

GASTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 8, 2013

Chairman Don Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ervin Sims gave the invocation and Edward Dunlap led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Secretary: The Minutes from the June 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 June 1, 2013 of \$21,308.63. We had an income of \$100.00 and disbursements of \$150.00, plus bank service charges of \$14.00. The balance on June 30th was \$21,244.63. There is \$5,000.00 in the Building Fund.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Grant noted that the kitchen at Munchies Restaurant was being remodeled and as a result there would be no food service available. He thanked the Munchies staff for continuing to open their space for us despite this setback. Drinks and snacks were provided for members.

CLUB REPORTS

GCRW Day Club:

GCRW Evening Club:

Young Republicans: Cory Bryson announced that the North Carolina Federation of Young Professional Republicans would be holding their annual convention on July 20th in Wilmington. He also said that he expects the Gaston YR chapter to get its new charter approved at the convention. To help raise awareness for the newly led group, the Gaston YRs will be attending the Gastonia Grizzlies game on Thursday August 1st. The YRs will have a table with information on their group and will host some activities, including a dunking booth.

Belmont Abbey College Republicans:

COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Chad Brown noted that there had been a lot going on with the Commission over the last month. He said that the Commissioners had run into several differences of opinion with former County Manager Winters and that they reluctantly accepted his resignation. The Commissioners are hopeful that this will bring about a different, better mindset for the rest of the year.

TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPORT:

Brett Keeter reminded everyone that August would be work month for the 10th District and that Congressman McHenry would be hosting a town hall meeting in Gaston County. The meeting will be held in the Myers Auditorium at Gaston College in Dallas on Monday, August 12th.

10th District Chairman Craig Collins noted that he had been attending several regular meetings since the state convention and the election of the new state chairman. He said that the state party had been listening to the many complaints about the convention this year and that they were taking suggestions under advisement. He also noted that feedback was appreciated and that we could contact Mary Frances Forrester who is on the convention committee as a representative from the 10th District.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

GUEST SPEAKER:

Madeline Keeter introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Sarah Curry. Sarah is the Director of Fiscal Policy Studies at the John Locke Foundation. She was born and raised in Dallas and has worked on several campaigns throughout North Carolina, beginning with Congressman McHenry's State House and Congressional campaigns and serving as the campaign manager for Senator Kathy Harrington's 2010 campaign.

Sarah Spoke on the state budget, including how it is formulated and how it is currently being dealt with in the North Carolina General Assembly. She spoke about the debate on tax reform, how it has impacted budget negotiations, and public opinion in relation to the media's display of events. She also informed everyone of the many resources that the John Locke Foundation has to offer, including free email newsletters and the Carolina Journal.

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Chairman Grant thanked Sarah for speaking and for the information she had provided. He announced that municipal election candidate filings had begun and that there were several positions available in which there was no Republican currently running, including elections in Bessemer City, Cherryville, High Shoals, and Lowell. He urged everyone to consider potential Republican candidates and to contact him to get more information, as candidate filings close July 19th.

Chairman Grant also announced that a three-judge panel had upheld the North Carolina redistricting maps, despite charges that the maps should be thrown out due to gerrymandering. He also announced that Michael Reagan would be in Welcome, North Carolina on Saturday August 11th for a special reception. Individual tickets are \$125. Contact Chairman Grant for more details.

Pat Smith announced that the Federation of Republican Women are hosting a campaign management school on Saturday, August 24th from 9:00am-5:00pm at the NCGOP Headquarters in Raleigh. Registration fees are \$65 before August 1st. If interested, visit www.nfrw.org to register or find more information.

Neil Moore announced that a similar training session was being hosted in Charlotte and he was available to give more information to those interested.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Next meeting: August 12, 2013 at Munchies Restaurant, 209 S. Chestnut St., Gastonia. 6:00 - Dinner, 7:00 - Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan L. Fletcher, Secretary

Attendance:

Steve Amos	Edward Dunlap	Lee Ann MacMillan
Chad Brown	Jonathan Fletcher	Neil Moore
Cory Bryson	Don Grant	Pat Smith
Jeff Clark	Madeline Keeter	Ervin Sims
Craig Collins	Brett Keeter	Penny Thrower

Visitors: Margaret Beveridge, Todd Schiff, Dale Schiff, Neil Chastain, Doc Morton, Karamarie Morton, Jean Alexander, Denise Propst, Bethanie Ballard, Kyle Clark, Renee Clark, Gary Thrower, and Kelsey Harrington