



A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE



Former Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata talks about how to become an activist as MDC President Eleanor Munro looks on.

Nick Licata

Consummate activist explains activism

“What is an activist?” Nick Licata asked members and guests of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle at its January 27 meeting. Although he sold and signed his latest book, *Becoming A Citizen Activist – Stories, Strategies & Advice for Changing our World*, that answers that question, he took the time to answer it in person.

Mr Licata was president of the MDC 1989 – 1993. He served five terms as a Seattle City Councilmember and in 2012 was awarded the designation Progressive Municipal Official of the Year by *Nation*. The *Seattle Weekly* twice named him Best Local Politician.

“Look around at your environment,” he said. “Don’t like what you see? Don’t complain, change it. That’s what an activist does.”

You don’t have to march in a parade or participate in a demonstration to be an activist, Mr Licata explained. You can write a letter or organize an opposition campaign.

There are several steps that activists need

- 2016 operating plan and budget approved -

By Eleanor Munro

The 2016 operating plan was the sole item on the agenda for the January 13 meeting of the Metropolitan Democrat Club of Seattle. On January 26 the finance committee met and prepared a draft budget to present at the January 27 meeting of the MDC. Both documents have been approved.

President Eleanor Munro compiled a list of goals drawn from a survey and the discussion by the members about the plan at the December 18 meeting.

The goals are:

1. Put on an absolutely smashing Diamond Jubilee, make money at it, and attract other progressives.
2. Increase income at our major events (Diamond Jubilee, Chautauqua Afternoon, and Winter Holiday Party).
3. Expand our promotional reach, improve quality of promotional activities.
4. Continue to put on fabulous bimonthly programs.
5. Involve more members in the activities of the organization.
6. Improve the Chautauqua; attract more

candidates; increase attendance.

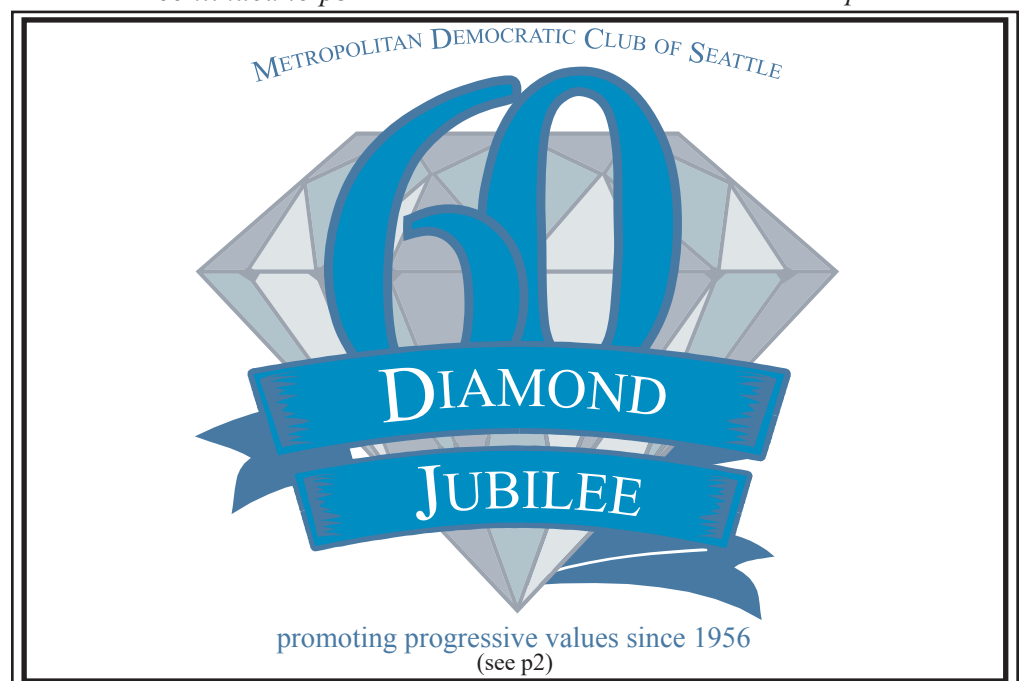
7. Continue Winter Holiday Party; attract more candidates; increase attendance.

8. Take steps to increase diversity and outreach.

9. Improve the cohesiveness of the group; host evening socials.

- continued to p3-

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- continued from p1 Licata -

to heed, he said. One is to recognize the need for allies. Another is to know where the power is. Yet another is learning how to get the word out – how to use the media. In stories and examples, Mr Licata demonstrated how to use each of these and other steps. Three examples of successful outcomes of activism were legalizing same-sex marriage, raising the minimum wage to \$15, and legalizing the use of marijuana in Washington state.



New Member
The MDC welcomes new member Scott Denburg.

What's happening

February 10 Campaign kickoff celebration for John McHale for judge, King County Superior Court Position #43, 5:30 – 7 pm, Farestart, 700 Virginia St.

