

MINUTES
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM, SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023
STEWART THEATRE IN TALLEY STUDENT CENTER
NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

These Minutes were written based on the assumption that all SEC Members have saved their SEC Meeting Packets which contained all documents considered at this meeting.

State Chair Anderson Clayton called the meeting to order and gave a warm welcome to everyone attending by Zoom and in person.

She recognized the LGBTQPlus Caucus President Tyler Beall. She then recognized all Elected Officials who were present.

Parliamentarian Vinod Thomas read the NCDP Statement of Inclusion.

The State Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the North Carolina flag.

The Quorum Report showed the following:

Current Number of SEC Members	- 581
Number Needed for a Quorum	- 223
Number Present Today	- 367

Therefore, a Quorum was declared to be present.

The Parliamentarian presented the Rules of the Day. He also presented an amendment to Rule 7-A which would change the rules to allow all Affiliated Organizations to be considered at one time rather than individually.

A motion to approve this amendment was made by a SEC Member who did not say their name and it was seconded by another SEC Member who did not say their name. This motion was approved.

Dorian Palmer made a motion to adopt the Rules as amended. Cliff Moone seconded the motion.

Cliff Moone stated that SEC should say their name before they speak. The State Chair said she will ask for names.

Kelly Ann Rogers made a motion to close debate on the Rules and Diane Tyndall seconded her motion. The motion to close debate was passed by the SEC.

The meeting then approved the Rules as amended.

The Agenda was then considered. Vinod Thomas proposed that Agenda items 11 and 12 be switched. Chris Hardee made a motion to accept the Agenda as amended and Tyler Beall seconded his motion. This motion to accept the Agenda as amended was approved.

The following NCDP Officers made reports:

-First Vice Chair Jonah Garson

-Second Vice Chair Dr. Kimberly Hardy. She announced that two new awards of \$1,500.00 each will be given in honor of the late Conen Morgan.

-Third Vice Chair Elijah King reported on his activities including his trips to speak in 21 different counties.

-State Chair Anderson Clayton reported that the new Officers have raised more than \$700,000.00 and have recruited many new Sustaining Donors for the Operational Budget. Much of this money will be used to hire 14 fulltime Regional Field Organizers.

State Auditor Beth Wood, Judge Allison Riggs of the NC Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court Judge Anita Earls addressed the SEC.

The State Chair presented a potted plant to Julia Buckner as a way to welcome Julia back to work after an extended medical leave.

Anderson then recognized North Carolina's DNC Members.

The State Chair announced that NCDP Secretary Melvin Williams was attending this meeting virtually and that he had been on the phone since 9:30AM.

Matt Hughes presented the Selection Plan for North Carolina Delegates to the 2024 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Questions were asked by Nick Long, Leslie Cohen, and an unidentified

Female Member. These questions were answered by Matt Hughes.

Chris Hardee made a motion to approve the Delegate Selection Plan. His motion was seconded by Holly Ann Rogers. This motion was passed.

Judge John Arrowood of the NC Court of Appeals spoke about the statewide judicial races that will be held in 2024.

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Plan of Organization Review Committee Chair Vinod Thomas presented his committee's report.

Recommendation 1:

0.05 PUBLICIZE MEETINGS. The committee recommended that the following words be added to 0.05 of the POO: "To that end, party leadership at the state, district, county, and precinct level shall have the flexibility to offer either partial or fully virtual meeting options for all required meetings."

Recommendation 2:

0.04 CODE OF CONDUCT. The committee recommended that a sentence shall say "Violation of the Code of Conduct is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including removal from office or position with the North Carolina Democratic Party."

Recommendation 3: (The keeping of historical records.)

4.10 The following addition shall be added to the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director and the staff of the state party: '14. Officially assign a staff member the responsibility of archiving all important historical documents of the NCDP in a historical digital database and additionally, as desired, at the NC Historical Archives in Raleigh.'

