

Craven County Democratic Party Executive Committee Meeting

Craven County Public Library, 6:30 PM

April 17, 2018

1. Call to Order

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM
- b. Officers present – Richard Friend, Acting Chair /1st Vice Chair; Helen Robinson, 2nd Vice Chair; James Gilmore, 3rd Vice Chair; Sheila Johnson, Treasurer and Linda Moore, Secretary
- c. Richard Friend, Acting Chair led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call/Quorum Count

Roll was called by Linda Moore, Secretary. Quorum-Counted Attendees:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Havelock | g. Grantham 2B |
| b. Trent Woods | h. George Street |
| c. River Bend | i. Fort Totten |
| d. Vanceboro | j. H J MacDonald |
| e. Grantham1A | Ex-Officio: Bob Costanzo, Chair |
| f. Brices Creek | |

Linda Moore, Secretary, affirms that with 11 precincts counted out of a quorum total of 26 precincts, we have over 40% of our quorum total and thus have a quorum for conducting business.

3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

- a. Executive Committee Meeting: August 24, 2017
- b. Executive Committee Meeting: January 30, 2018
- c. County Convention: March 17, 2018

Pat Chylko moved to accept all of the minutes with no changes, Katherine Blakefield seconded, approved unanimously.

4. Committee and Officer Reports

- a. Acting Chair Richard Friend: Location Committee
 - A. Lease agreement is for \$250/month at the 1232 South Glenburnie Rd. Charles Bryan moved to lease the facility, Dorel Watty seconded, approved unanimously.
 - B. Liability Insurance is required by the landlord for the space. Richard asked if it is possible to get a policy that will cover the use of other facilities such as the Community College Auditorium. Richard will investigate.
 - C. Utilities deposits is required by the city, estimated to be \$600.
 - D. Furniture, fixtures, and equipment need to be acquired. Eric Smith got the furniture the office in 2016; he will be contacted about it for this time.
 - E. Signage – Sign is currently at 3 Guys in storage. They will be contacted to reinstall the sign.

It was suggested that the monthly meetings could be held at the office in the future.

Someone suggested at the current rent perhaps we should maintain the office for more than just through the election. Bob Costanzo suggested that the first thing we should focus on is finances and then address a building.

- b. 2nd Vice Chair Helen Robinson: Pipeline Committee – Committee has been active reaching out to candidates and there are representative from much of the county. Limited support until the primaries are over because CCDP cannot support one candidate over another. 2 candidate forums were held, both were successful. One by the Central precincts and the other by the Eastern precincts.
- c. 3rd Vice Chair James Gilmore: Communications Committee & Digital Infrastructure
 - A. On Thursday there will be a GOTV push for the Primaries
 - B. Charles Bryan suggested having roving CCDP monthly meetings. In Vanceboro 80% vote but do not come to the precinct meetings.
- d. Treasurer Sheila Johnson: Treasurer’s Report – Sheila spoke for several minutes explaining that the duties were more than she understood and stated she is not able to handle them. She offered her resignation but agreed to remain on as Treasurer until the May 8 primary, and to make her resignation effective May 9 rather than immediately. Richard thanked Sheila for her efforts and her resignation was approved unanimously. Charles Bryan stated that we must have a Treasurer. All were asked to recruit a candidate and provide the name to Board.

5. New Business

- a. Strategic Plan Changes – Jim Gilmore told about the group that worked on the Strategic Plan and their efforts to make it a plan that is manageable in size and goals. Jay DeLoach provided a diagram of the plan and stated the revision is a streamlined version of the August 17, 2017 plan. Discussion of the plan ensued. Jay DeLoach motioned that we accept the plan. David Herndon stated that he had not had time to the plan. Charles Bryan offered a motion that we table the vote on the plan until the next Executive Committee meeting so people could review the document. Sheila Jones seconded, approved unanimously. The revised Strategic Plan will be sent out so all members of the Executive Committee have time to review it before the next meeting. Also, all documents will be included in the notice of the meeting. The next meeting will be by sometime in June.
- b. Fundraising Committee – No volunteer to lead the Committee at this time.

6. Discussion

- a. Fundraising ideas
 - A. Membership cards - Develop an ID style card issued annually that people could use as a way to donate. The card will cost around \$20, it will be numbered and provide all relevant information about the person, when they donate after receiving the card there would not be the need to fill out the donation form.
 - B. Fundraising events – Several events planned or are being considered for development, they are:
 - 1. Vehicle/truck raffle – Joe Thomas told Richard Friend that in the past they raffled a Cadillac every year and it was their most successful fund raiser. Richard suggested we consider raffling a truck this time.
 - 2. Wainwright Dinner needs to be planned for this year, again looking for someone to heads the event. Jameesha Harris has volunteered to support the event.
- b. GOTV for 2018 Primary
 - A. Discuss GOTV plans and brainstorming

- B. Documentation by precinct/county leadership
- c. Upcoming events
 - A. Community events:
 - 1. Vanceboro Strawberry Festival on May 5 still need 4-6 volunteers
 - 2. Bridgeton Blueberry Festival – June 14-15, small group working the event
 - B. Picnic & Introducing the Democratic Slate: May 21
- d. Additional business from the floor
 - A. June 2 will be the grand opening event for the new office. Pat Chylko has offered to plan the event. Anita Earls, candidate for NC Supreme Court will be in New Bern and will speak at the event. Jim Gilmore will handle the social media announcements for it. Again, looking for folks to help with it.
 - B. May 5 is the 3rd District Convention at Beaufort Community College in Washington, NC. Registration starts at 10 AM and the Convention starts at 11 AM. Jim Gilmore will send a reminder all delegates.
 - C. May 10 the Democratic Women of Craven County will be hosting a potluck picnic at Creekside Park from Noon -2 PM.