

**STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021**

In writing these minutes, it is assumed that SEC Members have retained the full contents of the SEC Packets which were sent to them before the meeting.

Those packets included the Agenda, the Rules of the Day, the minutes of the previous meeting, the PoO Review Committee recommendations, the Report of the Resolutions and Platform Committee, and many other pages of information.

NCDP CHAIR Dr. Bobbie Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:05AM. Party Affairs Coordinator Aaron Thomas explained the SEC Meeting Registration process. NCDP Coalitions & Community Engagement Director Shawntay Anthony led the SEC in a moment of reflection. The NCDP staff led the entire body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. NCDP Third Vice Chair Shannon Auer led the Salute to our state flag. Political Director Lorenzo Pedro discussed the guidelines and general instructions for the meeting.

Vinod Thomas raised a question about the procedure for proxies. Political Director Lorenzo Pedro answered his question and directed him to the rules on page 49 of the SEC Packet.

Secretary Melvin Williams gave the Quorum Report for today's meeting:

**Number of Members on the SEC - - 609
Number needed for Quorum - - - - 244
Number Already Registered - - - - 369**

The Secretary announced that Quorum has been established for this SEC meeting. The final registration total was 435 SEC Members.

Betsy Wells made a motion to approve the proposed Agenda for today's meeting which is on page 5 of the SEC Packet. Chris Hardee seconded her motion. The SEC voted to approve the Agenda by a vote of 339 to 2.

Cliff Moone made a motion to approve the Rules of the Day. His motion was seconded by Bob Hyman.

Before a vote was taken on the motion to approve the Rules of the Day, Nazim Uddin made a motion that a vote of 25% of the SEC members would be needed before a Resolution could be pulled for discussion at today's meeting. Ryan Jenkins seconded his amendment.

Angela Bridgman made an amendment to Nazim's amendment. Her Amendment would require the votes of 1/3 of the SEC members to vote to pull a Resolution for discussion. Toni Mingo seconded the motion. David Dixon, Bob Hyman, and Matt Hughes spoke about Angela's amendment.

The SEC then passed Angela's amendment to require 1/3 by a vote of 187 to 160.

The SEC then voted to pass the main motion on pulling Resolutions by a vote of 266 to 74. Therefore, a 1/3 vote will be required to pull any Resolution.

DNC Member Shelia Huggins addressed the meeting saying that the voting system is confusing. She asked if the SEC could post written copies of the motions on the screen.

Chair Richardson promoted the NCDP Store and its handsome contents.

Chris Telesca made a motion to strike sections 8(B) and 9(C) of the Rules of the Day which disallow amendments to proposed amendments. Benjamin Spencer seconded the motion. Matt Hughes spoke against this motion. Kevin Creech spoke in favor of this motion. Elizabeth Goodman spoke against the motion. Chris Hardee asked if Chris Telesca could provide clarification.

Chris Telesca then withdrew his motion to strike sections 8(B) and 9(C) of the Rules of the Day.

The SEC then voted to adopt the Rules of the Day by a vote of 280 to 54.

Richard Poole raised a Point of Order because the voting system was not allowing him to vote. Lorenzo Pedro spoke with Richard about this problem.

Chris Hardee made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2021 SEC meeting. Brenda Pollard seconded the motion. The SEC approved the Minutes of the August 7, 2021 meeting by a vote of 342 to 1.

Chris Hardee presented the Report of the Plan of Organization Review Committee (PORC)

The first PORC item was to recommend that a Local Alternative Plan of Organization be approved for Wake County. The SEC voted to approve this plan by a vote of 315 to 28.

PORC Recommendation #2 made technical corrections at the County Level.

The first part of this recommendation was to make changes in Section 2.10 which is entitled Methods for Consideration and Adoption of Resolutions At The County Level. (See page 18 of the SEC Packet.)

