

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

MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

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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 Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw, African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell, Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah Jane Otte, LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron Gladden, Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier, GCDP Secretary Beverly Bard, GCDP Treasurer James Bowles, and GCDP Executive Director Bess Lewis.

ABSENT: GCDP 1st Vice Chair Pam Stubbs, GCDP 2ND Vice Chair Adrienne Spinner, GCDP 3rd Vice Chair Dillon Tyler, GCDP High Point Vice Chair Joshua Perry Brown, GCDP Rural Vice Chair Leslie Holder Martin, Senior Democrats of GCDP President Terry Mitchell, and Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Since over 40% of board members were present, GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M. She drew the next officer to look over the minutes: GCDP Rural Vice Chair Leslie Holder Martin.

MINUTES AND AGENDA: GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick asked GCDP Treasurer James Bowles if the Board minutes of August 6, 2018 and CEC minutes of July 14, 2018 looked ok and he said they looked ok. GCDP Chair Nicole said there is no New Business or item A so they can be deleted. Progressive Caucus President Larry Cormier made the motion to approve minutes and agenda. Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah J. Otte seconded the motion and motion passed. Board minutes of August 6, 2018, CEC minutes of July 14, 2018, and agenda for September 10, 2018 were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

GCDP Treasurer James Bowles reported \$40,687.00 in the bank today. He reported that Unity expenses are \$4,517.00, plus mailing expenses. Receipts so far are \$18,865.00, Act Blue is \$13,120.00, for a total of \$31,985.00 as of this afternoon. That total changes every day, since there is more to process. The total isn't as high as last year at this time, but totals go up in the last couple of weeks. IOU's and last minute tickets haven't been collected yet. Chair Nicole said the press release will be out soon. Executive Director Bess said at past Unity Dinners, those who pay at the door have paid \$10.00 more. They have gotten some RSVP's that will pay at the door. Democratic Women of GCDP President Sarah said they are soon giving to Unity. GCDP Chair Nicole asked if there were more questions or comments. Seeing as there were none, she asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Progressive Caucus of GCDP Larry made the motion, GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete seconded the motion and motion passed to approve the Treasurer's Report for September 10, 2018.

GCDP CHAIR NICOLE WARD QUICK'S REPORT

HQ Lease: GCDP Chair Nicole reported the votes for our lease options were in favor of renewing our lease for our 2300 W. Meadowview, Greensboro office, which ended up being our best option of per square footage price. Chair Nicole suggested that, after the election, we talk about establishing a building fund or something of that nature to prepare for when our lease is up in 3 years. Executive Director Bess shared that we are able to have free carpet cleaning, and this can be done after the election party. Chair Nicole shared that our election party is off site this year at the Special Events Center and hosted by Kathy Manning. We are allowed to fix items, such as electrical sockets or their installation, which we have done in the past. Chair Nicole said that our Executive Director Bess Lewis doesn't get a vote on the board under our NCDP Plan of Organization. She does everything and knows more than any of us here. Maybe we should discuss adding to our by-laws that our executive director get a vote. Chair Nicole asked that we please think about it to make her vote official and to be fair, considering all she does. GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw suggested we vote on it, no matter who shows up, at our next meeting. Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier suggested we create a committee to make this amendment to be approved at our next SEC meeting.

High Point Office Lease: Chair Nicole said we are waiting for approval from the State Party and rent is to be split 4 ways between us, Rep. Cecil Brockman, Kathy Manning, and Break the Majority, which comes in at our previously approved amount of \$300.00-\$500.00 per month. If only 3 agree to share the monthly rent, then it will be about \$583.00 (\$1750.00 divided by 3), which is above the approved amount, so we will need to approve this new amount.

SEC Meeting has been cancelled because of Hurricane Florence due to hit our shores on Thursday and it will move slowly. GCDP Chair Nicole said It is expected we will be in a threatening storm situation on Saturday and our safety is most important, so NCDP Chair Wayne Goodwin has cancelled the meeting on Saturday and the notice is on the web site. State is in the process of rescheduling the meeting.

Communications Committee: Chair Nicole reported she gave out information showing the committee's organizational chart and roles. Callie left to work with the Watt's Campaign plus our summer interns left, so we now have 2 new interns from A&T's Communications Department. Callie's role will be shared by them: press releases, tracking, articles on candidates and challengers we may need to respond to. Sangeetha will continue to update the web site with assistance. Alexis will help with social media and the E-Blast.

