

**NCDP STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ROLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 17, 2016**

**SEC Members stood and sang “My Country Tis Of Thee,” “America The Beautiful,” “God Bless America,” and “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”**

**Surprise: On behalf of the NCDP Officers, First Vice Chair Zack Hawkins presented a floral arrangement to State Party Chair Patsy Keever and praised Patsy for her tremendous dedication and hard work.**

**State Chair Patsy Keever called the meeting to order at 12:16PM. (The start had been delayed because it was extremely difficult to get SEC Members to leave the hallway and come inside the auditorium.)**

**Ariella Barker led the Pledge of Allegiance**

**The State Chair called for a period of silent thought and meditation.**

**State Secretary Melvin Williams announced that 306 SEC Members had registered. This surpassed the 277 Members needed for a Quorum.**

**The State Chair presented the Agenda for the meeting and made a motion for its passage. Several Members seconded the motion and it was passed by a voice vote.**

**The State Chair presented the Rules of the Day and made a motion for their adoption. Brenda Pollard of Durham seconded the motion. The Rules were approved by a voice vote.**

**Secretary Melvin Williams presented the Minutes of the February 6, 2016, SEC meeting. He announced two spelling changes had been made and moved for adoption of the Minutes. The Minutes were approved by a voice vote.**

**Our US Senate candidate Deborah Ross gave an enthusiastic address. She has already campaigned in 90 counties! Her visit to two additional counties was cancelled by a hurricane. (Following the SEC meeting she campaigned in two more counties – Duplin and Pender.)**

**Deborah related some of her most meaningful experiences of the campaign so far. In Stokes County she gave the sermon at a Church Service on the topic of “The Golden Rule.” She talked about how “The Golden Rule” is the theme of everything the Democratic Party does. Then she spoke to more than 75 people at the Grand Opening of the Stokes County Democratic Party Headquarters.**

**She spoke to a crowd of more than 150 people at the headquarters of Poor People, Inc. in Windsor in Bertie County.**

**She spoke to a large crowd which met at a winery in Yadkin County. She related that an 85 year-old man at this event told the crowd that the 2016 election is the most important election since 1960.**

**An emotional time: State Chair Patsy Keever called Delmas Parker of Forsyth County to come to the stage for what would be his last SEC meeting. SEC Members gave Delmas heartwarming applause as he made his way to the stage. Upon being presented an award by the State Chair, Delmas talked about his life in the Democratic Party. He talked about the same great Democrat he has talked about in every speech for the past 50 years: President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Delmas talked about how much FDR did to improve the lives of the people in Ashe County where he grew up – and to improve the lives of people all over America.**

**Delmas has served as a County Chair, Congressional District Chair, and for six wonderful years he was Second Vice Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party.**

**State Chair Patsy Keever then asked Wayne County Chair Ernestine Wooten and Sustaining Fund Co-Chair Charles Johnson to stand and receive applause for their lifetimes of service to the Democratic Party.**

**Josh Stein talked to the SEC about his campaign for Attorney General.**

**Judge Margaret Eagles promoted her campaign for the NC Court of Appeals. She also promoted the other Democrats who are running for the Court of Appeals this year: Judge Vince Rozier, Attorney Abe Jones, Judge Linda Stevens, and Judge Rickye McKoy-Mitchell.**

**NCDP Executive Director Kimberly Reynolds reported to the SEC that she has fulfilled her duties concerning the Resolutions that were passed at the June State Convention by delivering the Resolutions to House Democratic Leader Larry Hall, Senate Democratic Leader Dan Blue, Jr., Congressman G. K. Butterfield, Congressman David Price, and Congresswoman Alma Adams.**

**State Chair Patsy Keever gave the State Chair's Report.**

- 1-She announced that today the Executive Council voted unanimously to change the name of the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner to the "NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC UNITY CELEBRATION." This name change will go into effect immediately.**
- 2-She congratulated everyone for their support for the North Carolina Democratic Party and our entire Democratic ticket.**
- 3-She related that after being an active Democrat all her life, she was thrilled to be able to announce North Carolina's Presidential Roll Call vote at the Democratic National Convention.**

**Ariella Barker gave a heartfelt presentation on the need to open opportunities and remove the many barriers that people with disabilities face.**

**She said that 20% of Americans have a disability – comprising the nation’s largest minority. 50% of Americans have a relative with a disability. Amazing: 50% of police actions are against people with disabilities! Women with disabilities are sexually assaulted more than any other group of women.**

**Only 6% of gun violence is by disabled people.**

**The Americans With Disabilities Act is 26 years old. Yet no higher percentage of disabled people have been able to get jobs: only 28.5% of people with disabilities have jobs compared with 12.4% of non-disabled people who are jobless.**

**Ariella said that some states have a sub-minimum wage for people with disabilities. This keeps those people in poverty.**

**She said Obamacare helped the disabled buy insurance and that all disabled people need Medicaid.**

**She said one of the most important things that can be done to help would be for Congress to pass the Disability Integration Act.**

