

Wilson County Democratic Party
P. O. Box 7034 Wilson, North Carolina 27895
Virtual County Executive Committee (CEC) Meeting
December 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM

This virtual meeting was hosted on ZOOM. Chair Jim Hawley welcomed everyone who logged in, and called the meeting to order. Ann Barnes offered some Inspirational thoughts and led a moment of silence. George Revis led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jim Hawley then made a roll call. The roll call established that 25 CEC members were logged into the ZOOM event, which exceeded the required forty percent of the membership, so the quorum was established. The ZOOM participant count was as high as 48.

Chair Hawley then presented the Agenda, which was adopted without objection. Also, the minutes from the previous CEC meeting held on August 8, 2020, were presented and approved without objection.

Treasurer Tom Sallenger then presented the Treasurer's Report.

1. Balance on hand in checkbook as of November 28, 2020	\$5,101.57
2. Receipts since last report	4,500.00
3. Total receipts since last report (1+2)	9,601.57
4. Total disbursements since last report	(1,326.51)
5. Balance on hand in checkbook as of December 15, 2020	\$8,275.06

Next, Nancy Hawley, President of the Democratic Women of Wilson County, gave an update and report from DWWC. That organization recently met and elected officers for the next term. Officers include Beth Punte and Nancy Hawley, acting as Co-Presidents, Dalphine Perry as First Vice President, Carroll Gaissert as Second Vice President, Dorothy Jarman as Third Vice President, Gloria Vazquez as Secretary, and Ann Martin as Treasurer. She also reported on the DWWC's Power of the Pen Project, in which personal handwritten letters were sent to 750 of the more than 4,000 registered Democratic Wilson County women who did not vote in the 2016 election.

Zette McArn, President of the African American Caucus of Wilson County, offered a brief report and good wishes. Catherine Leake, President of the Young Democrats of Wilson County, also reported on the recent chartering of that organization, and talked about future plans for that group.

The next order of business was the report of the Nominating Committee. Committee Chair Willie Williams gave a brief summary of the Committee's work in recommending Joyah Bulluck as the candidate for the vacant First Vice Chair position. Following that report, Chair Hawley asked if there were further nominations from the floor. Mr. Wayne Willingham, Third Vice Chair of the Party, nominated Catherine Leake. With no further nominations from the floor, Chair Hawley asked each of the nominees to address the CEC. Both made presentations. Following the presentations by the candidates, Chair Hawley led a roll call vote, with voting CEC members calling out their ballots. The tally sheet was presented on screen, and CEC members could observe votes as they were cast. A total of 130 votes were cast. Joyah Bulluck had 69 votes, and Catherine Leake had 61. Joyah Bulluck will complete the unexpired term of First Vice Chair, which will end with the Annual Convention in April of 2021. Chair Hawley thanked the candidates for their work, and congratulated the winner.

Next, the resignation of the current Secretary of the Wilson Democratic Party was presented. After a description of the duties of the Secretary, Mr. Hawley asked if there were nominations from the floor for a candidate to fill that vacancy. After a call for volunteers was suggested, Craig M. Barnes offered to volunteer for the position. Mayor Carlton Stevens then nominated Mr. Barnes, and several people seconded the nomination. Mr. Barnes then addressed the CEC, introduced himself, and talked about what he could bring to the position. He responded to several questions. After those responses, Chair Hawley inquired if there were further nominations. With no further nominations and without objection, Mr. Barnes was elected to fill the Secretary vacancy by acclamation.

Zette McArn, Chair of Precinct N and President of the African American Caucus, then addressed the CEC with concerns about Party processes, specifically the make-up and duration of the Nominating Committee. Chair Hawley offered some thoughts about the Party being at the very beginning of the next cycle for a two-year term, with all six officers to be elected at the Annual Convention scheduled for April of 2021, commenting that it was time to look at everything and consider changes and improvements. There was more general discussion, and plans were made to consult the Plan of Organization and follow up before the next CEC meeting.

Senator Don Davis, who has provided extensive assistance, support, and training in the Plan of Organization, including specific workshops for Wilson County Party Officers in the past, was logged into the meeting. He provided the following insights as a beginning point.

Message from Senator Davis:

I am glad to address the nominating committee matter.

Section 12.13 of the North Carolina Democratic Party Plan of Organization (the "Plan of Organization") permits nominating committees and clarifies that there shall be an opportunity for nominations from the floor. The Plan of Organization does not prescribe how to implement the nominating committee; therefore, Robert's Rules of Order, as the parliamentary authority takes effect.

Section 46 of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised "RONR" (Page 433) states: "The nominating committee should be elected by the organization wherever possible, or else by its executive board. ...in an organized society the president should not appoint this committee or be a member of it--ex officio or otherwise." It also states: "A nominating committee is automatically discharged when its report is formally presented to the assembly, although if one of the nominees withdraws before the election, the committee is revived and should meet immediately to agree upon another nomination if there is time (RONR, Page 435).

In summary, the county executive committee or officers when it is not in session should (with the exception of the chair) appoint members of a nominating committee and it should be discharged once its report is presented unless a nominee withdraws before the election. Lastly, any specific procedures the county executive committee wishes to adopt for selecting a nominating committee or providing directives to the nominating committee for execution may be done via standing and/or special rules.

I hope this is helpful.

Respectfully,

Don Davis

With no further business and the agenda completed, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:45 PM