The second technical correction recommendation was in Section 2.11, the Alternative Plan of County Organization. (See page 18 of the SEC Packet.) Recommendation 2 was then approved by a vote of 314 to 19.

PORC Recommendation 3 dealt with District Executive Committees which are wholly within one county. (See pages 18, 19, 20, and 21 of the SEC Packet.) This recommendation was approved by a vote of 252 to 65.

PORC Recommendation 4 affected Appointment of County Boards of Elections and Chair of Board of Election Appointments. (See pages 21-22 in the SEC Packet.) This recommendation was approved by a vote of 279 to 16.

PORC Recommendation #5 dealt with appointing Treasurers instead of electing them. (See pages 22, 23, and 24 in the SEC Packet.)

Jesse Goslen spoke in favor of this recommendation. Kevyn Creech brought forward a point of clarification. Chris Telesca asked some questions.

Chris Hardee stated that this change will not affect any current Treasurers at any level of the Party. It will take effect when each current Treasurer's term ends.

PORC Recommendation 5 was passed by a vote of 231 to 85.

PORC Recommendation 6 called for clarification of existing language in the POO concerning the Association of County/District Chairs and the State Executive Council. (See page 24 in the SEC Packet.) This recommendation was approved by a vote of 262 to 19.

NCDP First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick explained the various sections of PORC Recommendation #7.

7a – Recommended the creation of a State Finance Committee (See page 26 of the SEC Packet)

7b – Change filing period for SEC State Officer elections (See page 25)

7c – Recommendations to streamline SEC meetings. (See pages 26 - 28)

7d – Clarify PORC process including Matters for Consideration and Power To Amend.

Chris Telesca spoke against Recommendation #7a dealing with creating a State Finance Committee. He proposed an amendment to amend #7a. Randell Hersom seconded the amendment.

This amendment was designed to require that after the annual budget is drafted by the State Chair, the Treasurer, and the Executive Director, it shall be sent to the Executive Council 28 days prior to the winter SEC meeting and be sent to all SEC members 14 days before the winter State Executive Committee meeting.

Chris Hardee spoke against this amendment to Recommendation #7a. He said that only the Executive Council sends a budget to SEC members and that the second portion of Chris Telesca's amendment was out of order.

Tyler Beal and Nazim Uddin spoke in favor of this amendment. Darek Patrick spoke against the amendment.

First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick spoke against this amendment.

Chris Hardee moved to closed debate on Recommendation #7a. Jeff Rose seconded the motion to close debate. The SEC voted to close debate on a vote of 298 to 14.

The SEC then voted 202 to 83 to pass Chris Telesca's amendment. The State Chair then ruled that Mr. Telesca's amendment was invalid.

Chris Hardee moved to close debate and proceed to a vote. Jeff Rose seconded this motion. The motion to close debate and take a vote was passed by a vote of 298 to 14.

The motion to approve Recommendation #7a to establish a Finance Committee was passed by a vote of 280 to 15.

The SEC then discussed Recommendation #7b – Changing method and timing of filing and voting on Candidates for NCDP State Offices.

Soren Pedersen spoke against this Recommendation.

Benjamin Spencer asked if a person loses out in one election under the proposed Recommendation 7b, can they file for another office? Chris Hardee replied "No."

Jeff Rose spoke in favor of passage of 7b. Hillary Varner spoke against passage of 7b.

Angela Bridgman raised a Point of information. The Chair ruled she was out of order.

Kevyn Creech made a motion to send 7b back to committee. Cliff Moone seconded her motion.

Soren Pedersen spoke against referring 7b back to committee.

Tina Rodriguez said she favors sending 7b back to committee. 5

Collette Alston opposed sending 7b back to committee.

The SEC voted to send 7b (dealing with changing rules for Filing and voting for NCDP Officer positions) back to committee by a vote 177 to 119.

