

North Carolina Democratic Party
State Executive Committee
Durham
March 6, 2010

- ◆ Call to Order -- Chair David Young
- ◆ Invocation
- ◆ Pledge of Allegiance led by 3rd Vice Chair Tony McEwen
- ◆ Chair Young calls on US Rep. David Price for remarks
- ◆ Chair declares quorum
- ◆ 1st Vice Chair Stella Adams moved we approve the meeting rules. 2nd by Mike Schaul, Wake Co.
Motion passed
- ◆ Schaul moved to suspend the rules for a resolution about health care
- ◆ John Brooks, point of order – Plan of Organization 8.1 (last two paragraphs) resolutions to be presented to Executive Committee must be given to Resolutions and Platform Committee
- ◆ Tom Macon – Cumberland County asks to go forward with the motion by Schaul
- ◆ Schaul's resolution failed
- ◆ Chair's Update includes:
- ◆ Providing e-mail address saves money, that money can be used to further the work of the NCDP
- ◆ Importance of high turnout for the upcoming elections
- ◆ Intro of NCDP officers, auxiliary officers congressional district Chairs, county officers and new staff members Finance Director Sara Foreman and Communications Mark Giangreco
- ◆ Vance Aycock resolution to change the name of the event in 2011
- ◆ Appoints Conflict of Interest and Financial Oversight Committee to insure that our finances are open and honest
- ◆ NC Rep. Larry Hall recognizes all state legislators present, talks about the difficult decisions they have faced. Reminds the body of the challenges in the upcoming election and encourages the body of the SEC to stay fired up and ready to go!
- ◆ Chris Hardee moves to approve the agenda, 2nd by 1st VC Adams
- ◆ Motion to amend agenda to include a report on DNC activities and plans by John Brooks and 2nd by Lavonia Allison. Motion passed.
- ◆ Treasurer's report given by Chair Young in the absence of Treasurer Muriel Offerman. As of March 5, 2010 – NCDP has \$678,055 in its accounts. There are no outstanding inquires from the SBOE or the FEC. There are no significant outstanding debts or obligations.

- ◆ Mike Schaul moved to approve Treasurer's report, 2nd by Howard Ervin of Northampton Co, motion passed.
- ◆ NC Sen. Floyd McKissick brings greetings and welcome to Durham. He notes that Durham has supported Democratic candidates by huge margins and we need to see that replicated throughout the state.
- ◆ US Senate candidates for the Burr seat speak in the order of names randomly drawn:
- ◆ Elaine Marshall, Cal Cunningham, Marcus Williams and Ken Lewis stepped up to talk briefly about their decision to run and the issues to be addressed. All agree that US Sen. Burr must go.
- ◆ Chair Young calls attention to minutes of previous SEC
- ◆ Martin County Chair Jim Leathers moved to approve minutes, 2nd by Perry Parks of Wake County
- ◆ Chair Young announced the US Senate Candidate Event in Winston Salem on Monday, March 8.
- ◆ 1st VC Adams introduces the Jeanne Hopkins Lucas Luncheon Saturday March 20, 2010, highlighting some of the accomplishments of the NC Senator. She speaks of Sen. Lucas' involvement at every level of the NCDP; rising from precinct chair to State Senator. The event is a fundraiser and a scholarship will be established in honor of Sen. Lucas. Individual luncheon tickets are \$50. Adams reminds the SEC body of the need to raise funds so that the work of the NCDP can be carried forward.
- ◆ Chair Young introduced NC State Auditor Beth Wood. She comments on the work of her department, her work to maintain and increase effectiveness of the office during her first term.
- ◆ NC Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin announces that starting May 1, one in four of our drivers will be sharing in refunds of \$50 million. Independent, national experts have said that NC has the lowest insurance rates in the South. We are the largest state in the United States of America to have the lowest rates in the country.
- ◆ David Parker - presentation of NCDP Accessibility policy – Thanks Dr. Grace Liem, who brought the issue to our attention and the Democratic Women worked hard to make sure it is our policy. Elizabeth Edwards of Disability Rights North Carolina worked with the Party to develop the policy. The policy has been approved by the Executive Council.
- ◆ DNC Member David Parker introduced other DNC members -- Jeanette Council from Cumberland County (dean); Everett Ward (co-chair of the Rules Committee); Phillip Gilfus; Susan Burgess; David Young and Stella Adams (Joyce Brayboy and Ed Turlington elected at large) – and reported on their activities.
- ◆ Parker reported that the DNC was debating a proposed rule that would bind “super-delegates” at the National Convention according to the vote in their states. There is an ongoing discussion as to

whether stripping discretion from DNC members would benefit the nomination process. Some DNC members from North Carolina wanted to retain discretion.