Recommendation 4: Approval of amendments to Sections 3.01 and 3.07 that affect congressional district that are located entirely within one county.

Recommendation 5: An amendment to Alternative Plan of Organization for Wake County concerning the Officers of the Wake County Executive Committee.

Recommendation 6: An Addendum to Alternative Plan of Organization for Mecklenburg County about “5.02 Reporting and Challenging the Vote.”

Randy Hersham asked if Recommendation 5 will apply to Davidson County. He also asked if Davidson County can have cluster precinct meetings. Vinod Thomas replied that these issues will be brought up at the next SEC meeting.

Eileen Paroff asked if Section 2.03(2) should follow diversity rules. Vinod replied that this section needs to be reviewed.

Janice Robertson asked about the appointing of Treasurers. George Greene, Nick Long, and Cliff Moore spoke on this matter.

Damien Gu asked if all meetings will now be required in person. Vinod Thomas said that in many cases virtual meetings are a barrier for some people. He said a virtual requirement can be a barrier.

Chris Hardee made a motion to adopt all of the recommendations made by the POO Review Committee. Vinod explained that the POO Review Committee automatically made an adoption motion after the recommendations were explained and questioned. He said this motion required a 2/3 vote to pass.

Soren Pederson asked if debate could be held on all POO recommendations.

Tyler Beall made a motion to close debate and Nazim Uddin seconded his motion. This motion was approved.

Tyler Beall then made a motion to approve all recommendations of the POO Review Committee. This motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

State Chair Anderson Clayton called the SEC meeting back into session at 1:41PM.

She welcomed Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes who delivered a dynamic talk and said he was looking forward to being the Keynote Speaker at that evening's Unity Banquet.

The State Chair recognized and saluted Barbara Faison of Sampson County who had just returned from New Orleans where she was elected President of the National Federation of Democratic Women. SEC Members gave Barbara two ovations.

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Ed Binanay, President of the Affiliated Organizations presented the report of his committee whose mission was to recommend which AOs should be granted a charter and determine which ones were not recommended. Ed began by recognizing all AOs and their Presidents.

Randy Voller reminded all AOs that they must have a bank account if they have \$1,000 or more in their treasury and they must file State Board of Elections reports.

Ed Binanay reported that his committee had determined that the following AOs have met all requirements and they should be chartered:

Asian American Pacific Islander	Interfaith
Democratic Women of NC	Progressive Democrats
African American Caucus	Transgender
Labor	Hispanic
Young Democrats	College Democrats
NCATD	LGBTQ Plus
Veterans	Senior Democrats
Disability	

Tyler Beall made a motion to accept the above-listed AOS. His motion was seconded by Karen Gray.

A man who did not state his name wanted to debate this motion. The Chair ruled him out of order.

Then Carl Newman made a motion to close debate and approve the 15 AOs listed above. Leslie Cohen seconded his motion.

Cliff Moone raised a Point of Order. He said that debate was being cut off too frequently at this meeting and that the meeting should be more open to debate.

The motion to cut off debate and approve the above listed AOs was passed.

The SEC then voted to approve the charters of all 15 AOs listed above.

The meeting then moved to discussion of the following three AOs for which approval was not recommended for approval by Ed Binanay's committee:

Coastal

Environmental and Climate

Small Business

Mr. Binanay's committee recommended that these three groups become a committee, not an auxiliary nor a caucus.

Stephanie Goslen, VP of the Environmental and Climate group agreed that group should become a committee and she volunteered to chair that committee.

Leslie Cohen asked where can we see a written account of the activities of all AOs and what they have done? Ed Binanay offered to post this information.

Braxton Becoate said that the people who are appointed to these committees should be people who have already shown interest in these issues.

Andrea Crook said turning the Environmental Caucus into a committee would be "a slap in the face." She said this group should be given another chance to develop a caucus.

