

BCDP Minutes from May 9, 2019 meeting

Call to Order: Tom Sapp 7:00 PM

Pledge and Moment of Silence: Cameron Parker

Tom introduced Dr. Bobbie Richardson: former House member and current 1st Vice chair of NCDP. Dr. Richardson spoke about the necessity of getting out the vote, gerrymandering, education, and other issues faced by citizens in NC, specifically Brunswick County.

The Treasurer's report was distributed and approved. Dwight Willis talked about the importance of Act Blue contributions. He also auctioned off an orange-topped toilet brush to the highest bidder – Tom Sapp – who donated it to Dr. Richardson.

The minutes were approved as posted on the website. Motion made by Charles Warren and seconded by Bob Bannerman.

Event Summaries: Mike Rush recognized the Bellevue 1, 2, and 3 Precincts' 15 volunteers and 1 parrot who attended Founders' Day indicating how important visibility is. Voter registration forms were available.

Mike also spoke about the Teacher Rally he attended with Tom Sapp and the presence of the BCDP Banner they took to the rally. Frank Iler was also in attendance.

Eileen Farrell commented on the Democratic Women. Their last meeting was a road trip to Calabash. The NC Democratic Women held their last meeting at our HQ with 75 women in attendance from 7 counties. The Speakers were Julie Buckner, Terry Van Dyne and Deb Butler. Their next meeting will be on June 13, at 5:00, at HQ where a \$1000 education grant will be awarded. The new slate of officers is Eileen Farrell, Pres.; Sandra Ford, 1st VC; Emma Miles, 2nd VC; Marilyn Priddy, Sec; and Denise Donnelly.

Cameron Parker reported on the Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by 3 precincts on April 20 at Mulberry Park in Shallotte. In spite of windy weather, it was very well attended with at least 40 children participating with their parents. Voter registration forms were available.

Sr. Dems: Wes Brown reported on the Convention held on Sat., May 4, in Wilmington, UNCW. Dr. Kyle Horton and 3 candidates for lieutenant governor spoke. State IDs were a topic of discussion. The next meeting will be held on May 28, 2019, at the MEA Church in Navassa. Wes commented on the need to engage and empower communities of color and invited all to attend the meetings. Wes said that they are trying to initiate voter education sessions at local churches and will be looking for volunteers to help out.

Tom Sapp thanked Janis and Tom Simmons and Mr. Boyd for working on the building and grounds.

Becky Willis spoke about the Board of Elections who will prepare photo IDs for voting even though it is not necessary as yet to have photo IDs – not until 2020. Tom Simmons asked a question regarding the possibility of having an ID machine at the county seat and one mobile unit. Becky didn't think this is a large enough area to do that, but we'll see!

The Board has requested to use existing voting machines here through 2022 as there is only one certified company for the equipment.

Bob Bannerman asked if there was a possibility or probability of our machines being hacked by the Russians. Becky explained that the machines are not connected to the internet, so it is unlikely.

Tom Sapp and Dwight Willis attended NCDP training. Information is available for precincts.

Tom Sapp reported on the April 27, 2019, Democratic District 7 Convention. Brunswick County had the largest group in attendance. Janis Simmons was honored.

Candidates: James Dawkins from South Port announced his run for NC House District 19. He invited all to a Poker and Politics fund raiser at the Tap room Brewery on Memorial Day.

Tom Simmons will run again in 2020 for House District 17. His issues include off shore drilling, children without Medicare, retirees losing buying power, and teachers' salaries.

The winner of the 50/50 drawing for cash was A.J. Oates and for flowers was Dale Todd. Denise Donnelly won the door prize of an orchid.

Bob Bannerman spoke about the new committee of which he is chair, the Legislative Committee. The committee at this point includes Dale Todd, Dwight Willis, and Bob. Volunteers were requested to join. The objective of the committee is to work on bills which have a practical chance of passing.

Announcements: On May 21, 2019, 6:30, there will be an Executive Committee meeting. Clarification was requested from Joanne Levitan regarding the makeup of this committee. Tom Sapp and Rob Priddy explained that the makeup of the Executive Committee includes all precinct chairs and vice chairs, all BCDP officers, caucus chairs and elected officials.

There will be a session offered by the League of Women Voters at St. Brenden's on May 14, 2019, at 9:30 AM regarding gerrymandering and voter registration.

Hands across the Sands will take place on all beaches on May 18, 2019.

Dan McReady campaign is looking for volunteers.

SoBAD Golf Tournament organizational meeting will be held on Wed., May 15 at 9:00.

A.J. Oates explained that the Veterans and the Brunswick Sherriff's Dept. are offering a bracelet to veterans suffering from Alzheimers who will be offered \$2000 as needed.

There will be a raffle on June 5 with a prize of \$2500, tickets are \$20.00 each.

A.J. announced a Veterans' event at Sunset Beach Park at 10:00 with Dr. Kyle Horton.

Joanne Levitan announced You Can Vote Training for volunteers on May 11 at 10:00-11:30 at Rourke Woods club House.

Cameron Parker encouraged everyone to bring in young Dems!

Adjournment – moved by Rob Priddy; seconded by Emma Miles

Respectfully submitted,

Denise A. Mirandola,
Secretary BCDP