



**MINUTES**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**6:30 pm, Tuesday, April 12, 2022**  
**Republican Headquarters, 844 Washington Plaza, Washington, NC**

A quorum was in attendance with 17 committee members. 15 guests were also present.

<i>In Attendance</i>	<i>Excused Absence</i>	<i>Visitors</i>
Diane Ahearn	Joseph Knox	William Leary
Ruth Cauvin	Bobby Roberson	David French
Buzz Cayton	Charlie Rose	Donna Henderson
Tandy Dunn	Paul Varcoe	Scarlet Stokes
Joanne Forrest	Stan Deatherage	Dawn Slann
Carolyn Garris	<b><i>Unexcused:</i></b>	Jason Hall
Patricia Garrison	Joyce Coward	Hood Richardson
Charles Hickman	William (Bill) Cook	Donna Wortman
Anne Maatman	Delores Morgan	Fred Slann
Dot Moate	Michael Bishop	Elaine Briley
Steven Rader	Nanci Colleary	Bill Lennartz
John Rebholz	Phillip Trueblood	Janet Lennartz
Shirley Richardson		Dallas Dawson
Wyatt Shackelford		Tony Cowden
Linda Taylor		
Frank Waters		
Kathy Waters		
Jimmie Whichard		

Carolyn Garris, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

The invocation was given by Linda Taylor.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Buzz Cayton.

Chair Garris then asked Patricia Garrison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, to go ahead and present a speaker, Tony Cowden who is running in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District against Senator Greg Murphy in the primary.

Patricia introduced Tony who is a decorated veteran and a successful business owner. He has spent over 24 years of his life in the special operations community - in the Army and with our intelligence agencies, fighting America's enemies while still finding the time to build and grow two successful

small businesses. His motto: Three things a Representative must not waiver on are the Ten Commandments, the Constitution, and the Constituents. Tony pledged to give \$50,000 of his salary, if elected, back to the Republican Party.

Chair Garris asked for a review of attendance with 29 members and 17 present, giving us a quorum.

A motion was made by Steve Rader and seconded by Frankie Waters to approve the minutes for Feb. 8 and March 5, 2022 (the convention). All approved.

The Finance Report was presented by Anne Maatman.

- The Party Fund which supports our candidates has approximately \$17,900 and the Building Fund has approximately \$12,300 in the accounts.
- Anne also reminded everyone of the budget approved for the Building Fund and it appears we will have enough to cover our expenses for this year.
- A motion was made to approve the report by John Rebholz and seconded by Jody Forrest. All approved.

The Fundraising Committee report was given by John Rebholz.

- After a lot of discussion and soul searching, John stated that unfortunately, the Golf Outing had to be canceled due to a lack of support and funds to make it profitable. Contributions already made will be contacted and offered to roll them over to Reagan Dinner or return their donation.
- He suggested several other ideas for fundraisers more focused on candidates and involving them more, such as a Pig Picking or a Cornhole Tournament and the Fundraising committee will work on getting additional ideas. May not raise enough money but will get our candidates in front of more people.
- John also mentioned the fact that we lack volunteers and encouraged others to join the committee and sent around a sign-up sheet.
- John answered a question asked if you have to “knock on doors.” Not everyone has to do that - there are many other ways to serve.
- Diane Ahearn spoke up to say she is still keeping 100 golf towels donated last year and are they going to be used in the future? Yes, we will as long as we get more people to sign up.
- John asked all currently on the committee to please sign up again.
- The Reagan Day Dinner is still planned for October 4<sup>th</sup> and many volunteers will be needed for that.

Steve Raydor suggested fundraising for non-events and looking at other options. He said he would be willing to spearhead this effort and said he would join the Fundraising Committee.

Chair Garris presented 2 new Executive Committee members, Donna Wortman and Jason Hall. They were presented at a prior meeting and a vote to confirm them was asked by Chair Garris. Steve Raydor asked if the two new members could give a brief presentation.

- Donna and her husband own and operate the Duke & Duchess Coffee Shop in Bath and Donna ran for Town Council in Bath as well. She is volunteering as much as possible for the

Republican Party. Her husband is going through cancer treatments right now but she is trying to do what she can to support the party. She has already sold 14 pumpkin pies for next year!

- Jason and his wife and family moved to Washington from the D.C. area in 2020 and own Washington Crab. He is a lifelong Republican and wanted to get involved to support the Beaufort Co. GOP. He served eight years in the Army as well.
- A motion was made by Steve Raydor to approve these new members and seconded by Jody Forrest.

