

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

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 12TH, 2018

Page 1 of 6

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 Otte, African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell, Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega, LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron Gladden, Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier, GCDP Treasurer James Bowles, and GCDP Executive Director Bess Lewis.

ABSENT: GCDP 3rd Vice Chair Dillon Tyler, Senior Democrats of GCDP President Terry Mitchell, GCDP Secretary Beverly Bard.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Since over 40% of board members were present, GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. She drew the next officer to look over the minutes: Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier.

2. APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING AND THIS MONTH'S AGENDA: A motion was made seconded and passed to accept last month's minutes and this month's agenda.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was held off until the next meeting.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT:

A. Midterm Election:

- 1. We won 24/34 races.**
- 2. Lamonth-Conrad Race Still Not Final:** Chair Nicole said she couldn't be at the BOE for the certification of election results and asked if anyone else could go. Several said they would go.
 - Discussion followed on the "inactive voting status" and it's meaning.
 - 1st Vice Chair Pam said many had been turned away because they were listed as inactive.
 - Chair Nicole said she researched it.
 - LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron shared that if you haven't voted for the previous 4 years and haven't updated or confirmed your voting record, then you are inactive. They can vote provisional, but the downside is they may have to try to petition. We need to educate on their voting rights. It's important to report cases to voter protection.
 - Many turned away at Brown. Nicole tried to follow up on Brown and had names of only 2 people. We need to report these cases.
 - Byron shared that people are removed from the voter role due to a biannual lift maintenance process. If the voter has not voted for 2 presidential cycles then the voter will be sent an address confirmation mailing. If the confirmation is not returned or is returned by postal system as undeliverable, then the voter's record will be marked inactive. They can still vote, and when voting the voter will be asked to update their address. If the voter doesn't update and doesn't vote for 2 more presidential election cycles, the BOE has no contact with the voter and will be removed from the county BOE.

3. Of 9 Races Lost, Manning, Watts, and McCaskill Won in Guilford**4. 6.5% increase in Voter Turnout over 2014 Midterms (201,050/164,980)****B. Voter Protection Recommendations:**

1. **Visible signage for Curbside Voting at All Polling Places**
2. **Signage at Early Voting Locations That Are Closed on Election Day**
3. **Printed Fill-in-the-blank Forms for Redirecting Voters to Correct Polling Places**
4. **Voter Registration Available on Election Day**

C. BOE - Absentee/Provisional Ballots - Thursday, 2:00**D. Election Canvass – 11:00**

E. New Gerrymandering Lawsuit – House Districts 58 and 60: Nicole said there is a new gerrymandering lawsuit that the state party is working on with a national organization. The districts they will be fighting are 58 and 60 because they say those districts are packed with African-Americans.

- So if the districts had been drawn fairly, we would have had fair races in the Hardister and Faircloth districts.
- They have asked Chair Nicole to find voters who will be willing to sign on to these lawsuits. Chair Nicole's concern is that we hold these districts but if drawn more fairly we might hold all 4.
- She tried to tell them that they were drawn by the special master, but 58 and 60 weren't redrawn as some thought.

F. Winter/Spring Interns: The intern we've had are finishing up and we will interview another intern from the Communications Department at A&T.

- After Thanksgiving they are having an Internship rally so we can get an application.
- If you have need for your caucus for help, let her know before Thanksgiving.
- They are required to fill so many hours.

G. CEC Meeting End of January (19TH?) Plan for end of January.

- SEC is the last Sat in Jan
- If we can get our budget and strategic plan done, they can be presented at the CEC meeting and get it voted on.
- Dates discussed.
- Bess is off the month of Dec until Jan 7, so we have a crunch to get it all done before precinct organization.
- Precinct packets can be passed out during CEC.
- We are required to have 3 CEC meetings a year. Convention doesn't count as one of the 3. They only count if we have quorum and new business on the agenda.
- Chair Nicole said that we have a short time frame to get precinct packets out. Precinct meetings are Feb 4-18.
- Rural Vice Chair Leslie said we need to get packets out at least 10 days before.
- Orientation dates need to be enough ahead of time.
- Vice Chair Leslie said she can print lists as soon as 2018 numbers are in.
- Chair Nicole said we also need to add the state packet. Orientation dates were discussed.

