



THE

M

D

C

Promoting progressive values since 1956
www.metrodems.org

MARCH 2018

NEWS

A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE

mark your Calendar

March 14 – MDC meeting

Washington's 1993 Health Care Reform Act and Obamacare in the Age of Trump.

Phil Talmadge, former justice, Washington Supreme Court

March 28 – MDC meeting

Defense Challenges: North Korea, Pakistan/Afghanistan, and Syria

Congressman Adam Smith, ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee

April 11 – MDC meeting

Sustainability Initiatives: The Port's Century Agenda

Seattle Port Commissioners Fred Felleman and Peter Steinbrueck

April 25 – MDC meeting

MDC meetings take place noon – 1:30 pm, the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at the Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St unless otherwise noted.



Win a ticket to NPI gala

The board of directors of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle has voted to sponsor the 2018 Spring Fundraising Gala of the Northwest Progressive Institute (NPI) in the amount of \$250. The event takes place at 5:30 pm, April 7, at the Renton Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Highway, Renton. It includes a full dinner buffet, cash bar and Dessert Dash.

A benefit of the sponsorship is that we are provided with two tickets to the event. At the March 14 MDC meeting we will draw the names of the winners from among those who wish to attend. If you are unable to attend the March 14 meet-



Coming up in March



Phil Talmadge



Adam Smith

Left, former Washington Supreme Court Justice Phil Talmadge, who will speak on "Washington's 1993 Health Care Reform Act and Obamacare in the Age of Trump" at the March 14 meeting of the MDC. Right, Congressman Adam Smith, ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, will speak on "Defense Challenges: North Korea, Pakistan/Afghanistan, and Syria" at the MDC's March 28 meeting.

Villeneuve reports on pollution tax poll

A poll conducted by the Northwest Progressive Institute (NPI) indicates that a majority of Washington voters think that the state should levy a tax on pollution, said Andrew Villeneuve at the February 28 meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle. Mr. Villeneuve is executive director of NPI. Poll respondents also believe that proceeds of such a tax should be used to fund programs to reduce harmful emissions

and would like a chance to win one of the tickets, please let me know by email (walkere1@msn.com). I'll put your name in the hat before the drawing. Contestants must be members of the MDC in good standing.

For more information on the gala visit www.nwprogressive.org.

and speed transition to renewable energy sources, he said.

Respondents were asked if they thought Washington state should levy a tax on pollution to fund projects that would reduce harmful emissions plus accelerate our transition to electric vehicles and renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and geothermal.

Answers: agree, 59 percent (43 strongly, 16 somewhat); disagree, 40 percent (28 strongly, 12 somewhat).

(Note: Washington voters rejected I-732 in 2016. On March 2, one day after a carbon-tax bill failed in the legislature, an initiative that would create a carbon fee on fossil fuels and invest the revenue in projects that seek to cope with climate change was filed with the Secretary of State.)

For more information on the poll visit www.nwprogressive.org.



Meeting notes

February 14

Board of directors

A motion was made to elect Tyler Mollenkopf to the MDC board of directors. The members will be informed that the vote will be taken at the February 28 meeting of the MDC.

Resolution

Judi Gibbs proposed that the MDC send a resolution to Governor Jay Inslee asking him to oppose expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline. The members will be informed and provided with a copy of the resolution. The vote will be taken at the February 28 meeting.

February 28

Board of directors

Tyler Mollenkopf was elected to the MDC board of directors unanimously.

Resolution

A Resolution on Tar Sands Oil Transport via British Columbia and the Salish Sea passed unanimously.

Leed describes efforts to address serious environmental problems

Roger Leed, Seattle attorney known for his work on several early landmark cases on the environment, spoke at the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle's February 14 meeting on "Taking Care of the Northwest Environment – What's Behind and What's Ahead." He is a member and former board member of the MDC and former president of the Washington Environmental Council. He was joined by Dan Ortman of Sound Law Center, who has extensive experience in shoreline and wetland policy.

Mr Leed described some of the serious environmental problems in the Puget Sound area in the 1950s; sewage outfalls into local waters, unregulated garbage dumps,

discharge of hazardous chemicals, forests eroding from clear cuts, freeways cutting through cities, and pollution from the generation of energy.

Mr Ortman explained how many of these problems affected our native peoples, particularly their access to natural resources. Although much has been done, he said, these problems endure.

Mr Leed considers one of his most important efforts was seeking compliance of proposed segments of the I-90 freeway with the National Environmental Policy Act over a period of 10 years. Details of this and some of his other cases are described in a transcript of his presentation that will be posted on the MDC website, www.metrodems.org.

Guest speaker parking

Members agreed that we will offer to compensate our guest speakers for parking.

Impeachment

Members declined to an offer to purchase and sell impeachment signs/bumper stickers.



METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE –Board of Directors

Executive committee President Eleanor Munro ▪ Vice President Jack Whisner ▪ Immediate Past President Kiku Hayashi **Directors** Bill Bradburd ▪ Joanna Cullen ▪ Dan Fievez ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Judi Gibbs ▪ Vinod Goswami ▪ Lem Howell ▪ Mark Marshall ▪ Tyler Mollenkopf ▪ Jayson Morris ▪ Allan Munro ▪ Dr David Rudo ▪ Elizabeth Stanton ▪ Harriet Wasserman ▪ Bert Wyman **Lifetime honored members** Kay Bullitt ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles ▪ Hon Nick Licata

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.

Membership renewal date appears on above label

March 2018

METROPOLITAN
DEMOCRATIC CLUB
OF SEATTLE

Eleanor Munro
1925 41st Ave SW
Seattle WA 98116

Return Service Requested