Chair Garris also presented 3 people who have submitted requests to become Executive Committee members – Fred Slann, Scarlet Stokes, and Donna Henderson and they were asked to stand. Will vote on them at our next meeting

Chair Garris announced David French is our new DataBase manager.

Exciting announcement to make: Trump Truck Rally when we have 3rd District Convention, those who want to do this should meet at the Headquarters on April 23rd and decorate your vehicle. We want others to know Beaufort County is an important county to be reckoned with. We will be leaving around 9 a.m.

Chair Garris had stickers made for our cars that say BCGOP which are \$1 and flags coming in next week.

A discussion was had on the Public Forum for Candidates/Meet and Greets and details were presented by Patricia Garrison. Several dates were suggested, April 21<sup>st</sup> and April 25<sup>th</sup> and the event will be moderated by Kelly Hopkins, Director of the Board of Elections. After talking about other meetings being held it was decided the best date for the forum would be April 25<sup>th</sup> when most candidates could attend.

Hood Richardson said his meeting of the Conservative Republican Club usually meets on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month but he would be willing to change to the 25<sup>th</sup> and join with the other supporters to promote the forum. He would like for his group to be mentioned as a supporter.

This will be a formal debate to be held at the Beaufort Co. Community College and hosted by the Beaufort Co. Republican Party, the Inner Banks Republican Party, the Beaufort Co. Republican Women's Club, and the Conservative Republican Club. Registration will be at 6:30 and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m., held in Building 8. A sign will be put up on the day of the event by the college and other ideas were suggested to advertise this to the public.

A motion was made by Tandy Dunn to approve the forum plans and seconded by Steve Raydor. Approved.

Paul Varcoe, Vice-Chair, is out of town for his brother-in-law's funeral but wanted us to mention help is needed at various fundraising events and for help with sign installation.

Anne asked if we could list the various events going on for various candidates on the website. Chair Garris reminded everyone that Beaufort Co. cannot endorse certain candidates but you can attend their events.

Dot Moate asked that we mention Dawn Slann has not been recognized and asked that she stand up.

All candidates on the primary ballot were recognized:

- Frankie Waters – Currently serves on the Board of Commissioners
- Dawn Slann – Running for Board of Commissioners
- Tandy Dunn - Running for Board of Commissioners
- Charles Hickman – Not in the primary but running for School Board in 2nd District

Chair Garris wanted to thank all for running as she knows how much work is required to serve our Republican Party and commends everyone who is running.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Patricia brought up a new documentary she thought others might be interested in called "2000 Mules", recommended to her by her son and produced by Dinesh de Souza. Talks about voter fraud and election integrity. Encourages everyone to see and thought we should try to get a copy.

Another called "Rigged" about voter fraud was suggested by Steve Raydor.

**Signs:**

- Chair Garris asked that signs brought into the office be handled by Jody so that they can be placed appropriately.
- She asked that others please let her handle this as she has a system in place to make sure each group of candidates is handled equally.

Buzz Cayton – mentioned a sign in front of the complex and feels we should be able to put a sign out there. He said 30 days before an election we are allowed to put up a sign in the right of way. Chair Garris said that the owner of that space would not let us do that. We can check further to see if the sign could be placed outside of the owner's property at the front so that more people will know where we are located.

Jody said we need volunteers in the office and would like to stay open until 5 each day. Help is needed with calling constituents to remind them to vote in the primary. If you can't work in the office, please volunteer to make phone calls and pick up a call list.

Tandy Dunn brought up vetting the candidates again and feels we should consider this and made a motion to do this, seconded by Patricia Garrison. All in favor, please stand – 15 yes and 4 no's.

- A committee will be appointed to decide on the questions to be asked. Questions should be related to the Party Platform and local issues.
- Also, have the general public be able to submit questions to the candidates.
- Four people will serve on this committee: Patricia Garrison, John Rebholz, Shirley Richardson, and Steve Rader.

Jody and Donna Wortman have some ideas for small fundraisers and will continue to sell products in the office such as flags, T-shirts, stickers, etc. Submit ideas to John Rebholz, Chair of the Fundraising Committee.

Chair Garris made a motion to come up with another larger event to replace the golf tournament. Frankie made a motion to approve and Steve seconded. Motion approved by all.

Our next meeting will be held on May 10, 2022.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.