

UfSP Minutes
Wed., Sept. 23, 2009, 7pm — Swedish Hospital, Cherry Hill

1. Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes (Sept. 16, 2009)

3. Guest: David Frockt (Seattle Attorney), No on Eyman's I-1033, <http://no1033.com/>

1033 is Tim Eyman's latest initiative and would have disastrous consequences in Washington State. It uses the same rigid and arbitrary formula as the "TABOR" law passed in Colorado, which led to deep cuts to public schools, roads and highways, and children's health care. I-1033 would lock in this year's recession-level state, county and city budgets as baselines and apply a rigid and arbitrary formula based on population growth and inflation to decide how much could be spent in the future.

-Takes budgeting process away from state government.

-Formula is arbitrary, will eliminate property tax as a tax base.

-I-1033 is so bad that even Microsoft and Susan Hutchinson oppose it!!!!

-40,000 people were just removed from State Basic Health due to current recession. If I-1033 passes, the Legislature will not have the funds to reinstate them back on Basic Health.

- "No on 1033" PAC has \$500,000, they need more donations

-Early statewide polls show 55% support (probably because pollsters asked a simplistic question such as: "do you want your property tax lowered?")

-We might need to re-examine our State's initiative/referendum laws (because of Eyman's budget attacks)--but then again, maybe not. The initiative process might become our vehicle to put single payer legislation before the voters someday.

4. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Action Committee (Jon/Linda R)

-**Jon**, Yesterday there was an action by MoveOn. About 300 people, marched up to Cigna Insurance Co. in the Columbia Tower. There was highly visible single payer signage (thanks to Kathleen M and Linda J). The "public option" crowd took our signs immediately when they were offered. (clear design, thanks to Chuck).

Motion (Kathleen M, Linda R): Order 300 more signs from Boruck Printing
vote: unanimous

-**Linda J**, at the action, 10 people signed up for the UfSP email list.

-**Jon**, all names are entered and should be receiving announcement blasts

-**Don**, one solution to difficulty of getting media to cover single payer (or even "public option" as there was no press yesterday) would be for us to write and submit our own news stories (plus a digital photos) to on-line news and option sites and blogs, i.e. Crosscut, Publicola, Post-Globe.

-**Linda R**, Chuck's calendar is great--composed of local action teams for lobbying our Congressional delegation, organized by County neighborhoods. I would like to send this info out on blast list-serve from Action Committee.

-Ruth, had a health care discussion in Burien, seven people came, two nurses. What is the best way to put the word out? We used the Highline Times and the Burien blog.

-Linda R, we need more street based actions. Need a die-in, stop traffic in Seattle.

-Jon, we should check with JwJ on dates of their availability before we choose a final date.

b. Messaging/Lobbying (Chuck/Bill/Pam/Kathleen R)

-Chuck, with Bill, Pam and Kathleen R, talked with Maria Cantwell's office. Bill put together a packet explaining our issues with the pending legislation. Excellent, detailed notes (thanks to Pam). Everyone wants a copy. Judith's outline helped structure this lobbying effort.

Motion (Chuck, Kathleen M): Order \$400 worth of bumper stickers

vote: unanimous

Motion (Jon, Linda J): UfSP join the Jobs with Justice (JwJ) Steering Committee. Jon will be our rep and we agree to the \$50 fee.

vote: unanimous

Motion (Linda R, Sally): We have an interim moderator, Larry, for the next two weeks (Sept. 30/Oct. 7). Linda R will send out an email asking for nominations for the moderator to succeed Larry. Vote will be taken Oct. 7, under old business.

vote: unanimous

-Don, I will thank Newt for all of his thoughtful ideas.

Motion (Clayton, Don): Adjourn meeting to discuss retreat and street action.

vote: unanimous