February 15 Washington State Democrats Annual Crab Feed and Grassroots Forum, St Martin's University Marcus Pavilion, 5300 Pacific Ave SE, Lacey. Tickets and information at www.wa-democrats.org/crab.

February 20 11th annual meeting of the PNHPWW, Fixing Health Care: Principles Versus Profits, 7 pm, Kane Hall #120, University of Washington.

February 22 Demonstration to oppose predatory for-profit health care Zoom+Care expansion in Washington state, noon 531 E Broadway.

February 26 Hanford Challenge's "Above and Beyond" Gala and Auction, 6 pm, 1200 12th Ave S. Cocktail attire. For more information contact sarahf@hanfordchallenge.org.



Diamond Jubilee plans underway

Producer Chas Redmond reported that the Diamond Jubilee committee meeting convened just prior to the regular January 27 meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle.

He said Kiku Hayashi was busy searching for the venue.

Lem Howell will try to find a suitable keynote speaker.

Mr Redmond and Ms Hayashi will work on logistics.

Kathleen Flynn will coordinate the auction, working closely with Mr Howell and Ms Peggy Maze Johnson who will be soliciting items for both the live and silent auctions. All members of the MDC should begin to solicit for auction items.

Ms Johnson and Mr Howell will also be soliciting for advertising in the newsletter and in the event program. Eleanor Munro will prepare price sheets for their convenience.

Ms Munro will handle all publicity, produce written material, and ensure consistent use of our style and logo, which appears on page 1 of this publication.

Other volunteers are Bert Wyman and Vinod Goswami.

As some people are interested in a mini-follies, that will be part of the discussion at the next meeting. In future, Mr Redmond said, the Diamond Jubilee committee meetings will be held 11 am – noon at the Barnes & Noble coffee shop on the lower floor of Pacific Place.

He still needs some volunteers. If you want to be part of this project call him at 202-316-3574.



Jack Whisner's annual crossword puzzle

	N	O	R	T	H	G	A	T	E		S	H	T	
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H	E	R	B	O	L	D		N	O		O	R	E	
A	D	S			A	U	K			M	A	R	E	
			T	D		G	O	N	Z	A	L	E	Z	
J	U	A	R	E	Z			H		O	R		L	E
O		P	A	N	E			L	E	N	T		L	R
H	A	P	P	Y	N	E	W	Y	E	A	R			S
N	Z					T	E	E			E	W		
S		T	P			B	A	L	D	U	C	C	I	
O	B	R	I	E	N			L		G	U	L	L	S
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B	O	T	T	L	E	D			S	I	L	E	N	T

SOLUTIONS

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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.

- plan continued from p1 -

10. Begin another issues group like the Health Care for All committee.

We also discussed the possibility of socializing with the legislative district leaders and holding quarterly socials.

Some of the work on these goals is underway; planning on others will begin soon.

Programs

As always, our most important activity is to organize top-notch programs in plenty of time to promote them for at least two or three months in advance.

There is never a shortage of ideas for programs. Our vice president will be kept busy arranging them and soliciting members to arrange them.

A survey indicated that the top two most popular topics are health care for all and Commissioner Peter Goldmark on impacts of global warming on the state Department of Natural Resources. The next two are Cherry Point/coal trains and global warming. These are followed by four more: immigration, what could US policy do to stabilize the Middle East, under-representation of people of color, and education. The final three top-rated topics are: introduce newly elected city and county officials; racism, impacts, counteraction; and school-to-prison pipeline.

Other topics not on the list were suggested by members, including housing affordability, zoning changes and growth in Seattle (displacement, gentrification), SODO stadium, metropolitan parks, downtown school, South Lake Union library/fire station, and charter schools (why? why not?). I apologize if I missed any, but you can always propose a program to Vice President Jack Whisner.

Any member can organize a program (any of the above or something else entirely) with the approval of Mr Whisner and in accordance with the MDC program guidelines.

A real debate

One program that has been proposed is a proxy debate between candidates for president Hilary Clinton (Allan Munro) and Bernie Sanders (Lem Howell). This has not been authorized by either campaign as it is a private event. The MDC does not presume to speak on behalf of either the campaigns or the Democratic Party. The MDC is not part of the Party although it shares the Party's values. The event will take place

at the March 9 meeting in MDC's regular meeting place, Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St.

A standard debate format or a slight variation will be used. Example:

- 1) affirmative constructive – seven minutes
- 2) negative constructive – seven minutes;
- 3) negative rebuttal – five minutes, and
- 4) affirmative rebuttal – five minutes.

There will be a designated time for members of the audience to question the debaters during the debate and participate in a discussion in the remaining time of the meeting.

Mr Howell and Mr Munro will flip a coin at the beginning. If Mr Howell calls it right, the debate will be entitled "Resolved: Bernie Sanders should be elected president of the United States." This puts him in the affirmative position. If he calls it wrong, the debate will be entitled "Resolved: Hilary Clinton should be elected president of the United States." In this case Mr Munro will have the affirmative position. Senator Pete Francis will be the moderator. The winner will be determined by vote of the audience.