Ryan Jenkins made a motion to establish the Environmental Caucus as a committee, not a caucus. The following people spoke about this motion: Stephanie Goslen, Ruth Stentz, Leslie Cohen,

Eileen Paroff, and Jennifer Roberts. Ruth Stentz reminded the SEC that they must follow the party's rules.

Tyler Beall made a motion to close debate and Ryan Jenkins seconded the motion. This motion to close debate was approved. The SEC then voted to establish the Environment group as a committee, not as a caucus.

Soren Pederson made a motion to move the Coastal caucus to the Conditionally Approved group. This would give the group 45 days to make improvements and can ask for 30 more days.

Ben Spencer, Aiden Hennessy, Tyler Beall, and Diane Tyndall spoke on this matter. Diane read a statement from Tina Rodriguez of Carteret County who was attending today's meeting virtually.

Armin Jancis of Duplin County made a Point of Order as he stated that the meeting was not following the five-minute limit on debates.

Dan Ready said it was time to make this decision. The SEC then voted "Aye" thereby moving the Coastal Caucus onto the "Conditionally Approved" list giving them 45 days to take required actions.

The State Chair admonished the Members to "calm down" and "obey the Rules of Order."

Tyler Beall and Soren Pederson discussed what are the conditions that the Coastal Caucus must meet.

A female SEC Member who did not say her name asked that all future motions be written so Members could more easily understand them.

The meeting moved to discussion of the Small Business Caucus. Ed Binanay's evaluation committee had recommended that this group not be approved as a caucus.

Jesse Goslen made a motion to approve it as a Caucus. Ryan Jenkins seconded his motion.

Ed Binanay said the supporters of this caucus should let his evaluation committee know why it should be approved.

Phillip Cooper opposed kicking out the Small Business Caucus.

Ruth Stentz of Forsyth County reminded the SEC that it must follow the organization's rules.

Randy Voller and John (didn't say last name clearly) spoke in favor of making Small Business a committee.

The SEC then voted against the motion for Small Business to be a caucus. It will become a committee.

Ed Binanay then presented the evaluation committee's recommendation that the follow three groups not be accepted as AOs:

Rural Caucus

Native American Caucus

Jewish American Caucus (a new caucus)

Ed reported that two groups have applied to be recognized as a Jewish American Caucus but neither group has met the basic requirements to become a caucus.

Brandon Combs made a motion to give approval to the Rural Caucus. It was not seconded.

Tyler Beall made a motion to give conditional approval to the Rural Caucus. Ryan Jenkins seconded his motion. The speakers on this motion were Dan Ready, Jesse Goslen, Chris Hardee, and Vickie Boyer.

Tyler Beall made a motion to end debate. Ryan Jenkins seconded his motion. The motion to close debate was approved. It was then ruled that the Rural Caucus had received conditional approval.

The SEC moved to the Native American Caucus.

Nazim Uddin made a motion to give conditional approval of the Native American caucus. It was seconded by Kelvin Stallings.

Nazim Uddin made a motion to end debate which was seconded by someone who did not say their name.

The SEC then voted to give conditional approval to the Native American Caucus.

JEWISH CAUCUS

Ed Binanay informed the SEC that two different groups have sought to establish themselves as the Jewish American Caucus of the NCDP. He reported that the group headed by Leslie Carey has withdrawn their application and have become part of the Interfaith Caucus of the NCDP.

He said a group headed by Matt Sadinsky is still seeking SEC approval but that his evaluation committee recommended against approval of that group because their formation meeting was not open to all people of the Jewish faith, it would not allow all people of the Jewish faith to join, it has not held an open election of officers, and it has issues with the national Democratic Party's platform.

The following people spoke on this matter: Rev. Paul McAllister, Cliff Moone, Jonah Garson, an unidentified male Member, Tyler Beall, Leslie Cohen, Nadia _____ of Guilford County, and Dan Ready.

Elli Klein asked for a Point of Personal Privilege. The State Chair denied her request.

Tyler Beall said all details on this matter should be posted on the big screen on stage.

