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OCTOBER 2022

NEWS

A quarterly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE

mark your Metrodems calendar

October 12, noon – 1:30 pm

Meeting ID: 831 3832 5557
Passcode: 497182

Program: To be determined.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83138325557?pwd=MWZyQ3lNeE5BR1BCZWQrdXlkR1pjZz09>

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October 26, noon – 1:30 pm

Meeting ID: 829 5151 2245
Passcode: 683364

Program: Representative Joe Fitzgibbon (34th LD) will tell us what he expects the effect of the Inflation Reduction Act will be on Washington's environment.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82951512245?pwd=d1V4eUVpRTE3SWRFYzVNZUJRb0Zydz09>

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November 23, noon – 1:30 pm

Meeting ID: 828 2636 5723
Passcode: 192014

Program: to be determined

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82826365723?pwd=TkVERHBTZG9ycVQvMFZVZEsyZ0M5UT09>

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MDC supports Perez

Unable to find a suitable date for the event, the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle will not be holding a fundraiser for Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, candidate for Congress in District 3. The organization voted at its August 24 meeting to hold the fundraiser.

Instead, the fundraising committee suggests, members should be encouraged to contribute directly to the Perez campaign. Contributions can be made at www.marieforcongress.com.

MDC raises \$21K + for Schrier campaign

The Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle hosted a fundraiser on July 6 for Dr Kim Schrier, congresswoman up for reelection in District 8. The event resulted in exceeding the MDC's goal of raising \$20,000. The MDC is a 501(c)(4) and not allowed to make political contributions as an organization, but individual members and friends contributed more than \$21,000 to Dr Schrier's campaign.

Lem Howell, who organized the event that took place at the Central Area Senior Center, said, "With all the pundits predicting the 8th CD as a toss-up, it is a good feeling that we did our part."

MDC meeting notes

July 13

Business – dual endorsements:

Members of the MDC voted to endorse Emily Alvarado and Leah Griffin for Representative Position 1 in the 34th legislative district and to endorse Nicole Gomez and Jeff Manson for Representative Position 1 in the 36th legislative district.

July 27

Program: Larry Brown, president of the Washington State Labor Council, spoke about the contemporary union scene in Seattle and the state. He noted that Washington is the third highest union destination in the US with more than 620,000 members.

August 24 – Ukraine's Independence Day

Program: Sofia Fedzhora, a citizen of Kyiv, Ukraine, spoke to the MDC on cultural differences between Ukrainian and Russian identities. Ms Fedzhora is a PhD student at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and a Fulbright foreign language teaching assistant at the University of Washington.

Business: MDC members voted to host a fundraiser for Marie Perez, candidate

cont. on p.2

“Meeting Notes” cont. from p.1

for Congress in the third congressional district. Lem Howell and Eleanor Munro will make arrangements.

September 14

Program: Seattle City Councilmember Lisa Herbold outlined the five bills passed recently by the Seattle City Council having to do with abortion.

Business: 1) Lem Howell has requested dates for the Marie Perez fundraiser for October 18, 19 and 20. He is researching a location. The event has been cancelled (see Page 1). 2) Eleanor Munro reported that there were no availabilities at the Central Area Senior Center in December for the organization’s winter holiday party; she will research other potential locations for the event. 3) Members of the MDC voted to resume holding meetings in person once a month starting in January and to continue meeting by Zoom once a month. This will allow us to host remote speakers, but continue the time-honored tradition of inviting local politicians, activists and others to speak to the club in person.

September 28

Program: Dr Seth Weinberger, a specialist in international conflict, spoke about the war in Ukraine; he believes that the solution to the conflict would be to accept the Russian annexation of the Luhansk and Donetsk regions of Ukraine. Dr Weinberger teaches classes in international relations, US foreign policy, terrorism, constitutional law and political philosophy at the University of Puget Sound.

Business – general election endorsement proceedings: The MDC endorsed Chipalo Street for Representative Position 1 in the 37th legislative district, Claudia Kauffman for senator in the 47th legislative district, and Judge Damon Shadid for Seattle Municipal Court Position 7.

opinion

Charles III: Monarch with an agenda

By Allan Munro

As one who has been tracking the former Prince of Wales for more than 40 years, I have nothing but admiration for his revealed policy stands. Whether the subject is global warming, the environment generally, or economic inequality, he has a record of enlightened un-self interested advocacy. (He has made movies about sustaining the environment. He has remodeled his manor to be carbon neutral.)

Now that he is the head of state, he faces the dilemma that he is not supposed to go public with his positions. If he is outspoken he invites partisan criticism and attacks on the monarchy. If he remains silent he relegates himself to being an ineffectual figurehead.

As a practical matter his best opportunity for advocacy will be his weekly meetings with the prime minister. The contents of monarchs’ messages to prime ministers have not heretofore been revealed. This raises the question of how persuasive he is. Is he a forceful arguer? Is he a wimp?

Who is wearing the pants? Camilla? The constraints on his and his mother’s roles concealed much about their personalities. But a monarch who is ready with forceful arguments, together with the implication of leaking and royal displeasure, might cause the government to take longer-range action on key existential issues.

I am not a monarchist (unless I get to be the monarch), but the dismal record of the David Cameron, Theresa Mae, Boris Johnson and Liz Truss governments on the big existential issues and the return to Reagan/Thatcher economic policies make me hope for Charles III to find a way to realize his policy positions.

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July 2022

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