

**GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
BOARD MEETING OF THE OFFICERS**

MINUTES FOR MARCH 11TH, 2019

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The Guilford County Democratic Party Board of Officers held a meeting to approve minutes and budget, hear officers' reports, plus old and new business.

PRESENT: GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick, GCDP 1st Vice Chair Pam Stubbs, GCDP 2ND Vice Chair Adrienne Spinner, GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw, GCDP Rural Vice Chair Leslie Holder Martin, GCDP High Point Vice Chair Joshua Perry Brown, Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah Jane Sabanis, African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell, LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President and proxy for President Heidi Noriega of Young Democrats of GCDP Byron Gladden, Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier, GCDP Treasurer James Bowles, and GCDP Secretary Beverly Bard.

ABSENT: GCDP 3rd Vice Chair Dillon Tyler, Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega, Senior Democrats of GCDP President Terry Mitchell, and GCDP Executive Director Bess Lewis.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Quorum was met with 40% present, so GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND THE AGENDA: Motion was made, seconded and passed to approve last month's corrected minutes and today's agenda. African-American Caucus of GCDP President Donnell agreed to look over the minutes for today, March 11, 2019.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: GCDP Treasurer James Bowles said that, so far, we have brought in \$1385.00 from the Legislative Breakfast and \$4080.00 for the sustaining fund. Mailing for the Breakfast is about \$1240.00. Balance as of today is \$17,601.77. Questions were asked and answered. GCDP Chair Quick offered to send the board information to help answer their questions. She said we need to sell 150 tickets to the Legislative Breakfast in order to break even.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT:

- A. **Precinct Organization:** GCDP Chair Quick said that the vice chairs will add to the report. She looked at the records and gave thanks to Lisa with Indivisible for helping. Things look pretty good.
- B. **Legislative Breakfast/Convention March 30th:** GCDP Chair Quick said the breakfast begins at 9:30 A.M. on March 30th, at Embassy Suites on Centrepont. U.S. Representative Alma Adams is our speaker and NC Senator Michael Garrett is giving the legislative update. Registration for the County Convention will start immediately after the breakfast and the Convention begins at noon. After we come to order and the Pledge of Allegiance is said, GCDP Chair Quick said she'll first have election of the Chair, then turn the meeting over to the parliamentarian to prevent conflict of interest. While the votes are being counted, the resolutions will be considered and have candidate speeches. Then votes for the 1st Vice Chair will be done. There was discussion of who will be vote counters, the election process, and candidates. GCDP Chair Quick asked for and answered questions from the Board about voting procedures and guidelines. The GCDP

Chair is automatically an SEC member and other Board members are not, unless there is a motion from the floor calling for it and passes. There are 30 SEC positions to fill.

- C. **Sustaining Fund Payment:** GCDP Chair Nicole said that she wrote a letter to the state about our sustaining funds and suggested we send in \$500.00.
- D. **Volunteer Picnic:** GCDP Chair Nicole said the Volunteer Picnic is on April 14th at Barber Park in Greensboro and asked for volunteers.
- E. **2019/2020 Elections:** Some races have been announced in High Point and candidates need to be found. GCDP Chair Nicole said she would like to set up a meeting with High Point people, precinct officers and other important High Point people to make candidate suggestions. GCDP 1st Vice Chair Pam has been helping. Discussion followed about candidates running and their viability.
- F. **Fun Fourth:** GCDP Chair Nicole said we received the application and Jo Isler is not helping again. Chair Nicole asked for help from Young Democrats of GCDP and other volunteers so no one has to work alone. In order to participate, Chair Nicole asked for commitment from Young Democrats of GCDP. Discussion followed about groups helping to set up and take down, which must have team effort.

5. OTHER OFFICER REPORTS:

High Point Vice Chair Joshua reported that 5 packets are left to be picked up, but some may have been downloaded.

- As of now, H04, H16, H18, Jam2, Jam3, precinct packets haven't been picked up. H08, H13, H29B have digital packets. H01, H04, H05, H07, H08, H09, H11, H14, H16, H17, H18, H22, H23, H27B, Jam2, Jam3, Jam5 don't have reports in, done, or processed.
- Some Precinct Reports are turned in, but have issues (boxes not checked, etc). Discussion followed about guidelines for precinct organization and the NCDP Plan of Organization interpretation. Questions were asked and answered.

GCDP Secretary/Issues Committee Chair Beverly Bard

- She reported the February Book Club discussed the book titled Becoming by Michelle Obama and thanked GCDP Chair Quick for hosting it. The discussion was well attended. The next book discussion is 150 Years of Obamacare by Daniel E. Dawes on April 15th at 7:00 P.M. at Sunrise Books, 1101 N. Main St., Suite 202, High Point. The discussions were moved to the third Monday of the month.
- The GCDP Issues Committee will partner with Indivisible and Kathy Wheeler on an event to write letters to the editors, on March 28th, 1:00 P.M. at Sammy G's, 3800 Tinsley Dr., High Point. They've had good luck getting their letters to the editors published. The Issues Committee will focus on Immigration, but will not discourage letters on other issues. Tips and guidelines will be shared. Secretary Bard said she heard this morning that 240 children were separated from their families, and that last week she heard about 2800 were separated, plus several thousand in weeks past.
- She said that Democratic Women have been encouraged to be active with the ERA issue and she let them know that the film "Equal Means Equal" is available if they would like to have that as an event. The film might also be used for precinct meetings.

Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier

- He reported that he gave a resolution to have the NCGA ratify the ERA and the Greensboro City Council passed the resolution. He approached the High Point City Council to pass the resolution, but they wouldn't.
- He said the Progressive Caucus is working on a Town Hall or discussion about education.

GCDP 1st Vice Chair Pam Stubbs reported she wants to share what she has been and will be doing when leaving her position.

- She said she will be helping Concerned Citizens Against Partisan Redistricting and Gerrymandering. They are taking the show on the road to different groups. It is a nonpartisan issue where the extreme right and left will come together, and very powerful.
- She will volunteer with Ashlei Blue part time to educated voters on the ID issue. We need to be prepared because of a possible appeal.
- One of the things 1st Vice Chair Stubbs said that she started in this position and continues to help with is Mt. Zion Baptist Church's organization called Civic Participation to help get out the vote and message to their congregation in a nonpartisan way.
- She also pointed out that immigration issues are federal issues, and states apply for the 287G program.
- GCDP Chair Quick said that this was GCDP 1st Vice Chair Stubb's last board meeting and suggested she continue to help out in the future. We will miss her, we appreciate her, but know she will continue to be with us in our endeavors.

Young Democrats of GCDP Proxy for President Heidi Noriega, Byron Gladden

- He reported for Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega that their next board meeting will be determined next week, and Monday, March 25th will be the general meeting at Special Blend when they will introduce their video project.
- Their elections will be held April, tentative for the 22nd at Headquarters after confirmation with GCDP Executive Director Bess Lewis.
- Heidi Noriega will not be seeking a 2nd term, but may return after her baby is born.

LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron Gladden

- He reported they will hold semi-annual meetings in 2019, one before June and another at the end of the year.
- They will not be participating in Pride this year. GCDP Chair Quick said that the State Party LGBTQ will come help with PRIDE whenever the local party will not be able to.
- GCDP Chair Quick said that Ginger Walker called and, due to caucus changes (proposed at SEC), under the new NC state by-laws, LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP is not officially organized. The by-laws have to trickle down to the counties. Ginger will share a packet of information and come to help reorganize LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP.
- Mr. Gladden invited the board to join in support of the LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP.

GCDP 2nd Vice Chair Adrienne Spinner

- She reported tomorrow, March 12th, is a training session at Headquarters at 6:00 P.M. with Ashlei Blue from Spread the Vote. Org about Voter Registration and Voter Protection.
- In April, there will be a new officer training about parliamentary procedures, date TBD.
- This summer, Lisa Hitch will help with a session about canvassing and community outreach. She said that she is waiting for the Voter ID situation to be settled and to readdress that.

- GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Shaw suggested to educate college students about how to fill in the voter registration form, and for volunteers who go on campus. GCDP 1st Vice Chair Stubbs said that, in the past, about 200 students had to vote provisional because their voter registration form was fill out incorrectly. She suggested to check with BOE if there is a question. GCDP 2nd Vice Chair Spinner raised concern about college ID acceptability and will raise that question with Ashlei Blue during the training.
- Discussion followed about future training for college students with the BOE, correctly filled out voter registration forms for college students, and college ID viability.

African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell

- She reported that their next meeting is March 21st at 6:30 P.M. at Headquarters.

GCDP Rural Vice Chair Leslie Holder Martin

- She reported that, right now, there are 34 out of 48 precincts organized. There will be a cluster meeting with 8 precincts on Saturday. The numbers look a little better than last year and look for more to organize during our cluster meeting.

GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw

- He reported that Indivisible has helped to organize 6 more precincts. He said he's trying to get 12 more done. There are 4 precinct meetings scheduled for this week. We have 75 precincts and it's hard to lose reliable precinct organizers and chairs. He said they fixed precinct issues as they came in. There are 3 cluster meetings this week, 5 meetings tomorrow, 4 precincts meeting on Monday, 4 precincts meeting on Elm, 3 precincts meeting with Council At-Large Members Yvonne Johnson and Maikay Abuzuaiter, NC Representatives Amos Quick and Pricey Harrison, City Council Woman Tammi Thurm (D5). He recommended several friendly businesses for precinct meetings.
- Some precinct organizers/chairs would like help with their first meeting so he sent a First Meeting Starter Kit.
- GCDP Chair Quick said there was a webinar from the state Party about precinct officer training and is a basic overview.

Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah Jane Sabanis

- She reported their meeting is on April 4th with members of the Board of Education to speak.
- The President's Banquet is May 2nd and they are looking for a speaker. The banquet will be at the High Point Country Club.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier said he emailed about a new program he wrote for new registrants. There were 28,000 new registrants last year this would be costly to contact them all at once, but we might like to contact a few once a month.
- Discussion followed that precinct chairs may appreciate knowing who the new registrants are in their precinct (although it is still a large number) and perhaps forming a welcoming committee.
- School Board member Byron Gladden said they have their board meeting tomorrow at 712 N. Eugene at 6:00 P.M. There is a rare joint session with county commissioners on Thursday at Ronald E McNair Elementary School. He shared about students who have passed away from flu, injuries, and those in critical condition. He said he will be in DC to meet with legislatures

from NC and asked for our concerns for him to pass on. Gateway has leaking water and will be checked for mold. Possibly, children may be moved to other schools. The magnet showcase is this Wednesday and he will help parents register to vote. He invited the GCDP Board to come help.

- Discussion followed about candidates running, and schools affected by hurricanes or illness.

7. ADJOURNMENT

GCDP Chair Quick asked for adjournment. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Bard
GCDP Secretary

Nicole Ward Quick
GCDP Chair