Parliamentarian Vinod Thomas explained that the Rules of the Day authorize the State Chair to end the meeting at any time now that the specified ending time of 4:00PM has been reached.

The SEC then voted to give conditional approval to the group of Jewish Democrats headed by Matt Sadinsky.

Sarah Anderson of Johnston County made a point of clarification to be sure everyone one knows that the Democratic Women of North Carolina is an auxiliary, not a caucus.

NCDP Second Vice Chair Dr. Kimberly Hardy expressed congratulations to Ed Binanay, his committee, and Jeff Rose for their dedicated work on evaluating the groups.

RESOLUTIONS

The State Chair called Platform and Resolutions Chair Floyd McKissick to the podium. Floyd asked the audience to join him in applause for Ryan Jenkins for his work on this committee. He also thanked Nazim Uddin who received a round of applause. Floyd then praised Jonah Garson and Ryan Jenkins. Floyd said the committee met for 14.5 hours. He reported that he and Ryan had devoted more than 60 hours to this committee.

Nazim Uddin and Jonah Garson spoke about the resolutions.

A female Member (who did not say her name) asked if these resolutions will be put into the Party's platform? Floyd replied that these resolutions will be considered when the platform is written.

An unidentified Member asked if it was important to pass these resolutions today. Floyd replied that it was important.

Richard Fox said that Israel was left out of section 4.2. Floyd said Israelis should be included in this section.

A female Member used extremely vulgar language to describe the resolutions. (Secretary's Note: It is highly unusual for filth and vulgarity to be used in SEC meeting which are usually conducted with civility and decent language.)

Rev. McAllen spoke.

Ruth Stentz said the Middle East is so complicated that we can not make a difference.

An unidentified female Member said that in some cases the same issues are mentioned in 5 or 6 resolutions. Ryan said he had "screwed up" on that.

Jennifer Roberts said some resolutions dealt with local issues like paving certain sidewalks.

Linda Brinkley of Wake County pointed to the section of resolutions on International Relations saying many of them are not consistent with each other. Ryan Jenkins pointed out that all of these resolutions were passed unanimously at district conventions.

A motion was made to debate all the resolutions as a whole.

Randy Hersham of Davidson County said he opposed the motions because there was no resolution about income inequality.

A male Member said he supports all resolutions including paving sidewalks.

Leslie Cohen made an alternate motion to pass all resolutions except: 1.1, 1.6, 2.15, and 2.17.

The Parliamentarian ruled that a vote on the entire package must be taken before any amendment can be voted upon.

Soren Pederson said amendments are additions, they don't override what has already been done.

Rebecca _____ of Harnett County said she disapproved all resolutions. She said the party needs to train Members to write resolutions properly.

Julie Puckett of Buncombe County praised the Resolutions Committee.

Eileen Paroff said she was for the resolutions but the resolution writers need to be given more guidance.

The SEC then voted to accept all 91 resolutions as a package.

Tyler Beall introduced three more resolutions. Ben Spencer seconded the motion to approve these three resolutions.

The State Chair ruled that these three resolutions are out of order because there is not enough time to consider them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tyler Beall announced an upcoming organizing meeting.

Michael Careccia promoted the "Dems After Dark" event which will be held at the State Headquarters after tonight's Unity Gala.

Jeff Rose said that new Officers will be elected at the upcoming July 11th Zoom call meeting of the Association of County Chairs.

Jonah Garson praised the ongoing work of the County To County organization (www.C2CNC.org.)

Julia Buckner promoted the State Convention of the Democratic Women of North Carolina which will be held in Charlotte on September 22nd-24th.

Damien Gu offered free “HI CHEWS” to everyone. (HI CHEWS are like Asian Starbursts.)

An unidentified female Member told the crowd that there is going to be a canvass in Tricia Cotham’s district to educate the voters about how much damage Tricia has done to them.

Ryan Jenkins made a motion to adjourn. Tyler Beall seconded his motion. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48PM.

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