The SEC then started discussion of Recommendation 7c (see page 26 of the SEC packet) which is designed to streamline SEC meetings in the following ways:

- Create a Finance Subcommittee of the Executive Council to deliberate and modify draft budget from the staff. The Executive Council can still amend. After the proposed budget is approved by the Executive Council, a Summary of the budget will be presented to the SEC for an up/down/refer back vote only. No budgetary amendments from the SEC floor will be allowed.**
- Create filing period ahead of SEC for officer/DNC elections, prohibit running from the floor. Shift the process of approving of Affiliated Organizations to the Summer SEC meeting in odd numbered years.**
- Only hear Resolutions from the Platform and Resolutions Committee once a year at the Summer SEC meeting.**
- POO amendments will be presented to the SEC for an up/down/refer back vote.**

The approval of Recommendation 7c was moved by PORC Chair Chris Hardee. It was seconded.

Benjamin Spencer spoke against this motion

Jeff Rose and Sarah Vrla spoke in favor of passage of this motion.

A motion to return Recommendation 7c was placed upon the floor.

Randell Hersom and Hillary Varner spoke in favor of returning Recommendation 7c to PORC.

The motion to return Recommendation 7c was defeated by a vote of 127 to 163.

A speaker told the SEC that many SEC members are trying to get into the meeting to speak, but they are not being allowed to get it.

Soren Pedersen made an amendment to change a phrase in Recommendation #7c. The PORC recommended that the following language be adopted:

- 1. *“The committee is encouraged to hold one or more public hearings and to invite testimony from all North Carolina registered Democrats. (Previously this sentence had said to invite “all citizens.”)***

Soren Pedersen's amendment was to change the wording back to "all citizens."

Benjamin Spencer seconded Soren Pedersen's motion.

George Greene and Toni Mingo spoke against making this change. Lorna Barnett asked why the committee changed the phrase in the first place? Chris Telesca says it needs to say "all registered Democrats."

The motion on the vote to insert "all citizens" and strike the "all registered Democrats" was defeated by a vote of 77 to 207.

The meeting then voted to approve the motion to streamline future SEC meetings by passing Section 7C by a vote of 211 to 66.

Parliamentarian Sybil Mann stated that Recommendation 7c will go back to the PoO and the PORC committees.

Roxanne Griffin said she had been trying to get into the meeting before the vote, but she was not permitted to do so.

The SEC then discussed Recommendation 7D (See Page 29 in SEC Packet.) Chris Hardee explained that 7D needs to be passed to bring the Plan of Organization into agreement with changes we just made.

Hillary Varner, Chris Telesca, and Benjamin Spencer spoke against Recommendation 7D.

Carl Newman, Bob Hyman, Cliff Moone, and Jeff Rose spoke in favor of it.

The SEC passed Recommendation # 7D by on a vote of 190 to 68.

Chris Hardee then made a motion to approve Recommendation #8, an amendment to 10.01 (Grounds for Removal) of the PoO.

Cliff Moone introduced an amendment to strike the following words from 10.01: "including the precinct, the county, the congressional district, the prosecutorial district, the state senate district, the state house of representative district, or any committees or subcommittees of council thereof." The SEC approved this amendment dealing with Recommendation # 8 (Grounds for removal)by a vote of 162 to 41.

Dustin Ingalls proposed an amendment to delete part 21 in 10.01 of the PoO. Ray Jenkins seconded his amendment.

Nazim Uddin asked what does "indirect" mean. Chris Hardee answered his question.

Matt Hughes, Chris Telesca, Janice Lewis, Soren Peterson and Gray Newman spoke about this amendment.

Dustin Ingall's proposed amendment to remove part 21 was defeated by a vote of 101 to 165.

Jarrett Patrick made a motion to move Section 10.01 back to the PORC Committee. Benjamin Spencer seconded his motion.

Nadiz Uddin explained why he was in favor of this motion. Bob Hyman spoke in opposition. Tina Rodriguez told the SEC why she was opposed to referring the recommendation back to committee. Gladys McAuley spoke in favor of referring the recommendation back to committee.

