

# **GASTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

June 11, 2012

Chairman Craig Collins called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Steve Amos gave the invocation, and John Tedesco led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **OFFICERS REPORTS**

**Secretary:** The Minutes from the April meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee and were available at the meeting. The Minutes were approved as presented.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

John Tedesco, candidate for NC State Superintendent for Public Instruction, discussed his background and qualifications for Superintendent. He is currently serving on the Wake County School Board, and is President of the NC Center for Educational Reform. He most recently served as the Chief Development Officer for Big Brothers Big Sisters. For more information [www.Tedesco4kids.com](http://www.Tedesco4kids.com).

**Treasurer:** Interim Treasurer Edward Dunlap reported a balance on May 31, 2012 of \$17,607.45.

## **CHAIRMAN:**

Thank you to Sharkey's Restaurant for continuing to host our meetings. Please thank them by enjoying dinner at the restaurant. Don't forget to tip the servers.

Please sign in on the Attendance list provided by our Secretary, Pat Smith.

The NC GOP Convention on June 2, 2012 was well attended with 1200 delegates. Gaston County had 27 delegates attending. Mary Frances Forrester was narrowly defeated for National Committeewoman, but was wholeheartedly supported by Gaston County. Most issues were hotly contested by approximately 400 delegates who opposed the GOP leadership and the GOP platform. The majority prevailed on most issues.

At Convention, it was stressed that one of the most important NC elections is for the Newby Seat on the NC Supreme Court. Justice Paul Newby must be re-elected to maintain a conservative Court. We have to get name recognition out for him in Gaston County.

Obama has 2 paid staffers in their office in Gastonia and are already working the phone banks.

## **CLUB REPORTS**

**GCRW Day Club:** Pennie Thrower announced the next meeting will be a covered dish lunch on July 19, 2012 at noon at the Club House of Stone Water Bay, Village Glen Dr., Mt Holly. Ten members attended the NC GOP Convention on June 2. The members will help staff Headquarters this summer.

**GCRW Evening Club:** Barbara Hammerle reported they will not meet this summer, but will be contacting volunteers to staff Headquarters.

**Young Republicans:** Chairman Daniel Ware and two other members flew to Wisconsin to get out the vote in the recall election of the Governor. Twelve YRs went to Arizona to campaign in their primary. They met with Speaker Tillis at three day Round Table Discussion in Raleigh on Jobs and College Tuition. The Area YRs are trying to raise \$30,000 to combat liberal voters in Mecklenburg Co. They will meet with the Cleveland County group on June 16, at Cherokee Tavern with speaker Tony Gurley, candidate for Lt. Governor.

**Belmont Abbey College Republicans:** Nick Haywood is the Chairman.

## **COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

Commissioner Donnie Loftis reported that they have been working with the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce to enhance long range planning. They recently held a Round Table Discussion with Veteran's organizations. They have re-instated a Veteran's Affairs Director. The Annual Budget will be on next week's agenda. It should be a difficult meeting. Please come and participate.

## **TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPORT:**

Madeline Keeter invited everyone to a Breakfast for Rep. Patrick McHenry on June 6, in Denver, NC with Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers. Also, the McHenry campaign will be very active this summer as he has a Democrat opponent, Patsy Keever from Asheville, in November.

Neil Moore, Chairman of the 10<sup>th</sup> District, announced that Pat McCrory would like to hold events with small business owners. If anyone is interested please let him know.

Brett Keeter said that Rep. and Mrs. Patrick McHenry have moved to their lake home in Denver, NC and have moved their voter registration to Lincoln County.

## **GASTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Craig announced we will move into GOP Headquarters on June 23, 2012 at 9:00am. Bring cleaning supplies to get ready for opening on July 9, 2012. Barbara Hammerle will be Headquarter Coordinator. Volunteers will work shifts 6 days a week from 10-1, 1-4, 4-7. We need donations of a refrigerator, microwave, copier, computer and more tables. Headquarters is located in the York Building, 155 York St, Gastonia. The entrance is in the back on the first floor, with parking in the back. Phone number is 704 923 2095.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Craig Collins nominated Edward Dunlap as the new Treasurer to fill in the unexpired term of Chad McGowan. He was elected unanimously.

Brett Keeter moved that we spend up to \$100 to dry clean our flags and fix broken flag poles; approved by voice vote.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pat Smith announced that she and Barry will be the Volunteer Co-Chairs of the Romney Campaign in Gaston County.

Please sign up to join the Leadership Committee.

Gastonia City Councilman James Gallagher discussed the City's option to buy downtown property and lease it for retail space. A discussion followed the meeting's adjournment.

June 19, 2012, there will be a fundraiser for Pat McCrory at the City Club.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

**Next meeting: July 9, 2012 at Sharkey's, 141 W. Main St., Gastonia. 6:00 - Dinner, 7:00 - Meeting**

Respectfully submitted,

Pat C. Smith  
Secretary

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|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Locke Bell        | Alice Brown         | Chad Brown          | Jeff Bryson        |
| Cynthia Carr      | Craig Collins       | Alfred Current      | Edward Dunlap      |
| James Gallagher   | Barbara Hammerle    | Dennis Hammerle     | Michael Harrington |
| Brett Keeter      | Madeline Keeter     | Donnie Loftis       | Craig Collins      |
| Lee Ann MacMillan | Neil Moore          | Tracy Philbeck      | Pat Smith          |
| W. Barry Smith    | Daniel Ware         | Jason Williams      | Jack Brown         |
| Neil Chastain     | Deborah Dunlap      | Charmaine Gallagher | Conrad Pogorzelski |
| Robert Pope       | Erik Soderstrom     | Danny Sparrow       | Pennie Thrower     |
| Gary Thrower      | Christine Willhauck | Randy Austin        | Michael Madison    |
| Lisa Hargitt      | Steve Amos          |                     |                    |
|                   |                     |                     |                    |