

New Hanover County Democratic Party

Monthly Meeting- FINAL

**April 21, 2014**

---

The meeting convened at Morton Hall located on the campus of UNCW at 5:30.

1. **Call to order:** Pledge led by Richard Poole.
2. **Welcome guests; introduce elected officials and candidates:** Officers in attendance- Richard Poole, Susanne Werner, Deloris Rhodes, Brenda Fong , and Jeremy Wilson. Recognized Commissioner Jonathan Barfield (County Commissioner and candidate for U.S. Congress Dist. 7), Sheriff Ed McMahon, Judge Melinda Crouch, Patricia Spear (candidate for County Commissioner), Emma Saunders (candidate for School Board), and Chris Meek (candidate for School Board).
3. **Speakers:** Candidates for U.S. Congress District 7 (Jonathan Barfield and Walter Martin) were invited, as were candidates for N.C. Senate District 8 (Danny Hefner and Ernie Ward). Walter Martin could not attend, but he submitted a statement to the group which Myrna Wexler read. Jonathan Barfield made a presentation to the group which outlined his campaign platform and experience. Neither Danny Hefner nor Ernie Ward attended.
4. **Report by Office Search Committee:** Nick Rhodes provided a report on the search for a 2014 campaign office. He indicated that a promising property had not worked out, but that he and other committee members were reaching out to Democratic realtors. Richard Poole and Diana Hill provided additional information regarding efforts to locate a suitable property, criteria for the property, and the importance to our candidates of a campaign office.
5. **Report by Messaging Committee :** Deloris Rhodes and Clancy Thompson presented a report on the work of the Messaging Committee. Committee members are Clancy Thompson, Deloris Rhodes, Kyle Horton, Susanne Werner, Phil Stein, and Ruthie Downey. The committee is working to develop messaging based on various issues and coordinate strategies for disseminating the message through various print and online media. As part of this effort, Deloris Rhodes asked the area campaigns to share the details of their platforms.
6. **Report on County Convention:** Richard Poole reported that Jennifer MacNeish is working to finalize the materials associated with the County Convention. We have submitted the resolutions, but may need to follow up. John McHarry inputted all the data into VoteBuilder, which was a big help. The District 7 and District 3 conventions are scheduled for Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.
7. **Treasurer's report:** Brenda Fong, Treasurer, reported a current balance of \$18,703.14. She also reported that, through the precinct meetings, we have raised \$2,248.30 of the sustaining fund goal of \$4,497.90. Richard Poole explained the importance of the state sustaining fund .
8. **Approval of minutes:** Richard Poole reported that we would approve the minutes at the next meeting.
9. **Old Business-** N/A
10. **New Business:** Lee and Liz Porter presented plans for a "meet the candidates" event at their home on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Maggie Parrish announced upcoming voter protection training for poll watchers. Alyssa Guberman reported that the YD Garden Party was a success, where they raised approximately \$2,000.00. Millie Elledge reported that the Democratic Women continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Finally, Deloris Rhodes announced that the 2014 Unity Banquet will be September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Coastline Convention Center.
11. **Adjournment:** Motion by Owen Wexler, seconded by Jonathan Barfield.

Submitted by:

Jeremy M. Wilson

Third Vice-Chair, NHCDP