- Break the Majority left us email address contacts that we still need to enter into our data.
- We contact chairs and vice chairs of organized precincts. Votebuilder updating and best way to contact precinct voters was discussed.
- Nicole said there was an issue with votebuilder process of how to update profiles. Correct address/phone needs to be marked as “preferred” to be updated and we didn’t know about that until after we had already updated.
- Board discussed the need to go through precinct forms and update our data. Bess goes through and does this.
- Chair Nicole requested that when making precinct packets to also include a sheet to sign up volunteers for poll observers/greeters before the elections. Larry said he asked and asked, but only a few showed up. Pete shared he called only those he knew might help and got 39 people.
- Chair Nicole said to recruit and give a deadline when we need their name and to mention this in the orientation. Larry said we just need to ask.

5 .OTHER OFFICERS’ REPORTS:

A. GCDP 1ST Vice Chair Pam Stubbs had nothing to report.

B. GCDP 2ND Vice Chair Adrienne Spinner reported plans for training sessions at the end of January or begin of February. Larry and Leslie can let her know what they need during the beginning of the year.

- Voter registration training is planned around Feb.
- Outreach training is planned around March.
- Canvassing, phone banking and community organizing is planned before the election.
- High Point Vice Chair Josh suggested precinct officer training the end of February or beginning of March.
- Greensboro Vice Chair Pete suggested being at precinct meetings to encourage participation all year long and Next Steps.
- 2ND Vice Chair Adrienne said this can be planned for end of February during the Ins and Outs of Precinct Organization/Next Steps.
- March training will include voter registration and voter rights.
- LGBTQ of GCDP President Byron suggested to have the Next Step meeting planned before precinct meeting dates so precinct chairs are aware of it and they can tell their precinct to participate. Try to accommodate people’s schedule.

C.GCDP Rural Vice Chair Leslie Holder Martin reported that we need precinct orientations for end of January or first part of February and to schedule 3 meetings like last year.

- Dates were discussed.
- She is working on entering emails from Break the Majority and asked for help with data entry.

D.GCDP High Point Vice Chair Josh Brown reported he will do orientation in High Point and is checking on locations and dates for the end of January.

- We did a clean sweep on judicial elections. Next year we have City Council elections.
- High Point switched terms, this time, to 4 years.
- It doesn’t cost that much to file with BOE and we need to recruit for High Point offices.

- High Point goes into other counties.

E. GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw reported that Break the Majority recruited him and his wife as district captains and volunteered 13 hours a day. He was in charge of canvassing and phone banking.

- They used Hub dialer that called throughout the state and it was very useful and efficient. He asked if we able to use this.
- Chair Nicole said she is not familiar with it but is familiar with Hustle that costs \$5000.
- Greensboro Vice Chair Pete said Connie and Lisa are good volunteers. He called Connie to thank her for everything and thank Lisa who worked on African-American precincts.
- Lisa and Connie were set to do a national protest this weekend about Sessions. Many local organizations bailed, so they put together a local forum event. Two African-American people planned to speak, but didn't show up. Lisa has heard complaints about this. Discussion followed about empathizing with her, her work with NAACP, that this is beyond GCDP, and activism takes a strong person.

F. Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah Jane Otte reported the Democratic Women's meeting went well and they had a great speaker.

- The speaker was Chase who works with GCPD and Caring Services. The turnout was low, but everyone was exhausted from the election.
- The DW Holiday party is December 9, 5:00-7:00 P.M. at Honorable Skip Alston's house. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$35 at the door.

G. LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron Gladden reported that LGBTQ's Candidate Meet 'N Greet will be at HQ on November 27th, 5:30-7:30 P.M. (bring snacks) and they will be building a team to walk/run in the Aid's Walk .

