

## **MINUTES**

### **STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

**State Democratic Headquarters**

**220 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, North Carolina**

**State Party Chair Wayne Goodwin called the meeting to order at 3:38 PM. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States. The Chair invited everyone to observe a period of silence.**

**The Minutes of the June 8, 2019 Executive Council meeting were approved by a voice vote.**

**Chris Hardee made a motion which was seconded by Ginger Walker for the meeting to go into Executive Session.**

**After more than an hour, Julia Buckner made a motion for the meeting to come out of Executive Session. Jesse Goslen seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.**

**Chris Hardee made a motion that the Code of Conduct motion which was passed in the Executive Session be adopted again now that the meeting is in open session again. Several members seconded his motion. The motion was passed unanimously.**

**Secretary's note: No Code of Conduct motion was actually drafted during the Executive Session. State Chair Wayne Goodwin said that he would draft a proposed motion about conduct at all Democratic meetings. It was agreed that his proposed motion will be forwarded to the Council of Review so they could consider adding his recommendations to the Code of Conduct.**

**Chair Goodwin also said he wanted his proposed motion about conduct to be transferred to the POO Review Committee.**

**Chair Goodwin also asked for the NCDP Resolutions Committee to develop resolutions to ratify a Code of Conduct.**

**Here is the motion written by State Chair Wayne Goodwin and which was passed unanimously by the Executive Council before it was actually composed:**

**“What follows is the essential Motion introduced by NCDP Chairman Goodwin and which was duly made by a Council member at his direction to the NCDP Executive Council on December 19, 2019 and which was duly seconded by a member of the Council and then debated by the Council in full and passed unanimously:**

**“That the NCDP Executive Council (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Council’) with the advice and direction of NCDP Legal Counsel, strongly supports incorporation by reference of the Code of Conduct (previously adopted by the Executive Council in 2017, and subsequently referred to as ‘the Code’) within the NCDP Plan of Organization (hereinafter, ‘the Plan’), our governing document;**

**“That, after in-depth and lengthy deliberations by many members of the Council, and for good cause shown, the Council supports both the letter and spirit of the detailed draft amendments to the Plan presented at the Council meeting on December 19, 2019, and re-affirms its unanimous support of the Code of Conduct;**

**“That, the Council directs that the *NCDP Plan of Organization Review Committee* review these specifically-referenced Plan amendments regarding the Code, and to make any and all such edits, clarification, etc., as may be necessary, and to adopt such revised proposed Plan amendments regarding the Code between December 19, 2019 and the last date for reference in the outgoing Notice of the next State Executive Committee meeting;**

**And,**

**“further moves that the Council directs that the *NCDP Platform and Resolutions Committee* prepare, consider, and adopt between December 19, 2019 and the last date for reference in the outgoing Notice of the next State Executive meeting an appropriate resolution that supports the applicability of the code to NCDP officers, Party officeholders (including the Council and the State Executive Committee), and NCDP staff, with the sole intention of that resolution supporting passage of the proposed amendments to the Plan;**

**“Further, that the Council supports passage of amendments or other 3 requirements such that one of the conditions for chartering or re-chartering of any officially-recognized NCDP auxiliary organization or caucus is adoption of the Code or one substantially similar to it by such auxiliaries or caucuses;**

**“That, both the NCDP and auxiliaries and caucuses contain within their respective governing documents that proven violations of the Code subject the violator to appropriate sanctions within the Plan;**

**“That, the NCDP Executive Director shall ensure that the Code of Conduct and the proposed amendments to the Plan are posted on the NCDP website and that links are shared with the State Executive Committee members in advance of the next SEC meeting;**

**“And,**

**“That, time being of the essence and for good cause, even if either the *Plan of Organization Review Committee or the Platform and Resolution Committee* (or both) shall fail to produce, deliberate, and adopt favorable reports on that which the Council has above-directed, that the Council does hereby request that the full *NCDP State Executive Committee* notwithstanding take up the proposed Plan amendments as adopted by the Council as a Special Order of Business on the agenda of the next State Executive Committee meeting on February 29, 2020 in Charlotte.**

**“Passed unanimously on December 19, 2019”**

**The Council then embarked on a wide-ranging discussion of the effects of Congressional Redistricting on Democrats at all levels.**

**At the end of this discussion, Chris Hardee proposed the following motion:**

**“I move to have the NCDP adopt the recently passed new Congressional District lines for organizational and operational purposes effective January 1, 2020.**

**“I move further that any County Executive Committee (of any split County in the new districts) meet on or before January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for the purposes of electing any members of the various District Executive Committees as needed. 4**

**“Additionally, I move that any District Executive Committee meet on or before February 15, 2020 for the purposes of electing officers to fill any vacancies caused by the adoption of the new District lines.**

**“Finally, I move that all current NCDP policy committee members representing a Congressional District, continue to serve until the 2020 District Conventions at which time their successors may be selected appropriately, if needed.”**

**Chris Hardee’s motion was seconded by Senator Don Davis. The motion was passed unanimously.**

### **ELECTORAL STRATEGY – BY ED MEREDITH CUOMO**

**NCDP Executive Director Meredith Cuomo presented a detailed Electoral Strategy for 2020 which included:**

- **NCDP raised \$19,000,000.00 in 2018 election year.**
- **Our goals are the election or re-election of Democrats to the positions of Governor, US Senate, President, the General Assembly, statewide judicial Positions, and Council of State**
- **Counties need campaign literature listing our candidates from top to bottom.**
- **13 new staff members have been hired to lead voter registration and GOTV drives**
- **The third Women of Color conference will be held in April, 2020.**
- **The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is going strong.**
- **8 of our 13 Congressional District Chairs were moved from their districts in the recent redistricting.**
- **Several new staff members have been hired by the NCDP. We now have 22 fulltime staff members. 58% are Democrats of color and 50%are women, and a majority of them are under age 35.**
- **We targeted municipal elections in 2019 and we will continue to focus on municipal elections in the future.**
- **Dr. Grace Galloway reported that 4 new Asian-American municipal officials were elected in 2019 municipal elections**
- **The NCDP has received money from two sources to hire a four-member Voter Protection team. They are made up of two attorneys and two staff members.**
- **NCDP will continue to concentrate on Rural Initiatives**

**Cozzie Watkins made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan that ED Meredith Cuomo had just presented. Senator Don Davis seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.**

**NCDP Treasurer Anna Tilghman reported that the Democratic National Committee has a Stipend Program which will be recommended to the SEC at the February 29<sup>th</sup> SEC meeting in Charlotte.**

**Several members made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several members seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Melvin Williams, Secretary  
North Carolina Democratic Party**