This motion to move Section 10.01 back to the PORC committee was defeated by a vote of 109 to 132.

NCDP First Chair Floyd McKissick called for the question on Recommendation #8 (Grounds for removal) as amended. Chris Hardee seconded the motion.

The SEC approved the call for the question by a vote of 206 to 42.

The SEC then voted on PORC Recommendation #8 (Grounds for removal) as amended. It was approved by a vote of 174 to 64.

Chris Hardee moved to delay the implementation of Recommendation #7a implementing the State Finance Committee until the next SEC meeting. Leslie Cohen seconded the motion.

Carl Newman suggested that we could correct the issue with a technical amendment to 7a.

Chris Hardee stated that we could reconsider 7a today if the body wished to do so.

Cliff Moone suggested that we reconsider Recommendation #7a for the purpose of amending it further.

Tyler Beal spoke against delaying the implementation of #7a because we have a finite amount of time as SEC members.

Parliamentarian Sybil Mann suggested that Chris Hardee withdraw his motion in order to reconsider #7a.

Chris Hardee withdrew his motion.

Cliff Moone moved to reconsider Recommendation #7a. Jesse Goslen seconded his motion.

Gray Newman raised a Point of Information.

Aisha Dew raised a Point of Order. She was ruled out of order.

The SEC then voted to approve the motion to reconsider Recommendation #7a to create the NCDP Finance Committee by a vote of 186 to 25.

- Chris Hardee moved to amend section 8.05 (Recommendation #7a) by**
 - Striking “with publication to the SEC members 14 days before the Winter State Executive Committee meeting.**
 - PoO section 4.09 – Recommendation # 10 – Inserting after the words Executive Council “that was received 14 days prior to the SEC meeting and was” (insert in Recommendation # 15 as well.)**

Wayne Goodwin seconded Chris Hardee’s amendment to Recommendation # 7a. Chris Telesca spoke against this amendment to Recommendation # 7a.

Wayne Goodwin spoke in favor of the motion to amend Recommendation #7a. He said it is important to pass this amendment to prevent any inconsistencies with the overall recommendation.

Benjamin Spencer raised a Point of Order. He requested that everyone say “ State Executive Committee” instead of “SEC.” No ruling was made on his Point of Order.

Cliff Moone was recognized for a Point of Clarification.

NCDP First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick moved to close debate on Chris Hardee’s amendment. Tyler Beal seconded the motion.

Senator McKissick’s motion to close debate on Chris Hardee’s amendment to Recommendation # 7a was passed by a vote of 178 to 22.

The SEC then approved Chris Hardee’s amendment to Recommendation #7a on a vote of 162 to 26.

Recommendation #7a to establish a State Finance Committee was passed by a vote of 191 to 11.

NCDP Second Vice Chair Matt Hughes who is also Chair of the Platform and Resolutions Committee, brought forward the report of the P&R committee.

Pam Genant made a motion to pass the Platform & Resolutions report as a whole. Randell Hersom seconded the motion.

Rich Elkins made a motion to pull Resolution #3. His motion was ruled out of order. Rich then spoke against voting on the resolutions as a whole.

Nazim Uddin, Matt Hughes, Toni Mingo, and Robert Hyman spoke in favor of voting on all the resolutions as a whole.

Angela Bridgman spoke against voting on all the resolutions as a whole.

The SEC then voted to approve all resolutions as a whole by a vote of 175 to 31.

Angela Bridgman made a motion to bring a resolution honoring Janice Covington to the floor. Jeff Rose and Ginger Walker seconded the motion. The SEC voted to bring the Janice Covington resolution to the floor by a vote of 182 to 9.

The SEC then voted to approve the resolution honoring Janice Covington by a vote of 187 to 3.

Jeff Rose moved to adjourn the meeting. Angela Bridgman seconded the motion.

The SEC voted to adjourn the meeting on a vote of 177 to 11.

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