

## **Chair Report – May 10, 2023**

With Commissioner Gelder's announcement of leaving his position, a lot has been going on in the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is a process to follow and the 23<sup>rd</sup>'s PCO committee has taken that on – KUDOS TO LAURIE AND CAM!!!. They have contacted all affected PCOs and surveyed them to identify and prioritize the issues that are of concern to them. They have arranged the commissioner candidate forum and how it will play out. The candidate interviews are May 6 and 7, with half of the candidates each day. Each interview lasts one-half hour and there is a set list of questions that each candidate will answer.

In the meantime, the candidate applications and supporting documents have been sent to all the affected PCOs. Currently there are 11 candidates and the PCOs are reading their way through them.

Last Thursday, April 27, the LD hosted a DEI forum that was held at OC-Poulsbo. We had 3 speakers representing different communities: Jerry Hebert-LGBTQ+, Marsha Cutting-Disabled and NAACP President, Robert Harris. They were asked a series of questions by the moderator, 23<sup>rd</sup> LD Vice-Chair Shannon Turner. The questions focused on ways the 23<sup>rd</sup> LD could be better allies to these groups and where they need assistance. Judi Leader organized the meeting and assisted Shannon by getting written questions submitted by the audience. The meeting ended with a motion made and passed to make the forum an annual event.