Canvassing Plan: Chair Nicole said we will target certain precincts. Break the Majority is doing a great job and we have been the top county of the state for 3 weeks.

Unity Dinner: Chair Nicole said she has been working on the program. This year's Democrat of the Year Award recipient, will be given by last year's recipient. Our Muslim community will have a part in the program. For an interactive activity, a guy who does political polling for events will ask questions and we vote at our table using the tablets at each table with the results visible on the screen in front of us. He will do this for free. We have this option to think about.

OTHER OFFICERS' REPORTS

GCDP Greensboro Vice Chair Pete Shaw reported he will help Ashton Clemmons with a photo shoot, went to Senator Gladys Robinson's luncheon fundraiser, he and 1st vice Chair Pam went to G67 precinct meeting with Senator Gladys Robinson, helped G41B with their meeting ideas, helped with and attended Fen1, G55, G67, G68, G71 cluster meeting with Michael Garrett and Kathy Manning as featured speakers. Vice Chair Pete said he has been working with Lisa Hitch to organize G72. September 27th, G37 meets with Senator Gladys Robinson. September 27th VC Pete will help Fen1 who needs a new precinct chair. G55 and G67 will be helped with their recruiting efforts. VC Pete reported working with G68 (which is A&T) who has a new Chair, to reach quorum. G69 is Bennett College so VC Pete reported he worked to recruit them.

Executive Director Bess and Chair Nicole suggested VC Pete work with our interns to help. G72 will meet with Sam Grim (breaking the Majority) and Danny Rogers to try to get precincts canvassing. VC Pete said on Wednesday morning he will meet with VC of G30.

GCDP Chair Nicole said that GCDP Greensboro VC Pete, Rural VC Leslie, and High Point VC Joshua will meet in 2 weeks to start recruiting Poll Observers and Greeters for Early Voting and Election Day.

GCDP Secretary /Issues Committee Chair Beverly Bard reported a good turnout for the H24, H25, H26, H27A, H27B cluster meeting where Mr. Reardon, Attorney Archie, and Danny Rogers spoke. H27B had enough present to be organized and they just need to turn in their paperwork. GCDP Issues Committee/Rise Book Club met at Sunrise Books in High Point on August 21st. It was a small crowd but a great discussion. The next Book Club will be on October 16th at Scuppernong Books at 7:00 PM to discuss The Paradox of Tar Heel Politics: The Personalities, Elections, and Events That Shaped Modern North Carolina by Rob Christensen.

LGBTQ of GCDP President Byron shared that Young Democrats of GC President Heidi Noriega asked a few personal contacts, who are Independent, what they thought of the door hanger and she said they weren't impressed. They said what was missing were the people/leaders. One had suggested they be used with college students. YDGC President Heidi suggested they might be used as a post card to put into their college packets. GCDP Chair Nicole suggested that Rural VC Leslie can print the door hangers at 5 cents and print the candidates' names who match the precinct and to make the template available to precinct chairs. Secretary Bev reported that the candidates she spoke to prefer to have their name printed. Discussion followed on if the motion made at the last board meeting was passed to budget for printing, what to print, how amendment information will apply, and Marcie's Law. Chair Nicole shared that GCDP is printing a slate, with one side to include the amendments, and that the State is also preparing slate/amendment information, in Spanish and to be translated into Arabic.

African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell reported their next meeting will be the 3rd Thursday in September on the 20th at 6:30 P.M. and Avery Crump will be the guest speaker. The Candidate Speed Dating will be held on October 18th at New Light Missionary Baptist Church at the Family Life Center. The Unity Dinner Committee will meet tomorrow, Tuesday at 6:30 P.m. to tie up loose ends.

Young Democrats of GCDP President Heidi Noriega Proxy Byron Gladden reported that Young Democrats of GCDP are launching their newsletter this month. Young Dems are considering coordinating with African-American Caucus of GCDP President Felita Donnell on Candidate Speed Dating meeting. Given time constraints, Young Dems may not be hosting the After Party for Unity Dinner, but may still be a possibility. They will be discussing upcoming events at their next board meeting to focus on just one event before elections, due to time constraints: reclaiming our right to vote. If time allows, they might do 2 events. They will discuss working with non-profits and getting 16 year olds preregistered. They are still working on the welcome packets. Chair Nicole shared that March for Our Lives will be at Weaver Academy and will need help with voter registration.

LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP President Byron Gladden reported that he is now the President of the LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP as per the State By-Laws. Chair Nicole said it's a good idea to have those by-laws on hand. LGBTQ President Byron said the LGBTQ Caucus of GCDP will meet this month. The LGBTQ of GCDP may not have a booth at Greensboro Pride because it conflicts with their holiday, and the festival may be cancelled because of Hurricane Florence. They are working on recruiting volunteers for the rain date. Executive Director Bess shared that it is very unlikely they will hold the Greensboro Pride and Day in the Park Festivals because of Hurricane Florence, but she is in contact with festival personnel.

LGBTQ of GCDP President Byron gave a school board update: Several schools are listed as safety shelters and all the school principals, to share with their staff by Wednesday, have been updated on which schools are shelters, so they can be used during Hurricane Florence. This information will be shared. Two schools, Fairview and Vandalia, have been impacted by ISD which means the state may take over these schools because of their low rating. These schools are also have a majority of at or below poverty level students. The school board has applied for funding from the state to be voted on this Thursday. With ISD, everyone at the school may be laid off and new staff hired while we still have to fund and allocate money for it. They will meet with High Point NAACP tomorrow.

Democratic Women of GC President Sarah J. Otte reported they voted on \$6,925.00 to allocate to our candidates and \$1500.00 for Unity Dinner. She said they currently have over 200 members and were given an award at the Democratic Women State Convention. October 4th is the Candidate Meet and Greet. They heard from Anita Earls that she will be there. GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick said that the caucus heads may want to meet. The expectation is that Young Dems will handle 4th of July, and LGBTQ will handle Greensboro Pride booth. Do we need to revamp?

Progressive Caucus of GCDP President Larry Cormier reported that they are working with candidates to help with their office administration.

GCDP Executive Director Bess Lewis reported we have 3 interns helping us, 2 are working in communications and 1 is helping with office work, although they all help in the office. The 2 festivals this weekend are in limbo, but they are still getting things prepared, but would be surprised if the festivals happen because of the weather. Executive Director Bess said she is working with Greensboro VC Pete on Poll Observers and Greeters soon. Bev is familiar with

this and Joan Bass said she will help. The Board will be called to suggest friends and neighbors. We will start within the next week. Early Voting Poll Observers have to be turned into the BOE 5 days prior to the date of service and those volunteering on Election Day are to be turned in on the Thursday before Election Day. There is mandatory training for observers. Usually an attorney will do the training and locations will be in Greensboro and High Point. Executive Director Bess said we need Greeters handing out the slate card at every polling place. Organized precincts will be able to have Greeters at their polling location every day, working in shifts. Full day volunteers are provided with a snack, a mid-day meal and another snack. Bill Eckert will help recruit to get the candidate signs to the polls. The High Point office makes it handier to deliver signs in High Point. Many volunteers have already said they would like to give rides to the polls, and if there are too many vols, we can ask them to be a runner or deliver water to poll greeters. Chair Nicole said that 1st Vice Chair Pam has taken over the coordination of the shuttle to the polls. The board will be credentialed to be runners, and recruited to be observers or help deliver slates to greeters. Poll Observers can volunteer for ½ or all day (13 hours). Runners come and go to get the vote counts. Greeters are more flexible to work shifts or get lunch if it is slow, but it's not a good idea to leave during times when there are more voters voting during their lunch time. Discussion followed about cancellations because of Hurricane Florence, poll observing/greeting, plus procedures and best practices for signing up poll greeters/observers. Gerrymandering and how it may affect the elections was discussed. Chair Nicole shared an update on the situation. Progressive Caucus Chair Larry Cormier said the LWV got a grant to set up a committee to help with a solution for gerrymandering and he was asked to be on the committee. Discussion followed about how to best message and help our candidates. GCDP Chair Nicole Ward Quick called to adjourn. Democratic Women of GC President Sarah J. Otte made motion to adjourn, was seconded and everyone left. GCDP Chair Nicole officially called the meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Bard
GCDP Secretary

Nicole Ward Quick
GCDP Chair