



Gaston County Republican Party Executive Committee Official Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2015

Hillbilly's BBQ - 930 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia

Chairman Anne Huggins called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. and an agenda was provided. Steve Amos gave the invocation and Lee Ann MacMillan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Secretary: The Minutes from the July meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee and were available at the meeting. The Minutes were approved by acclamation without objection.

Treasurer: Treasurer Edward Dunlap gave a report on the finances of the party for the month of July. He submitted copies of his report to the Chairman and Secretary, which reported the opening balance of the General Operating Fund on July 1, 2015 as \$4,471.75. There was income of \$1,190.00, expenses of \$312.74, transfers to savings of \$4,500.62, and online fees of \$15.13, resulting in an ending balance of \$833.26 on July 31, 2015. With transfers in of \$4,500.62 and \$0.89 in interest received, there is \$20,094.88 in the Money Market (Savings) Fund, bringing the total operating cash to \$25,928.14. There is \$5,100.00 in the building fund.

Chairman:

Chairman Anne Huggins recognized current and former elected officials and recognized candidates present who were running for municipal offices. She said that she had recently spent time with Congressman McHenry and Brett Keeter in Belmont at the Congressman was visiting area businesses. She thanked Barry and Pat Smith for their support in hosting a fundraiser for Lt. Gov. Dan Forrest and said that the event was successful and well attended. She called for a renewed commitment to recruit, vet, and elect Republican candidates; to recruit and equip new volunteers; and to raise money to support the GOP, locally and across the state.

CLUB REPORTS

GCRW: Juanita Wagner announced that the National Republican Women's Convention would be September 10th in Phoenix, AZ. She also announced that the GCRW were participating in a program to send holiday cards to active military and veterans, and asked members to support the program by filling out a postcard. She announced that the next meeting would be Sept. 17th at Jackson's Cafeteria with School Board Member Dot Cherry as the featured speaker.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:

Commissioner Joe Carpenter thanked Chairman Huggins for her willingness to serve and urged members to support her in the quest to keep Gaston County "red and in the black." He said that the County Commissioners were awaiting a report from the adoption committee, which would give recommendations on how to amend the adoption program for the county. He also mentioned that Commissioner Tracy Philbeck and refused all reimbursements from the adoption program and that the healthcare vote had been officially rescinded.

TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPORT:

Joe Bost gave a report from Congressman Patrick McHenry's office. He said that the Congressman was in the middle of his annual Town Hall circuit across the District. Some of the common themes heard from constituents included support for fighting to end the Iran "trade agreement" and defunding Planned Parenthood. Congressman McHenry has said he is committed to doing both.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

School Board Member Catherine Bailey Roberts reported that the Board was in budget mode, but that they were waiting on the state legislature to finalize funding for the year. She also reported that Rhyne Elementary School was officially closed, and that the Board was waiting on assessments and drawings for the new schools. There were 20 elementary positions open throughout the county, and she noted that many teachers were leaving for other counties or leaving teaching altogether.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

Brett Keeter introduced Craig Collins as the guest speaker for the meeting. A former Gaston GOP and 10th District Chairman, Craig Collins was a candidate for NCGOP Chairman in 2015.

Craig said that he enjoyed running across the state and meeting new people. He said that he was proud of Gaston and Lincoln counties for their unanimous support in the election. He said that there are a growing number of people who do not support the Republican candidates or the party, and that we as the party faithful must do our part to make the party stronger, and to focus on the good things about the party. He announced that NCGOP Director Todd Poole had resigned and that he would be sorely missed. He also said that there would be a retention election for Justice Bob Edmunds in 2016, and that we must do our part to educate voters on the importance of the election and continue to support Justice Edmunds.

Chairman Anne Huggins presented Craig Collins with the Chairman's Spotlight award for August 2015, in recognition of his support to the Gaston GOP.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

Following announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm without objection.



Jonathan L. Fletcher, Secretary

Next meeting: September 14, 2015 at Hillbilly's BBQ, 930 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia. 6:00 - Dinner, 7:00 - Meeting