

New Hanover County Democratic Party

Monthly Meeting-Final Minutes

**MAY 19, 2014**

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The meeting was convened at Morton Hall located on the campus of UNCW at 5:30.

1. **Call to order:** Pledge led by Richard Poole.
2. **Welcome guests, introduce:** Officers in attendance- Richard Poole, Deloris Rhodes, Susanne Werner, Brenda Fong , Jeremy Wilson, and Jennifer MacNeish. Recognized Commissioner Jonathan Barfield , candidate for US Dist 7 Congress, Judge Melinda Crouch, 5<sup>th</sup> Jud. Dist., Candidate for County Commission –Patricia Spear and Rob Zapple, US Congress Dist. 3 –Nathan with Marshal Adame- US House Dist 3, and NC House Senate – Elizabeth Redenbaugh and welcomed new visitors.
3. **Speaker: Francine DeCoursey, for Betsy Jordan- Candidate for NC House 20 –** Presented Besty’s bio, platform related to supporting NC Education, our environment, the film industry and her many experiences that will make her a great legislator. She also commented on her family legacy in the Democratic party and asked for our support .
4. **Report on Office Opening:** New NHC Dems office is 4620 Cedar Ave. Richard recognized Nick Rhodes, Diana Hill and Ricahrd Mandel for their help in the office search. Lease will be thru November and fundraising will be needed to sustain this. Thanked all who supported the open house and donations to date.
5. **Office Volunteers: George Vlasits-** He has volunteered for the role of office co-coordinator. Activities scheduled are phone banking for Melody Long- Board of Ed write in candidate and canvassing Sat. at 10 am and 1 pm. Request for volunteers to commit to shifts of 4 weeks for the hours of Sat 9-1 and Week days 1-4 with volunteers working in pairs in case one can’t make all the dates. A request for donations of office equipment was made. We are in need of a laser, network capable, high- volume printer, shelves and tables. If you can help with either or need to use the office please email him at [gvasits@gmail.com](mailto:gvasits@gmail.com). Richard Mandel questioned the process of how the office was chosen and why would the Democratic office phone bank for someone that is not a registered Dem. or known to our membership. Diana Hill responded that the office search committee gave ample notice as to the timeline. Nathan- rep. for Melody Long stated that he would let Melody know she is invited to the next meeting and Sandy Younce commented that she shares the party values and is like minded with the Democratic party ideals. He also stated she would replace a republican if elected. Myrna Wexler said this topic will only need to be addressed if she gets the signatures needed. Jonathan Barfield stated he was not consulted about the office space and was not given a space. Owen Wexler stated any candidate wanting our support must attend and prove their competency. Ruth Downey stated not 1<sup>st</sup> time an unaffiliated has asked for our support. Jeremy Wilson stated the board was charged with making a decision and had to move quickly once a location was identified. An invite to view the property went out to all candidates and the space filled quickly with those who made commitments early on in the process. Steve Kelly requested a point of order and if we are to get business done that all speakers must follow Roberts Rules and only speak once recognized by the chair and state their name. EB Davis was called on and stated that the Love Grove Access resolution was not present at the Dist. 3 Convention . Jennifer MacNeish stated all resolutions approved at the April 5 NHC Dem Convention were forwarded by email to Chris Hardee , Dist. 3 Chair and Jim Morgan , Dist. 7 Chair.
6. **Report on Convention and Delegate Certification: Jennifer MacNeish-**
7. **Approval of minutes:** by Jennifer MacNeish-Minutes from April 21 meeting accepted as posted to webpage with motion from D. Hill and seconded by Bill Cottingham. Unanimous-no dissent.
8. **Treasurers report:** Brenda Fong, Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$18,703.14 and expenses and deposits produced an ending balance of \$19995.07. She also reported \$995 in donations from Office Open House and Young Dems event raised over \$1600 at Garden Party Event. W-29 balance is \$ 255.67.

9. **New Business:** Millie Elledge stated there was not a quorum present for Dist 3 Convention.
10. **Old Business-** N/A
11. **Announcements:** Candidate meet and greet 2-5 Sun at Earl Pope's, 5/30 event for Marshall Adame- more info to come about this, Dem Women's President Millie Elledge- June 12 Democratic Women meet at McAllister's at 6:45 with a presentation from the BOE's. Meet and greet 6-6:45- meeting begins after. Pat Spear spoke about Purple Heart Dinner Aug. 9 at Wilmington Convention Center, seeking award recipients to honor, tickets \$25 – contact Pat for more info.
12. **Adjournment:** Motion by Bill Cottingham seconded by T. Nelson.

Submitted by:  
Jennifer H. MacNeish  
Secretary NHCDP