- Chair Nicole suggests putting events on the GCDP Facebook page.
- LGBTQ of GCDP President Byron said they are recruiting, starting over, and creating by-laws. They are in restructuring mode.
- Women have been asked to join.

H. Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega reported that they did some phone banking.

- Their meeting is on the 26th to regroup and plan for next year.
- They won't meet in Dec.
- We meet on 4th Mon of every month.
- Chair Nicole suggested a singles mixer. YD of GCDP President Heidi said they talked about one in a coffee shop.

I. Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier reported that he had met a person from Muslims for America and will put him in touch with GCDP.

- Chair Nicole said the Muslim community is more active but would rather engage with us instead of forming a separate caucus
- Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry said they didn't meet last month because of helping with voting.
- Progressives were out helping candidates with canvassing.

- We may have a town hall this month.
- Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry said he talked to Representative Cecil Brockman while greeting and he shared some of the education issues, and talked to Jen Mangrum and Ashton Clemmens, and may host a meeting based on that.

J. African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell thanked all who supported Unity 2018.

- If you did not make it to Unity, they will still accept your donations.
- We meet on December 4th at The Civil Rights Museum from 5:30-7:30 P.M., with a Meet and Greet for Danny Rogers and Avery Crump. They made history in Guilford Co. Avery Crump is the first African-American and woman elected DA and Danny Rogers is the first African-American Sherriff. It's free and you don't have to be African-American to attend or leave a donation.

K. GCDP Secretary Beverly Bard by E-Mail: Issue/Rise Piedmont Book will meet December 18th, at 7:00 P.M. at Sunrise Books, 1101 N. Main St. High Point. They will give a 15% discount. We will discuss Healing the Heart of Democracy by Palmer Parker.

- In October we met to discuss The Paradox of Tar Heel Politics.
- Josh scheduled a visit with ARC, at their request, at the High Point Headquarters. They came to learn who Democrats are and what we stand for. They were learning who the 2 parties are and wanted to make good choices when they vote. I showed them Martha Shafer's video and I was very happy to answer their very intelligent questions. I was left with the impression that they would vote for the best candidates.
- I helped Josh set up the High Point office, organize observers/runners/greeters, set up observer trainings in High Point, did a little canvassing/phone banking for the campaigns, was a runner on election day, helped pair up a few drivers with voters who needed rides, generally helped when needed.
- Thanks to Leslie Holder Martin for printing some Issue Door Hangers.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Holiday End of Year Letter: Nicole said she will write an end of year Holiday letter similar to Century Club letter.

- Nicole asked for a motion. 1st Vice Chair Pam recommends we have 2 letters: one to elected officials and one to our other Dems.
- 1st Vice Chair Pam also recommend we start planning for Legislative Breakfast.
- Rural Vice Chair Leslie suggested to donate in honor of one of our volunteers and put up a symbolic donkey for it (like the grocery stores do) or online.
- The Board discussed the cost of mailing the letters and the effectiveness of emails. Rent has gone up.
- Nicole said we can push Century Club letter out to June. We had good return on our Century Club letter.
- High Point Vice Chair Josh made a motion to approve writing the End of Year/Holiday Letter. Motion was seconded and passed.

B. One-on-One Meetings: Chair Nicole requested to give her a date for a one-on-one with her.

Discussion followed:

- Who, how, and why to have a post-mortem/lessons learned meeting about this election, even though some ran in gerrymandered districts.
- Helping college students and elders to get a photo ID for voting.
- Counties outside Guilford were less aware of the need to vote against all of the amendments.
- Possible law suits in January.
- Chair Nicole said she liked the “Vote No on Amendments” cards. There were quite a few of them. There was much statewide money and effort put into it.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nicole asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the Board of Officers’ Meeting of November 12th, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,
GCDP Secretary
Beverly Bard

GCDP Chair
Nicole Ward Quick