)/ Clear Sky program at the Robert Eagle Staff site on the sacred grounds of Licton Springs, free of charge, and to establish a memorandum of understanding with the Superintendent of Seattle Public Schools to continue the partnership between UNEA and the Seattle Public School District.



From the editor

Please send notices of upcoming events, letters, articles, and book reviews to Editor Eleanor Munro at walkere1@msn.com or 1925 41st Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116 no later than the fourth Wednesday of the month. All contributions are subject to editing. For more information call 206-370-1374.

Election 2019

Reelection fundraiser for King County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles

Join travel guru Rick Steves, King County Council Chair Rod Dembowski, and former King County Councilmember Larry Phillips for a reelection fundraiser for Ms Kohl-Welles, 2 – 4 pm, August 25 at Mr Steves’s home in Edmonds WA. Address provided upon RSVP, info@jeannekohlwelles.com.



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likely “suck all the oxygen out of the presidential campaign and little time will be given to the policy deficiencies of the Republicans; we will forfeit the opportunity for our candidate to shine on what the public really cares about.”

“Victory at the polls is what we really need,” he concluded.

The debaters’ handwritten notes on yellow legal paper will be preserved in the historical archives of the MDC.



August 2019

METROPOLITAN
DEMOCRATIC CLUB
OF SEATTLE

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Return Service Requested

