**Chair’s Report – January 28, 2021**

President Biden’s and Vice-President’s inauguration was truly a once in a lifetime event and so well done in spite of all the challenges associated with social distancing and security. From the ceremony acknowledging the deaths due to COVID to the President’s speech addressing the pressing issues of today to the emotionally stirring words of Amanda Gorman’s poem, it was a very moving and gratifying experience. I’m still doing my happy dance!

Speaking of dancing, having the day end with a 23rd Inaugural Ball was just perfect. This was the debut effort by our new Events Committee chaired by Erin Phillips and Ginny Bell. There was the red-carpet welcome and short speeches by our US Congressman Derek Kilmer and the entire 23rd LD delegation of Senator Rolfes and Representatives Drew Hanson and Tarra Simmons to get us started. There was a great video by the Suquamish Tribe that acknowledged the election and the land. It was bilingual (Lushootseed and English) and the speakers were in tribal garments. On the lighter side was a video with current and former 23rd LD E-Board members and elected officials doing the Macarena. These were followed by breakout rooms covering political topics both serious and humorous. The event ended ~8:30 pm and then there was an after-party. About 75 people attended the ball and had a ball. Kudos to the Events Committee!!

Reorg Part I is over with all the Executive Committee positions filled: Chair-Val Torrens, Vice-Chair-Alex McCracken, Treasurer-Hallette Salazar, Deputy Treasurer-Ginger Sommerhauser, State Committee Member-Kathy Canderle and State Committee Member-Ted Jones. Suzanne Griffith accepted the appointed position of Secretary.

Reorg Part II will be this coming Thursday, January 28 on Zoom starting at 6:30 pm for social time with the meeting starting at 7 pm. The balance of the E-Board will be elected then under the same rules that were adopted for Part I. Eight people will be chosen – one from each school district within the 23rd (BISD, BSD, CKSD, NKSD) plus four others. Of the group of eight, no more than five can be of the same gender. At this point in time, there are five women (Carollynn Zimmers, Erin Phillips, Heather Pauley, Laurie Kadet, Ginny Bell) and two men (Doug MacKenzie and Jesse Cockerham) who have expressed interest. We need one more male or non-binary person who comes from the Bremerton school district.

All the following committees have chairs:

Communications – Doug MacKenzie

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Shannon Turner

Events Committee – Erin Phillips

Membership – Ginger Sommerhauser

Outreach committee – Marsha Cutting

PCO Training & Support – Debbie Hollyer and Carollynn Zimmers

Volunteer Committee – Ginny Bell

The Credentials, Platform and Rules committees need chairs and committee members.

The proposed revision to the reimbursement policy will be voted on. There are two pro speakers and one con speaker. A resolution concerning the City of Poulsbo’s art work selection is recommended for adoption by the LD.

Mary Bryant, Hallette Salazar and Jeff Wiley have agreed to be the Audit Committee for the Reorg. Jeff Wiley will also be creating the ballots for voting. There should be no expectation of privacy re votes.