- ◆ Parker reported that the recent *Citizens United* Supreme Court decision may affect union contributions to the Democratic Party and to counter that, the Party should focus its efforts on small-dollar donations such as the \$3 tax check-off.
- ◆ Parker also reported that Charlotte residents are continuing their efforts to bring the 2012 Democratic National Convention to the “Queen City”.
- ◆ Parker is the Treasurer of Southern Caucus. They are thinking of doing polling and message development across the south.
- ◆ Chair Young recognized Chief Justice Parker
- ◆ Mary B. McMillan of AFL CIO made a presentation. People are hurt and frustrated because banks and insurance companies are getting more help than they are. I don’t want working folks to sit out this election. Our state has over 130,000 union members who work in the public and private sectors. Union members deliver the mail, entertain you at the symphony, and manufacture the yellow school bus that children ride to school. The union political program and the union vote make a difference nationally and here in North Carolina. The problem this year is a lot of members are frustrated because not enough action has been taken on the issues they care about.
- ◆ Employee Free Choice Act (federal) – allow employees to chose a union
- ◆ Repeal the ban on public sector collective bargain. (on the state level) Allow government agencies to choose for themselves whether they want to collectively bargain.
- ◆ Chair Young introduced the Honorable Bob Hunter, Court of Appeals. Hunter spoke about the upcoming election. He reminds the SEC that this race is extremely important to the citizens of North Carolina. This race is non-partisan. This is the only Supreme Court seat up this time.
- ◆ The Honorable Martha Gear – In 2002, more than million North Carolina citizens elected me. I was the only Democrat to win statewide. Judge Wynn’s seat is likely to be open because he’ll probably go to the 4th circuit court of appeals. The Democratic Party fields quality not *quantity*. If you look at the Republican candidates at the district court level, the Republicans have been fielding candidates who have been out of law school for a year and a half. One of the candidates has not practiced law (appeals court). At the court of appeals level, we’re writing decisions that affect every corner of your life. The judges who write those opinions should be experienced and knowledgeable. Urged people to go out and talk to their friends, family, etc.
- ◆ NCDP Executive Director Andrew Whalen read through the budget. Questions asked about the budget included:
 - Pete McDowell, Orange Co. – clarity on elected officials support

- PR Latta, Wake Co. – clarity on tax check off & “soft money”
- ◆ TE Austin calls for question
- ◆ June Mabry, 8th Congressional District Chair, moved to pass the budget as presented, 2nd by Dan DeHart. Motion passed.
- ◆ Chairman Young acknowledged the counties who met 2009 sustaining fund goals
- ◆ Resolution in support of HK on J introduced, John Brooks, Wake Co. moved to adopt, 2nd by Lavonia Allison.
- ◆ Greg Meyer, Orange Co. moves for friendly amendment to recognize that H K on J has already passed. Motion to adopt the Amended Resolution passed.
- ◆ Melvin Williams, 7th Congressional District Chair - presents the Merchant Marines Recognition Resolution and made a motion to pass the resolution. He also recognizes Don Horton for the work he put in to have the resolution acknowledged. 2nd by TE Austin. Motion to adopt the Resolution passed.
- ◆ 1st VC Adams recommended that we refer the motion to National Resolutions Committee to ensure the DNC takes a stand.
- ◆ John Brooks moved the State Executive Committee direct each congressional district convention meeting in 2010 to elect one person to serve on a State Plan of Organization Committee to be composed of 14 members, including a chairman to be appointed by the Chairman of the North Carolina State Democratic Party. 2nd by Jesse Godley of Wake County. Motion failed the two-thirds vote.
- ◆ Brooks questioned why it requires an extraordinary majority. Peggy McDougall requests a second vote, Chair Young denies the request
- ◆ Jack Sanders moved to amend section 4.11 – Independent Financial Review; A second from Orange. Jack spoke to the issue. Chris Hardee spoke against the amendment and said the Party implemented the recommendations of the independent audit. Motion failed to get two thirds vote.
- ◆ Heidirose Kober of Orange County rose to speak in favor of the amendment.
- ◆ Nick Divichy from Guilford County – We have to institutionalize this so future chairs are bound by these rules. The fastest growing segment is the unaffiliated. We have to get rid of the tarnish.
- ◆ June Mabry said the congressional district chairs shared their concerns and worked with the staff to resolve those issues. She suggested that an amendment be made that half of the committee be congressional district chairs who are accountable.
- ◆ Janet Barnes of Wake County called to question.
- ◆ No two-thirds vote on the motion.
- ◆ Chair Young recognizes US Rep. Brad Miller to make remarks

