

SENATE DISTRICT 63 DFL CONVENTION
RICHFIELD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
MARCH 21, 2004

Convention was called to order at 1:00 pm by SD63 Chair David Weinlick. Following some introductory comments, the convenor led the convention in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a reading of the affirmative action statement.

Credentials Committee reported that no challenges have been made and that a full report would be provided later.

Motion was made and seconded that Ken Kelash, Sue Sandahl, and Bert Black be elected as convention co-chairs. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Motion by co-chair Sandahl to adopt the proposed agenda was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Motion by convenor Weinlick to amend proposed rules by adding Rule 42a (regarding resolutions) and to adopt proposed rules as amended. Motion was seconded. Following two questions from floor, motion passed on a voice vote.

Chair of the 3rd CD DFL Georgiana Ruzick spoke to the floor.

Convenor Weinlick presented proposed SD63 Constitution with the following proposed amendments:

#1 That the last sentence of Art. IV, sec. 2, be amended to read: "The quorum for Central Committee meetings is the number of members in attendance."

#2 That the second sentence of Art. V, sec. 1 be amended to read:

"The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Associate Chair (different gender), Secretary, Treasurer, Affirmative Action Officer, and 12 Directors elected by the Senate District Convention, with gender balance of the directors. Two Directors shall reside in each of the cities of Minneapolis, Richfield, and Bloomington."

#3 That the following sentence be added to the end of Art. V, sec. 2 c: "The Secretary shall serve as first alternate to the Chair and Associate Chair to the State Central Committee."

#4 That the following sentence be added to the end of Art. V, sec. 2 d: "The Treasurer shall serve as second alternate to the Chair and Associate Chair to the State Central Committee."

Convenor Weinlick moved to pass the proposed Constitution as amended. Motion seconded.

Two delegates spoke in favor and two delegates spoke against proposed amendment #1.

Motion was made to amend amendment #1 by providing that a quorum shall be one-third of the informed Central Committee members (first proposed amendment to amendment #1).

Two delegates spoke in favor and two delegates spoke against the first proposed amendment to amendment #1.

A friendly amendment was proposed to take the word "informed" out of the first proposed amendment to amendment to #1. Proposal was not accepted as a friendly amendment and motion was made to amend the first proposed amendment to amendment #1 by removing the word "informed." This motion was passed on a voice vote.

Motion was made to amend amendment #1 to provide that the last sentence of Art. IV, sec. 2 would read: "The quorum for Central Committee meetings is 15 members of the Central Committee." (second proposed amendment to amendment #1).

Three delegates spoke in favor and one delegate spoke against the second proposed amendment to amendment #1.

Motion to adopt second proposed amendment to amendment #1 was made and seconded. Motion passed on voice vote.

Friendly motion was made to insert the words "At least" at the beginning of the second sentence of amendment #2. This was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Motion was made to adopt proposed constitution as amended by amendment #1 (as amended by second proposed amendment), amendment #2 (as amended by friendly amendment), amendment #3 and amendment #4. Motion seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Treasurer Charles Miller reported that we started the year with \$2800 in account and he encouraged delegates to make donations to cover the cost of the convention.

Nominations Committee presented its recommended slate of officers and directors of SD63 as follows:

Chair:	David Weinlick
Associate Chair:	Dottie Gilkeson
Secretary:	Nancy Olson
Treasurer:	Charles Miller
Affirmative Action Officer:	Julie Kenny
Directors:	Todd Dalebroux
	Margaret Severe
	Ann Wendel
	Mary Schoenleber
	Tasha Waldron
	Gary Dukes
	Jeff Lamonoco
	John Gigrich
	Judy Sateren
	Jerry Gilkeson
	Dave Dunham

Chris Williams

Floor was opened for additional nominations. No nominations were made. Motion was made and seconded to elect the recommended officers and directors. Motion was passed on a voice vote.

Minneapolis School Board candidates Lydia Lee and Peggy Flanagan spoke to the convention.

House minority leader Matt Entenza spoke to the convention.

Attorney General Mike Hatch spoke to the convention.

Congressman Martin Sabo spoke to the convention.

Credentials Committee reported that there were 316 registered delegates and 11 registered alternates, and that all alternates could be upgraded to delegates.

Nominations Committee presented its recommended slate of state central committee delegates and alternates as follows:

Delegates: Ken Kelash
 Judy Sateren
 Eric Morris
 Sara Nutter
 Jerry Gilkeson
 Mary Schoenleber

Alternates: Jeff Lamonoco
 Ann Wendel
 John Gigrich
 Ruth Hatch
 Todd Dalebroux
 Tasha Waldron

Floor was opened for additional nominations. No nominations were made. Motion was made and seconded to elect by unanimous vote the recommended slate of state central committee delegates and alternates. Motion was passed on a voice vote.

Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman spoke to the convention.

Hennepin County Attorney Amy Klobuchar spoke to the convention.

Co-Chair of the John Kerry for President Campaign Betty Folliard spoke to the convention.

State Senator Jane Ranum spoke to the convention.

Convention co-chair Sandahl moved to ratify the election of state central committee members. Motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Resolutions Committee reported that we are entitled to forward 44 resolutions to the State DFL Convention, and that the Committee has proposed a list of 42 recommended resolutions. Any delegate will be allowed to remove any of the recommended resolutions from the slate and place them up for individual consideration.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the 42 recommended resolutions.

Delegates requested removal of the following resolutions from the slate of recommended resolutions: Nos. 1, 3, 9, 11, 17, 19, 21, 32, 38, 39, and 42.

Motion was made and seconded to adopt the remaining 31 recommended resolutions. Motion passed on a voice vote. The resolutions passed on this vote are Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40, and 41.

Debate was opened on recommended resolution 1. One delegate proposed an amendment to resolution 1. One delegate spoke against the amendment. Motion was made and seconded on the amendment to resolution 1. Motion failed. One delegate spoke against resolution 1. Call for a vote on resolution 1 was made. Resolution 1 failed.

Debate was opened on recommended resolution 3. Three delegates spoke in favor and three delegates spoke against resolution 3. Call for a vote on resolution 3 was made. Voice vote was taken and request was made for a hand count. Hand count showed that resolution 3 overwhelmingly failed.

Debate was opened on recommended resolution 9. Three delegates spoke in favor and three delegates spoke against resolution 9. Call for a vote on resolution 9 was made. Voice vote was taken and hand vote was requested. Resolution 9 passed on a vote of 170 in favor and 78 against.

Debate was opened on recommended resolution 11. One delegate spoke against resolution and moved to amend resolution to eliminate the first two sentences. One delegate spoke against the amendment. One delegate raised question as to current platform item #95. Friendly amendment was proposed to add Africa to the continents listed in existing platform item #95 and to add the last sentence of resolution 11 to the end of existing platform item #95. One delegate spoke in favor of friendly amendment. Call for vote on resolution 11, as amended by friendly amendment, was made. Resolution 11 as amended passed on a voice vote.

Co-Chair Kelash announced that we had reached end of allotted 30 minute period for consideration of resolutions. Under the agenda and rules, a Resolutions Convention Subcommittee, having a quorum of 25 delegates, and open to any delegate who chooses to attend, will convene at the end of the convention to consider the remaining resolutions.

Motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules and add an additional 30 minutes for the consideration of additional resolutions. Hand vote was taken. Motion failed.

Richfield City Council Member Susan Rosenberg spoke to the convention.

Minneapolis City Council Member Scott Benson spoke to the convention.

Convention separated into House District Endorsement Conventions.

House District 63A Endorsing Convention (minutes taken by Carole Hippie)

Called to Order at 3:40 pm.

Reference to rules was made and floor was opened for nominations.

Gertrude Ulrich nominated Paul Thissen. No other nominations were made. Floor voted to endorse Paul Thissen on voice vote.

Paul Thissen spoke to convention to accept endorsement.

Convention recessed.

House District 63B Endorsing Convention (minutes taken by Nancy Olson)

Called to order at 3:35 pm. Motion to nominate Bert Black as convention chair passed on voice vote.

Motion was made and seconded to have a 20-minute question and answer session. Motion passed on voice vote.

Floor opened to nominations. Nomination from floor to endorse Dan Larson. No further nominations were made.

Dottie Gilkeson spoke in favor of nomination. Dan Larson spoke to convention. Twenty-minute question and answer period followed.

Motion made and seconded for unanimous endorsement of Dan Larson. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote.

Convention adjourned.

SD 63 Convention reconvened at 4:15 pm. Co-chairs announced that 5th Congressional District is entitled to 17 delegates and 17 alternates and that the 3rd Congressional District is entitled to 5 delegates and 5 alternates. Because these are odd numbers, a coin flip was taken to determine which district would get an extra female delegate/alternate and which district would get an extra male delegate/alternate. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that coin flip would be done so that heads would give extra male to 5th Congressional District and tails would give extra male to 3rd Congressional District. Heads won.

Convention separated into Congressional Districts to Elect State Delegates and Alternates.