Budget

Treasurer Kate Martin called a meeting of the ad hoc finance committee to take place 7 pm at the home of Harriet Wasserman. The committee is typically made up of the executive committee and others appointed by the treasurer. Present were Treasurer Martin, Harriet Wasserman, Mark Marshall, Kiku Hayashi, and Eleanor Munro.

Ms Martin was called upon at the January 27 meeting to explain the conclusions of the committee and her budgetary policy. She described her strategy as being "more cautiously optimistic than last year." She distributed a historical review of MDC's finances going back through 2011. She also distributed a cash flow summary for the year 2015. This showed a deficit of \$2,783.91 and represents a corresponding reduction of MDC's reserves. An analysis demonstrates the deficit was mostly due to a decline in paid membership dues.

Ms Martin then distributed a budget proposal for 2016. She described this as a preliminary budget. Members asked specific questions about how realistic some of the line items entries are.

It is clear, Ms Martin said, that in this next year we need to increase the number of dues paying members, raise dues, and improve the profitability of our three major events for the year, Diamond Jubilee, Chautauqua and Winter Holiday Party, and reduce printing and postage costs.

It was moved and seconded to approve the budget. The motion passed.



SAVE THE DATES

July 17: Third annual **Chautauqua Afternoon** at the home of MDC member Ann Martin and Tony Martin, 3618 SW Orchard, Seattle. Candidates are invited to sign up for three minute speaking slots throughout the afternoon; the opening of registration will be announced later. Other progressive organizations are invited to set up tables and tents (byo) to display their literature and solicit funds. The annual MDC raffle opens. Picnic food and beverages provided. Sponsorships start at \$100. Suggested donation \$25.

September 18: MDC's **Diamond Jubilee** - 60 years of promoting progressive values. We celebrate our 60th anniversary. Event features auction, retrospectives and what they mean for our future, and a little bit of folly. Admission \$125. Sponsorships start at \$250 and include one admission. Advertise in the Jubilee event program and/or The MDC News. We'll let you know as soon as we've confirmed a keynote speaker. See logo on front page.

December 11: Winter Holiday Party and Raffle, a potluck at the Colman Mansion – the home of Marianne Tagney and David Jones. We honor our elected officials and draw the winning tickets for the raffle. Sponsorships start at \$100. Suggested donation \$35.

For more information on any of these events, their dates, times, advertising and sponsoring opportunities, refer to this monthly publication, to metrodems.org, or contact MDC President Eleanor Munro at 206-370-1374 or walkere1@msn.com.



To join the MDC or for more information contact MDC President Eleanor Munro at 206.370.1374 or walkere1@msn.com or visit metrodems.org or facebook.com/metrodems.

mark your
MDC Calendar

February - March 2016

All regular membership meetings occur on the All regular meetings occur on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, noon – 1:30 pm at the Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St, Seattle, unless otherwise noted. The MDC welcomes guests at all of its noon meetings and special events. Members are welcome at all MDC committee meetings.

Look here for notices of Diamond Jubilee, program, and other committee meetings. They will be listed here in the Calendar column of *The MDC News* and the bimonthly meeting notes. All members are welcome to attend any MDC meeting or committee meeting.

• **February 10**, (second Wednesday)

Diamond Jubilee committee, 11 am – noon, Barnes & Noble coffee shop at Pacific Place

Health Care for All committee, 11:30 am – noon, Plaza 600 Building #205.

Program: Why does the sidewalk end?

Speakers: a panel on pedestrian issues including Lisa Quinn, executive director of Feet First; Michelle Marks, SDOT planner working on the update of the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan; and David Godbert, former president of the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board and leader in Transportation for America.

Executive committee, 1:30 – 2 pm, Plaza 600 Building #205.

• **February 24** (fourth Wednesday)

Diamond Jubilee committee, 11 am –



Lem Howell poses with Representative Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Jim McDermott at President Obama's state of the union speech.

noon, Barnes & Noble coffee shop at Pacific Place

Health Care for All committee, 11:30 am – noon, Plaza 600 Building #205.

Program: new officeholders introduce themselves

Speaker(s): Newly elected Seattle City Councilmembers and/or King County officials

Executive committee, 1:30 – 2 pm, Plaza 600 Building #205.

• **March 9** (second Wednesday)

Diamond Jubilee committee, 11 am – noon, Barnes & Noble coffee shop at Pacific Place

Health Care for All committee, 11:30 am – noon, Plaza 600 Building #205.

Program: A real debate

Speakers: A proxy debate between candidates for president Hilary Clinton (Allan Munro) and Bernie Sanders (Lem Howell). Moderator will be Senator Pete Francis. This has not been authorized by either campaign as it is a private event and the MDC does not presume to speak on behalf of the Democratic Party. The MDC is not part of the Democratic Party although it shares the Party's values.

Executive committee, 1:30 – 2 pm, Plaza 600 Building #205.



Membership renewal date appears on above label

February 2016

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DEMOCRATIC CLUB
OF SEATTLE



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