

New Hanover County Democratic Party

Monthly Meeting- FINAL MINUTES

**January 27, 2014**

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

1. **Call to order:** Pledge led by Richard Poole.
2. **Welcome guests, introduce:** Officers in attendance- Richard Poole, Susanne Werner, Brenda Fong , Jeremy Wilson, and Jennifer MacNeish. Recognized Sheriff Ed McMahon , candidates for county commission –Patricia Spear and Rob Zapple, Sheriff candidate – Sid Causey, NC Senate – Elizabeth Redenbaugh( per Erin Rogers) and welcomed new visitors.
3. **Speaker: Jason Thigpen, Candidate for 3<sup>rd</sup> NC Congressional District-** Bio, campaign outline and took questions.
4. **Announcements:** Richard Poole announced distribution of a statement prepared by Jeremy Wilson summarizing relevant provisions of the NC Democratic Party’s Plan of Organization and Roberts Rules of Order as they pertain to quorums at NHCDP monthly meetings. Jeremy Wilson explained only a limited set of actions require a vote of the County Executive Committee, and that only those votes require a quorum. All other votes are advisory and non-binding in the absence of a quorum.  
Announcement of Precinct Meeting dates (Feb 25- March 10); County Convention ( April 5); Congressional District Conventions ( May 3) and State convention (June7). Jennifer MacNeish will organize County Convention and is seeking volunteers. The SEC meeting is Sat. Feb. 1, in Charlotte, NC and members were asked to make arrangements for proxy if they can’t attend.
5. **Discussion of 2014 Initiatives- Seeking Volunteers:** Voter Registration Efforts- a non-partisan Voter Suppression Initiative has been organized by Peter Greer, Lynn Shoemaker and others. Signup sheets for interested NHCDP members were provided. Volunteers were also sought for Office Search. Nick Rhodes addressed the need for a party office to support local candidates.
6. **Discussion of First Vice Chair Vacancy:** Richard stated the executive board is seeking nominations and a vote will occur at the February meeting. Diana Hill questioned criteria related to diversity- Jeremy Wilson confirmed the Plan of Org. waives any such requirements when filling unexpired vacancy. Anyone interested should contact any officer.
7. **Treasurers report:** Brenda Fong, Treasurer reported a beginning balance of 19,030.26 with expenditures of \$621.75 and deposits of \$ 605.00 with an ending total balance of \$19,013.56.
8. **Approval of minutes:** by Jennifer MacNeish-Minutes from November 18, 2013 meeting accepted as posted to webpage with motion from G. Vlasits and seconded by Polly Shaver.
9. **Old Business-** N/A
10. **New Business:** Jan. 31, Friday – Rev. Barber will visit Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church for pre rally for HKonJ event, HKonJ Event Feb. 8 in Raleigh- for more info about bus contact Debra Maxwell. Lynn Shoemaker announced NC Senate 8 race (Bill Rabon seat) is considered competitive. Liz Porter announced NC Legal Aid Expungement Clinic to be held March 11, registration due by Feb 21, EB Davis announced W29 Spaghetti Dinner on Feb 7 at Williston, EB Davis suggested to change county meeting date to accommodate a potential nominee for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Carter Jewel announced Ask a Lawyer Day at Independence Mall in old Abercrombie space on Feb. 1.
11. **Adjournment:** Motion by Bill Cottingham seconded by Liz Porter.

Submitted by:

Jennifer H. MacNeish

Secretary NHCDP