Congressional District 5 (minutes taken by Nancy Olson):

By show of hands, it was determined that more than 17 delegates want to be delegates to the state convention. Co-chair Sandahl explained the procedure for walking subcaucuses and a sufficient number of delegates requested walking subcaucuses to require that method of election.

Floor was opened to nominations of subcaucuses. 18 subcaucuses were nominated.

Initial 15-minute period for joining subcaucuses occurred. The floor was frozen and counts were taken for each subcaucus, resulting in a viability number of 11. Final 15-minute period for moving among subcaucuses occurred, floor was frozen, and final count of each subcaucus was taken. Subcaucuses were assigned their number of delegates/alternates and proceeded to elect delegates and alternates.

Congressional District 3 (minutes taken by Dottie Gilkeson):

Motion to elect Bert Black as chair of CD3 portion of convention was made, seconded, and passed.

Nominations for delegates and alternates were taken from the floor. Proportional voting was not requested.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to have a question and answer period for persons wanting to be elected as delegates or alternates, with 2 minutes allotted to each nominee to answer questions.

Following question and answer period, delegates and alternates were elected by ballot voting.

SD 63 Convention adjourned at 6:00 pm.

The Resolutions Convention Subcommittee convened at the conclusion of the convention and adjourned at 7:00 pm. In addition to the 33 resolutions which were adopted during the main convention, Resolutions Nos. 17, 19, 21, 32, 38, 39, 42, 50, 60, 70, and 74 were adopted.

After renumbering, the resolutions which were forwarded to the state convention are as follows:

Platform Resolutions

Civil, Human, and Constitutional Rights

1. Opposes any constitutional amendment to ban the legal recognition of same-sex marriage, civil unions and/or domestic partner registries.

Education

2. Supports a well-funded public school education system that serves all children and does not support a voucher system that will be used to provide public funds for private and/or religious schools.

Energy

3. Supports that the United States will support a comprehensive national energy policy focused on eliminating all fossil fuel subsidies and supporting renewable energy sources.

Health and Human Services

4. Call upon the State of Minnesota to support the goal that, by the year 2012, all Minnesotans will have the opportunity to own or rent a safe, decent, and affordable home.
5. Support therapeutic stem cell research.

Natural Resources and the Environment

6. Supports protecting the few remaining portions of our old-growth forests on public land should be protected from logging for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.
7. Supports policies and education for global and national population and resource balance so that we can leave a positive legacy of a sustainable, healthy, viable, peaceful and safe planet to our grandchildren and all future generations yet unborn.

Tax and Budget Policy

8. Opposes the expansion of gambling in Minnesota.

World Affairs

9. Be it resolved that the DFL Party oppose any new or extended trade agreements that do not preserve the right of local governments to set standards, that do not require adequate human rights records, and that do not display concern for our environment.
10. Amend Platform Resolution #95 to Read: We oppose all forms of United States exploitation in Africa, Central America, and South America, and any attempts to dictate their political systems. Monetary aid in times of crisis should never be connected to a military objective and should be in the form of grants or loans with transparent and reasonable repayment schedules.

DFL Action Resolutions

Agriculture

11. Require feedlots to be in full conformity with the best in clean air and clean water standards.

Civil, Human, and Constitutional Rights

12. Supports the Minnesota Human Rights Act in its entirety.

Education

13. Supports that the Federal Government fulfill its pledge to fully fund its portion of special education costs for students with disabilities.
14. That the State of Minnesota restore all Head Start Funding and further allocation of additional funding to provide comprehensive Head Start Services to all low-income infants, toddlers & preschoolers in the state.
15. That confirmation of Cheri Pierson Yecke as Commissioner of Education be blocked.
16. Support a requirement that annual statewide tests given to students in the K-12 public schools must be aligned to the MN Academic Standards so that students are tested on the material they are required to learn.

17. Reaffirm its commitment to children, educators and students by amending the No Child Left Behind Act so that it actually does provide excellent learning opportunities and full funding for implementation of the act.
18. Supports legislative efforts to again require health & physical education in Minnesota schools.

Energy

19. Supports the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) using strong enforcement of the Renewable Energy Objective Goals; and that we urge the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to not consider green pricing programs (like Xcel's Windsource) as part of the PUC's responsibility to develop 10% renewable energy by the year 2015.

Government Accountability to the Public

20. Supports a Constitutional Amendment to dissolve the electoral college and establish election of the President of the United States by popular vote.
21. Supports instant runoff voting for general elections to insure that the winning candidate receives a majority of votes cast.
22. Reaffirm the constitutional requirement that to conduct or carry out war requires a specific vote in Congress.

