

GASTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 12, 2012

Chairman Craig Collins called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Mickey Price gave the invocation, and Judge-elect Pennie Thrower led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OFFICERS REPORTS

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

Treasurer: Treasurer Edward Dunlap reported a balance on October 1, 2012 of \$21,513.45. We had an income of \$8,600.09, disbursements of \$4308.12, and a donation of \$9,320.00 to NCGOP for voter guides. The balance on October 31, 2012 was \$16,485.42.

CHAIRMAN:

Craig thanked everyone for all their work on the campaign. Hundreds of Republicans helped man the phones, work the polls and help at headquarters. We made six times the phone calls and seventy times the door to door visits as in 2008. We really appreciate Margaret Beveridge at the Gastonia Victory Center and Graham and Gordon who led the door knocking teams. The Gaston County GOP mailed out 35,000 voter guides and passed out over 20,000 guides at early voting and on Election Day. Senator Santorum recorded a robo-call that went out to 15,000 households. Neil Moore and Edward Dunlap set up local radio ads that were read by Tracy Philbeck. We sponsored booths at four festivals in Stanley, Dallas, Belmont and Lowell. A special thanks to our Township Chairs and Precinct Chairmen.

Gaston County GOP achieved their goals. Republicans voted 58% straight ticket with Mitt Romney achieving 62% of Gaston's votes. Pat McCrory gained over 8,000 more votes than in 2008. We pushed Justice Newby to 60%, helping to keep the NC Supreme Court with a conservative majority. The NC House and Senate now have a veto proof majority of Republicans.

Congratulations to all our local winners: Congressman Patrick McHenry, NC Senator Kathy Harrington, NC Senator David Curtis, Representative John Torbett, Representative Dana Bumgardner, Representative Kelly Hastings, County Commissioners Allen Fraley, Joe Carpenter, Jason Williams and Mickey Price, Register of Deeds Susan Lockridge, Judges John Greenlee, Angela Hoyle, James Jackson, Pennie Thrower, and School Board Members Jeff Ramsey, Kenny Lutz, and Chris Howell. Also, we thank the candidates who did not win this time and wish them luck in future elections.

We are already looking forward to the 2014 election. We can make a difference by electing a new Republican US Senator. As the majority party at the NC Board of Elections we will need to double our number of precinct judges.

The members of the 2013 Nominating Committee are Chairman Tracy Philbeck, Vice Chairman John Torbett, Jim Gallagher, Jason Williams and Chad Brown.

The Lincoln Day Dinner Committee will be chaired by Madeline Keeter with Lee Ann MacMillan and Steve Amos as members.

Please pick up any campaign signs and bring them to Sharkey's for storage.

The race for Lt. Governor is being contested by Dan Forest's opponent. Brett Keeter is on the committee to oversee the voter canvas in Gaston County.

John Torbett thanked Craig for his leadership in this election. He received a standing ovation.

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.

CLUB REPORTS

GCRW Day Club: Jan Wright announced the next meeting will be on November 20, 2012 at noon at the City Club of Gastonia. Commissioner Tracy Philbeck will speak on the State of our County, and they will elect new officers for 2013. In October, the Club donated \$350 to the Gaston GOP to pay for additional voter guides. Five members attended the NCFRW meeting in Greensboro on November 10th. The NCFRW donated \$2500 to support Dan Forest's election challenge. An additional \$1500 was donated by individual women at this meeting.

GCRW Evening Club: Craig thanked Barbara Hammerle for her work as Chairman of the GOP Headquarters.

Young Republicans: Chairman Daniel Ware announced they will meet in January. He attended the State Convention last weekend.

Belmont Abbey College Republicans: Chairman Nick Haywood said at their meeting 150 students attended with 80 new members.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Mickey Price said the Board of Commissioners thanked Congresswoman Sue Myrick, NC Senator Chris Carney and Commissioner Donnie Loftis for their service.

TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPORT:

Madeline Keeter thanked everyone for helping with the McHenry campaign and coming to the McHenry Victory Party. On December 15, 2012 they will host a Christmas Breakfast at 9:00am at the Gastonia Convention Center. Chairman Neil Moore said the NCGOP was recruiting volunteers to serve on the 2013 Convention Committees.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Frances Forrester donated \$5000 to the Gaston County GOP building fund in honor of NC Senator James Forrester. She will

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match other donations. Jim Gallagher volunteered to look for potential properties. Craig reminded us to keep this fund in mind for memorials and other honorariums. Edward Dunlap said to designate “building fund” on donation checks. There are no contribution limits and businesses can contribute.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Margaret Beveridge thanked everyone for their help at the Victory Center. North Carolina was the only swing state that turned red.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next meeting: December 10, 2012 at Sharkey’s, 141 W. Main St., Gastonia. 6:00 - Dinner, 7:00 - Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Pat C. Smith, Secretary

Thomas Brawley	Jeff Bryson	Neil Chastain	Edward Dunlap
Jonathan Fletcher	Mary F. Forrester	James Gallagher	Nicolas Haywood
Brett Keeter	Madeline Keeter	Michael Lands	Lee Ann MacMillan
Neil Moore	Daniel Ware	Pat C. Smith	W. Barry Smith
Craig Collins	Jason Williams	Jan Wright	Mickey Price
John Torbett	Viddia Torbett	Cory Bryson	Scott Attaway
Margaret Beveridge	Ina Jones	Robert Pope	Pennie Thrower
Gary Thrower	James Hughes	Kay Marquez	Rebecca Schwindeman
Dana Bumgardner	Kelsey Harrington	Lauren Bumgardner	Chris Dean