- ◆ Chris Hardee made a motion to change the plan to defer the election of the resolution and platform committee members by congressional district. Gentleman from Randolph County seconded.
- ◆ Janet Barnes of Wake County called to question.
- ◆ Cliff Moon of Catawba asked if it's ok to accept call to question from the floor. Stephen Gheen said the woman had an obvious issue of accessibility.
- ◆ Chris Hardee spoke to his motion. Make it a permanent change to the Plan. The Party has been doing it by practice (technically and practically).
- ◆ 2nd VC Delmas Parker made a motion to change the resolution process. It would establish a policy agenda for the State Party. Gives the ability to the counties to decide where they're going to entertain the resolutions. Whether to have the resolution process in convention, special convention. Each county will come up with five priorities on state and national issues that will be voted on that will passed on to the district and state level. It gives the grassroots the ability to set up a policy agenda for the state party. 2nd by Randolph County chair.
- ◆ David Crawford urged everyone to adopt the amendment. Gives counties and districts options how to handle what works best in their district.
- ◆ Randolph County Chairman Mack Whatley said it was brought up at the last couple of SEC meetings and the body had not gotten around to it.
- ◆ Dan Bennett of Forsyth County proposed an amendment to amendment. Section 2.10.1 change to county executive committee. 3.13.1 appointed by the executive committee. Gloria Phoenix of Guilford County seconded. (change from chair to executive committee)
- ◆ Jack Nichols said it was cumbersome to have a committee appoint a committee.
- ◆ Erica Smith Ingram from Northhampton County rose for point of order, to limit the debate to two minutes.
- ◆ Howard Ervin of Northhampton County asked if the motion is out of order.
- ◆ Jim White of Orange County said it is taking the county level process and creating a new level.
- ◆ Stella Adams called to question on the amendment. Amendment failed.
- ◆ Dan Bennett said it makes the Democratic Party more democratic. States that he wondered if section 4 could have been part of 2.
- ◆ Jesse Gosslin of Wake County is asking to make a substitute amendment in Section 2.10, section 2. He requested "taking the number 10 out and not having a number there". This means there could be an unlimited number of prioritized state and national resolutions.
- ◆ Adams spoke in favor of the substitute amendment offered by Gosslin and said we have more than 10 priority areas. We need to prioritize along what is relevant at the time.

- ◆ George Entemann from Orange County spoke against the original amendment and said he thought the SEC should focus on get out the vote activities.
- ◆ There was a call to question on the Gosslin amendment. The Gosslin amendment passed.
- ◆ The body took a vote on the original amendment to the Plan of Organization offered by Delmas Parker.
- ◆ Ballot #1 was used for the voting. NCDP regional field directors collected the ballots.
- ◆ While the ballots were being counted, Chairman Young recognized candidates for office to speak and other announcements.
- ◆ Steve Ivester, Catawba County
- ◆ 1st VC Stella Adams talked about 2010 Census. The Census is the most important Census for us. We received an additional seat as a result of Census count in the past and stand to gain another this time.
- ◆ Montica Talmadge announces upcoming YD Convention
- ◆ Will Shand, Guilford County raises concern about the SEC meeting only twice per year, is it reasonable to expect all business to be conducted? Would like to consider handling all business requiring votes, prior to any speakers being allowed at the podium.
- ◆ Chair Young recognized any candidates who had not previously been recognized and allowed to make remarks, any member with an announcement:
- ◆ Ann Newman (House District 112), has Republican opponent
- ◆ Jack Nichols is running for county commission
- ◆ Thomas Sales running for the NC House
- ◆ Leonard Jenkins, State House District 17 running for office
- ◆ Senator Don Davis, representing the 5th NC Senatorial district – Pitt, Wayne and Greene counties
- ◆ Tony Butler running for sheriff for Durham county
- ◆ Terry Sutton from Durham running for District Court judge
- ◆ Brenda Pollard (Democratic Women); DWNC will be celebrating 50th anniversary in September in Charlotte
- ◆ Stella Adams took point of personal privilege to wish her daughter happy birthday.
- ◆ Chad Larkin running for 1st district US Congressman
- ◆ Chris Telesca - create an electoral forum committee.
- ◆ Melvin Williams announced that the Duplin County “Meet the Candidates Cake Auction” will be held on Friday April 23 at James T Keenan High School.
- ◆ Chairman Young announced that Ballot #1, the Delmas Parker amendment to change the Plan of Organization’s sections on resolutions was passed by a vote of 196 to 65.

◆ Meeting adjourned at 4:30 by Chair Young

Submitted by:
Kathy Whitaker Knight,
Secretary, NCDP

Assisted by
Kerra Bolton
NCDP