Health and Human Services

23. Supports that the Minnesota Legislature mandate that all licensed Public Safety Officers in Minnesota receive a minimum of 40 hours of training in recognizing the signs of mental illness, skills for de-escalation of situations involving mental illness, and applying the use of non-lethal intervention strategies.
24. Support the passage of legislation during the 2004 Minnesota Legislative Session to lower premiums for parents of children with disabilities that receive Medical Assistance services.

Labor and Employment

25. Support legislation and policies to strengthen the state dislocated worker program.
26. Support a mandatory statewide self-insurance negotiating pool for all school district employees to provide affordable health care.

Natural Resources and the Environment

27. Supports initiatives that install state-of-the-art mercury control technologies on all coal-fired power plants; and that we urge the state of Minnesota to establish enforceable mercury reduction targets based on a 90% reduction by 2010, and virtual elimination by 2020.

Public Safety and Crime Prevention

28. Support extending and strengthening the Minnesota assault weapons ban in order to remove these weapons of war from the American civilian market.

29. Support the repeal the “Minnesota Personal Protection Act” of 2003.

Retirement Security

30. Supports requiring the State of Minnesota fulfill its obligation to secure full funding of the Minneapolis teachers’ pension fund by the year 2020.

Tax and Budget Policy

31. Support raising the taxable income limits for Social Security before reducing benefits.
32. Supports that the United States will responsibly reduce and reallocate military defense spending until the military defense budget no longer exceeds monies allocated to programs crucial to human dignity, community, family and personal security, including healthcare, education, employment, housing, public safety, and first responders.
33. Oppose tax schemes, including the so-called Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights and proposals of the Minnesota Taxpayers’ League, that limit state and local taxes and expenditures and undermine the ability of local and state governments to meet the needs of the people and to respond in times of crisis.
34. Supports terminating the one percent reduction in funding for programs and facilities for people with developmental disabilities enacted in 2003 and provide, instead, for a 2 percent increase.
35. Support that any company that profits from defense work or U.S. Government contracts must pay their fair share of state and federal taxes.
36. Support that Minnesota’s property tax structure be amended to apportion a greater share of the cost of government services to commercial property, thereby relieving the burden suffered by homeowners as assessed values rise and limited market value is phased out.

Transportation

37. Ensure that any MNDOT freeway expansion plans for the I-35 and I-494 area conform to the City Council resolution of September 24, 2002, calling for the protection of all homes in the Humboldt/Girard area near 76th Street.

World Affairs

38. Support the resolution calling on the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Senate to refrain from supporting the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), the expansion of NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) to CAFTA (the Central American Free Trade Agreement), and FTAA (the Free Trade Area of the Americas) or any other trade agreement that allows or promotes privatization of public water utilities.
39.
 1. Work toward the Millennium Development Goals (calling to reduce hunger and poverty, and improve health worldwide) by all countries
 2. Work for the Millennium Challenge Account funding to match the promises made,
 3. Work for funding for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria which
 - a) meets the promised levels, and

- b) acknowledges the U.S. fair share in meeting global funding needs to contain the crisis, and
4. Protect current poverty-reduction programs and funding, ensuring that current programs not be cut to fund new ones.
 40. Require the United States to work to eliminate the threat of nuclear war by implementing all treaties supporting nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the non-nuclearizing of space, by discontinuing current programs, forswearing future plans to develop new nuclear weapons, and by a systematic reduction and destruction of our current nuclear arsenals.
 41. Renounce the doctrine of preemptive war and require that the United States work with the United Nations to resolve serious, international problems such as terrorism, genocide, nuclear proliferation, and tyrannical regimes, through the use of diplomacy, the promotion of democracy, focused nonviolent intervention, and peaceful conflict resolution.
 42. The United States must withdraw from unjust economic trade agreements such as NAFTA, FTAA and GATT, and organizations including the World Trade Organization and the World Bank, and establish new fair-trade and fair-lending agreements that protect the environment, workers' rights, local control of national resources, the right to self-determination, and other, fundamental freedoms.
 43. The United States must obey all treaties to which we are signatory and sign and obey all international treaties which protect human rights and promote justice, peace and freedom across the globe, refusing financial or military aid to human rights abusers, but aiding the efforts of peoples working toward self-determination with nonviolent, cooperative support.

DFL Party Resolutions

Civil, Human and Constitutional Rights

44. Provide affordable on site childcare at Senate District and State conventions.