

**New Kent County Democratic Committee Meeting
March 8, 2016**

In attendance:

Donna Friend
Linda Friend
Richard Williams
Christine Williams
Houston Gray
Selena Gray
Joyce Williams
Eugene Williams
Alease Christian
Julia Taylor
Charles Moss Sr.
Susan Moon
JoAnn Winson
Jack Winson
Pam Dix

Call to order:

The Chair called the meeting to order by Donna at 7:00p.m.

Agenda Items:

NKCDC's new Facebook page

- Committee had previously discussed need to reach out to new democrats in the area and grow our membership
- Page created over the weekend
- Looking to see who uses FB & who doesn't – trying to figure out if this is a good media for outreach
- We don't really know who our committee is
- Encourage everyone to like the FB page - please use Facebook to invite your Facebook friends to like our page

Welcome

- The chair welcomed everyone & thanked them for coming out
- Big election year this year, so appreciate the big turn out tonight & hopes it just continues to grow
- Reviewed planned agenda

Bylaws

- A copy was mailed to everyone on the mailing list
- A copy was displayed on screen via projector for the committee to review

- DPVA has said everyone needs to have bylaws & provided a copy of the Local Committee Chairs Handbook as guidance
- Chair & vice chair drafted proposed bylaws based on the Local Committee Chairs Handbook's sample and based on a copy of Chesterfield County's bylaws as a starting point
- Tonight is our official organizational meeting – should have happened in January, but we received an exemption to hold our organizational meeting now
- Chair conducted a section by section review of the proposed bylaws
 - Chair shared recently discovered information that committee that required offices are chair, treasurer & secretary, so we're proposing merging vice chair and secretary
 - Committee discussed the viability of combining Vice Chair and Secretary in case something happened to the Chair and the Vice Chair was required to assume the duties of the Chair – reviewed that the proposed bylaws specify that in the event of such an occurrence, a new Chair would be elected at the next regular monthly meeting
 - Question was raised regarding the amount necessary for a quorum – committee felt that proposed provision of two executive committee members to make a quorum was too small – proposal was made that the quorum should be two executive committee members and three regular committee members
 - Motion was made by Jack Winson that the bylaws be amended to require two executive committee members and three regular members constitute a quorum
 - Motion seconded by Pam Dix
 - Unanimously approved by committee
 - Motion was made to strike the paragraph regarding sending letters to those who are absent repeatedly Pam Dix and JoAnn Winson
 - Motion seconded by Jack Winson
 - Unanimously approved by committee
 - Discussion was held over the prohibition on members publicly supporting a Republican candidate
 - Required by party platform
 - Motion made by Jack Winson to underline publicly
- Houston Gray moved to adopt the bylaws as amended
 - Charles Moss seconded the motion
 - Unanimously approved by committee

Election of Officers

- Emails sent in January and February asking individuals to run
- Chair asked for nominations from the floor – none made
- In January Donna Friend offered to run again as Chair; Susan Moon offered to run as Treasurer if no one else was going to run, but Herb Jones confirmed he would run as Treasurer and Alease Christian said she did not care to run

against him; Christine Williams offered to run again as Vice Chair; at that time no one offered to run as Secretary

- Once it was discovered that the committee is required by DPVA to have a Secretary (but not a vice chair) Christine Williams offered to run for Secretary and Vice Chair
- Chair closed nominations & asked for a motion to vote
- Susan Moon moved to accept the entire slate of officers
- Linda Friend seconded the motion
- Unanimously approved by committee

Movement from the 7th District to the 1st District

- Have been informed that we've been officially moved to the 1st district however, we will participate in the 7th Caucus for the Presidential election and the 1st Caucus for Congressional District Race
- Jack Winson said the county registrar informed him as of today that we're still part of the 7th

Call to Caucus

- We have not surfaced anyone willing to run for the 7th against Brat
- Date of 7th District caucus is May 7th
- Filing deadlines discussed
- Chair asked for anyone interested in serving as a delegate to the 7th Congressional District
 - Chair reported that Bob Jeremiah had expressed interest prior to the meeting
 - Houston Gray expressed interest
 - Christine Williams expressed interest
 - Donna Friend expressed interest
 - Susan Moon expressed interest
 - All who expressed interest qualified their interest as depending on the weekend in May
- Date of 1st District caucus is May 21st in Fredericksburg, Va
- Chair asked for anyone interested in serving as a delegate to the 1st Congressional District
 - Linda Friend expressed interest
 - Houston Gray expressed interest
 - Susan Moon expressed interest depending on the weekend in May
 - Christine Williams expressed interest
 - Donna Friend expressed interest
 - Chair reported that Bob Jeremiah had expressed interest prior to the meeting
 - All who expressed interest qualified their interest as depending on the weekend in May
- Date for caucus

- Donna proposed Saturday, April 16 from 2- 3:30 pm at Aspen Burger (if a caucus was needed) for the 7th District New Kent Caucus
- Donna proposed Saturday, April 16 from 12:00 PM - 1:30 pm the Rose and Crown Pub (if a caucus was needed) for the 1st District New Kent Caucus
- Committee unanimously agreed to the proposed dates and times
- Committee agreed caucus will be cancelled if we have the same number of volunteers as we have delegate slots – caucus will only be held if we have more people volunteering to serve as delegates than we are allotted slots at the convention

Turnover of documents from 2015 Executive Committee to 2016 Executive Committee

- Alease Christian offered to turn over documents to the Chair
 - Chair suggested she turn those over directly to Herb Jones
 - Julia Taylor pointed out that the bank will need new signature cards – Donna, Herb & Christine will need to go to the bank and be added to the account
- Julia Taylor had no minutes to turn over to Christine

New Business

- Charles Moss expressed concern that there were no signs for Democratic candidates out before the election on primary day & wanted to know how we can get the candidates to express more interest in having a greater presence in New Kent
 - Discussion largely indicated that interest will be greater once a final presidential candidate is known
- Richard Williams proposed an outreach program & supporting a food pantry
 - Charles Moss proposed working on other needs such as heating for the less fortunate in the county
 - Jack Winson proposed going through Matthews Haven
 - Several committee members expressed concern that this was a very Republican/Tea Party group and that aligning with a single secular sponsored organization may hinder our ability to be successful
 - Joyce Williams volunteered to help
 - Eugene Williams also offered to help

Meeting closed:

Chair closed the meeting at 8:30pm