**She said medical marijuana can help millions of disabled people if all states would approve it.**

**There is a great shortage of transportation and shortage of housing for disabled people.**

**House Bill 2 has increased hardships for the disabled because people with disabilities can’t use public bathrooms if their caretaker is of the opposite gender.**

**Great needs: Need more accessibility for the disabled at rallies and on web sites.**

**Attorney Abe Jones, candidate for the NC Court of Appeals, addressed the SEC.**

**Troy Clair from Hillary For America and Jonae Wartel from the Coordinated Campaign talked to the SEC. Members were instructed not to repeat the information that was disseminated by these two speakers.**

**Our strong candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, Walter Smith, spoke to the meeting. His talk included this information: “If it’s important to you, you will find time to do it.”**

**Then Judge Mike Morgan, candidate for the Supreme Court of North Carolina, brought a revival spirit to the meeting. Members rocked, shouted, and cheered as Judge Morgan motivated them to give 100% effort to this campaign.**

**Attorney Dan Blue III spoke to the crowd about his campaign for State Treasurer.**

**Judge Ricky McCoy-Mitchell promoted her campaign for the NC Court of Appeals, emphasizing her 32 years of legal experience. Her theme: “Seeing Faces, Not Just Seeing Cases.”**

**Judge Vince Rozier gave a dynamic address to the SEC.**

**Orange County Chair Matt Hughes, came to the podium and presided over the next part of the meeting. He reported that the 2016 State Convention had passed the most progressive Platform in the history of the North Carolina Democratic Party. Then he presented four Resolutions that were referred to the SEC by the State Convention.**

**Matt presented the Resolution in Support of Postal Banking. Chris Telesca made a motion to adopt this Resolution. David Bland seconded the motion. It was approved by a voice vote.**

**Next Matt presented a Resolution Supporting a \$15 Minimum Wage. Cliff Moone moved for its adoption. Jesse Goslen seconded the motion. It was passed by a voice vote.**

**The SEC then went to the Resolution concerning Better Laws To Prevent Gun Violence. Gwen Wilkins made a motion to approve this Resolution. Denise Adams seconded the motion. It was passed by a voice vote.**

**The fourth Resolution that was presented was “In Support of Resettlement of Syrian Refugees in North Carolina.” Jesse Goslen made a motion to adopt this Resolution. David Bland seconded the motion. It was passed by a voice vote.**

**The meeting then moved to a Resolution supporting the Democratic National Convention’s Resolution changing the way Super Delegates will vote at future National Conventions.**

**This Resolution would authorize Democratic Governors, Members of Congress, and Distinguished Party Leaders to continue to vote as they wish. The term “Distinguished Party Leaders” is an official term which applies to people who hold certain Party positions.**

**This Resolution would require DNC Members and the remainder of the Super Delegates to vote on the first ballot according to the percentages that Presidential candidates received in their states.**

**Jake Quinn of Buncombe County spoke in favor of this motion.**

**Keith Thomson of Buncombe County stated that Presidential Caucuses are the least democratic method of obtaining presidential preferences of Democrats in the states. He introduced an amendment which said that the second bullet point should be changed to include the following wording: “eliminate presidential preference caucuses with primary elections.”**

**Marena Groll of Durham seconded Keith’s amendment.**

**Janet Barnes of Wake County called attention to the fact that none of the Resolutions for today’s meeting had been included in the packet SEC Members were given.**

**Sherry Eason of Onslow County made a motion to reword the amendment by using the word “replace” instead of “eliminate.”**

**Keith Thomson seconded Sherry’s amendment.**

**Sherry’s amendment was passed by a voice vote.**

**The SEC then passed the amendment calling for presidential caucuses to be replaced by primary elections.**

**The meeting then moved to discuss passage of the entire Resolutions dealing with Super Delegates.**

**Ray McKinnon of Mecklenburg County spoke in favor of this Resolution.**

**Perry Graves arose to make a Quorum Call. It was ruled that a Quorum was present.**

**Sherry Eason spoke in favor of passage of this Resolution and she suggested that it be clarified by inserting the following wording:**

**“All other remaining Delegates shall be pledged in proportion to and required to cast their vote at the National Convention for candidates by the state’s Presidential Primary or Caucus vote percentages received by each candidate and announced at their state or territorial convention.”**

**David Bland seconded this clarifying amendment.**

**This clarifying amendment was passed by a voice vote.**

**Elli Klein of New Hanover asked the SEC to hold off voting on this Resolution until the next SEC meeting.**

**DNC Members John Verdejo, Denise Adams, Sheila Huggins, and Cliff Moone spoke from a floor microphone as a group calling for the passage of this Resolution.**

**Sam Spencer of Mecklenburg called for the question.**

**The SEC then passed Sherry Eason’s clarifying amendment by a voice vote.**

**The SEC then passed the entire Resolution as amended by a voice vote.**

**This is the wording of the Resolution on Delegate voting as passed:**

**Resolved, The North Carolina Democratic Party's State Executive Committee supports the conception of the unity Commission that was formed by the Democratic National Committee in coordination with the Clinton and Sanders campaigns;**

