

Proposed NHC Democratic Party County Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2021
6:30pm (zoom)

I. Andre Brown called the meeting to order. There were 60 in attendance including Andre Brown, Victoria Velazco, Dorian Cromartie, Susanne Werner, Brenda Fong, April Farr. We recognized community representatives Judy Justice, Stephanie Walker, Rob Zapple, previous representatives Paul Lawler and Nick Rhodes, candidates Steve Miller and Jason Minnicozzi, NAACP representatives George Vlasits and Peter Rawitsch. Andre Brown welcomed everyone, and Dorian Cromartie read the pledge of allegiance.

II. Treasurer's Report (Brenda)

- a. 3.31.21 Bank Statement: \$36,745.03 Balance, Actual Balance \$30,389.52.
- b. Herb Harton moved to accept the Treasurer's Report.
Rob Zapple seconded. It's not necessary to make a motion because it is just a report and not an action.

III. County Convention Brief Recap (Andre)

- a. 150 attendees
- b. Our county has 12 delegates elected to SEC delegation (includes Chair). Tony Barney is the alternate SEC delegate.
- c. All personal attacks against other attendees during our meetings will be considered out of order and will result in the person(s) being removed or asked to leave the meeting.

IV. Sustaining Fund (Susanne)

- a. Susanne will have a full PowerPoint at our next monthly meeting. We organized 31 precincts this year! \$9,082 was brought in from 40 precincts! This money supports the NC Democratic Party, with the remainder staying in the county to fund our activities.

V. Future Meetings (in person and/or zoom)

- a. Rob Zapple: In person meetings are much more productive and he would love to see in person meetings soon. The training room in the government center is large also. Perhaps a hybrid meeting is a possibility.
- b. Judy Justice: However, numbers aren't looking as good as they could be and we shouldn't take any chances.
- c. Richard Poole: Northeast Library is a meeting location large enough to meet safely while maintaining a safe distance. Rob Zapple will check with the library and government center to see when we could reserve them again.
- d. Susanne Werner: We should have meeting in person as a goal but wait on the numbers to be better.
- e. Herb Harton: Is the school board meeting location an option?
- f. Andre Brown: He's not comfortable with meeting in person yet.

VI. Other Business

- a. Jason Minnicozzi is a former prosecutor in Brunswick and Columbus counties. He is exploring a run against David Rouzer. jasonminnicozzi@gmail.com, 910.514.0428.
- b. Steve Miller is running against David Rouzer. He has been fundraising, receiving a good amount of support in New Hanover, Brunswick and Robeson counties.
- c. Vicky Velazco introduced herself to the group.
- d. Sonya Benneton Patrick thanked everyone for electing her to represent us at the SEC. May 22nd is the District Convention. Bobbie Richardson will be featured as the guest speaker at the Democratic Women's Caucus on April 24 at 2:00 pm (DWNC Region 9). <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Special-Invitation--DWNC-Region-9-Virtual-Luncheon--2021.html?soid=1134129021703&aid=-cm1ckzGtAI>
- e. Precinct Chairs introduced themselves: Madeleine Henley, Steve Hamburger, Jeff Cohen, Susanne Werner, Barbara Garrow (Vice Chair), Jeff Wisoff, Marlene Barney, George Vlasits, Sonya Patrick, Audrey Kanemoto Penneys, Elli Klein (Vice Chair), John Godwin, Bill Cottingham, Linda Smith, Michaela Howell, Nick Rhodes, Susan Mintzes (substituting for Anne York), Joanne Durham and April Farr.

VII. Announcements

- a. 2 bills – Herb Harton – write your senators every day! Join Labor Caucus of the NCDP.
- b. May 2nd picnic at Ogden Park for north precincts – April Farr, Madeleine Henley, Steve Hamburger, Darlene Parlett
- c. May 2nd Long Leaf Park event – Linda Smith
- d. April 27: First meeting of DOING – Contact Joanne Durham for information.
- e. NHC vaccination demands are waning. We're now having walk up vacs tomorrow, 4/20, between 9:00 am – 6:30 pm at the Health and Human Services building on 16th Street. 27% of NHC have received both vaccinations. <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/WhctKJWQmsFXMTJwkCsTDcRMLQlxvSHNXftdMCNxCFpXSgpvwCvrHXbFbgQKMINRgkMnXCI>

VIII.A motion was made to adjourn by Richard Poole. Brenda Fong seconded. We adjourned at 7:47 pm.