**Be it further resolved, we urge consideration of the following:**

- \* With the exception of Members of Congress, Governors, and Distinguished Party Leaders who shall remain unpledged and free to support the nominee of their choice, all other remaining delegates shall be pledged in proportion to and required to cast their vote at the national convention for candidates by the State's Presidential primary or caucus vote percentages received by each candidate and announced at the state or territorial convention;**
- \* Replace presidential preference caucuses with primary elections;**
- \* Expansion of eligible voters' ability to participate in primaries and caucuses;**
- \* Involving of unaffiliated voters or new voters in presidential primaries who would like to join the Democratic Party through either same-day registration or re-registration;**
- \* Revising of the primary calendar in a way that gives regional balance and fair competition;**
- \* Setting debate schedule criteria that is fair to all viable candidates and provides ample opportunities for our candidates and voters to debate the critical issues facing our country;**

**Be it further resolved, unpledged delegates shall remain truly unpledged; and to avoid influencing the ongoing electoral process, they, as a condition of being selected to serve as a "super-delegate," be prohibited from disclosing or announcing their personal preference until they vote at the party's convention; and**

**May it be finally resolved, we urge all members of the Democratic National Committee representing North Carolina to work to implement the Unity Commission, its recommendations, and other reforms that are deemed necessary for the Democratic Party.**

**POO Rewrite Committee Chair Cliff Moone of Catawba County came to the podium to conduct the next part of the meeting which dealt with proposed changes to the Plan Of Organization.**

**The first proposed POO Amendment recommended changes in Section 4.11. This is the proposed amendment language with the new wording underlined:**

**“4.11 Independent Financial Review. The state executive council shall provide for a biennial financial audit by an independent accountant of the financial accounts and balances of the state executive committee funds following each even year.”**

**The POO committee presented this rationale: The amendment brings the POO in line with the action taken by the Executive Council in June, 2016. The Executive Council acted to save Party funds. There will continue to be an annual financial report made to the SEC.**

**Jesse Goslen spoke in favor of this amendment.**

**NCDP Executive Director Kimberly Reynolds informed the SEC that the NCDP will still file monthly reports to the NC State Board of Elections and bi-monthly reports to the FEC.**

**This amendment to Section 4.11 was passed by a voice vote.**

**Cliff Moone then presented the POO Rewrite Committee’s suggested amendment to Section 9.02.**

**This is the proposed amendment to Section 9.02 with new wording underlined:**

**“Members. The Council of Review shall consist of one (1) member from each congressional district who shall be elected at the congressional district conventions held in even-numbered years, and four (4) members at-large to be appointed by the state chair. The members at-large shall serve at the pleasure of the state chair.”**

**“Officers. The state chair shall appoint a chair and a secretary of the Council of Review from among the members of the Council of Review, both of whom shall serve in their offices at the pleasure of the state chair.”**

**The POO committee presented this rationale: The amendment makes clear that the appointees of the state chair serve at the present state chair’s pleasure and may be replaced whenever the state chair deems appropriate.**

**Chris Telesca of Wake County spoke from the floor objecting to making members at-large serve at the pleasure of the State Chair.**

**Axia Wilson of Buncombe County spoke about this amendment.**

**Bryan Fitzsimmons presented an amendment to the POO Rewrite Committee's motion about Section 9.02. His amendment would insert the following language at the end of the first paragraph of the POO Rewrite Committee's motion:**

**“Each and every time there is a turnover in the position of State Chair the Executive Council shall have jurisdiction over who are – and who are not – members of the COR. The Executive Council shall have exclusive jurisdiction in resolving disputes related to membership of the COR.”**

**Jesse Goslen made a motion to refer this whole section back to the POO Rewrite Committee. Dr. Grace Galloway seconded his motion.**

**Buck Wilde objected to referring the motion back to POO Committee.**

**Dr. Grace Galloway stated that the changes proposed to Section 9.02 puts too much power in the hands of the State Chair.**

**Mike Schaul of Wake County, who is a member of the Council of Review, stated that this amendment needs to be voted on today.**

**Matt Hughes spoke against referring this amendment back to POO committee.**

**George Greene of Wake County objected to referring it back.**

**Sam Spencer spoke against referring it back.**

**An unidentified lady made a motion to call for the question. Several people seconded her motion.**

**By a voice vote the SEC then voted to defeat the motion to refer Section 9.02 back to the POO Rewrite Committee.**

**The meeting then moved to a discussion of passage of the entire amendment to Section 9.02.**

**Ray McKinnon made a motion to call for the question on the amendment to Section 9.02. It was seconded.**

**The SEC passed the motion to call for the question by a voice vote.**

**However, instead of voting on the entire amendment to Section 9.02, the SEC moved to a discussion on passing the “grass green” section of the amendment which was shown on the big screen. This “grass green” section said that the State Chair shall certify COR members to the State Party Secretary and the State Chair’s certification shall be valid.**

**Jannet Barnes issued a Quorum Call. Zack Hawkins went to the floor of the meeting and asked each member to vocally enumerate themselves – counting the number of SEC Members individually.**

**The counted determined that only 240 SEC Members were still present which was less than the 277 Members needed for a Quorum.**

**The meeting was adjourned.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Melvin Williams, Secretary  
North Carolina Democratic Party**