

Fayette County GA Republican Party

Executive Board Minutes

November 14, 2023

The Executive Board of the Fayette County Georgia Republican Party convened on November 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Assistant Treasurer Rod Owen and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Immediate Past Chairman Randy Ognio.

Roll Call: Those present were Chairman Elaine Kilgore, Second Vice Chair Sherry Harris, Third Vice Chair Walt Hanley, Secretary Cathy Vaught, Assistant Secretary Windy Blair, Treasurer Pily Oddo, Assistant Treasurer Rod Owen, and Immediate Past Chairman Randy Ognio. First Vice Chair Dr. William was absent due to being on vacation. Walt has his proxy.

Approval of the Agenda: Randy moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Cathy.

Approval of the Minutes: No minutes from October 2023 were approved due to Secretary Cathy Vaught's heavy involvement with campaigning for City Council and no time to write them. Cathy said she would be caught up with the minutes for September, October and November in time to put out the notice for the next Executive Board meeting.

Chairman's Commentary: Elaine led a group discussion about the elected officials who had come to the November 9th precinct party, plus the need for good candidates going forward in 2024. The possibility of Fayette County being redistricted out of Congressional District 3 was also discussed. More Republicans would be added to a newly redistricted District 13 but would still be in the minority. Elaine stressed the need to concentrate on local candidates. She mentioned Mr. Honeycutt coming by and expressing interest in running. Someone else, Lewis Sample, also called and expressed interest in joining the FCRP.

Treasurer's Report: Pily gave the Profit and Loss report for October 2023. Total income for October 2023 was \$4,658.70 as compared to \$6,276.93 in October 2022. Differences in total income for both years can be attributed to the membership renewals that the FCRP pushed in 2022 and other fundraising efforts. Event Center rentals have been much better in 2023 than in 2022. Total expenses, \$5,169.28 were up in 2023 vs total expenses of \$3,549.88 in October 2022. This produced a total net ordinary income of (\$500.58) vs \$2,727.05 in October 2022. This can be attributed to October 2023 income being down plus an increase in expenses as compared to October 2022. Total assets, liabilities and equity for October 2023 were at \$18,160.34 vs \$16,042.50 in October 2022. That is an increase of \$2,117.84.

Pily also mentioned that she will be in Colombia during the months of December 2023 and January 2024. Assistant Treasurer Rod Owen will be filling in for her during this time. Elaine said she would leave deposits and other items for Rod at the office. She reminded him that we now do a lot of rentals. He, Pily and Elaine will work out the details of where to leave and pick up everything in Pily's absence.

Cathy made a **motion** to approve the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Sherry. The motion passed unanimously.

Zelle is working out with the rentals. Pily said that the last renters had successfully paid by using it. Zelle does not charge a fee.

First Vice Chair Report: No report.

Second Vice Chair Report: Anedot is up and running. Membership costs are in effect and running effectively. The donation button is also available. There are various payment methods. Membership renewal reminders will automatically be generated. Calls will go out in January to those who have not renewed. New members will receive welcome letters with meeting and precinct information. The FCRP website requires a lot of continuous maintenance. Sherry highlighted the latest changes. Two of the new features include a page with conservative voices of people of color and posting alerts on the FCRP Facebook page about new pages or items of interest on the website.

Sherry is working on the Event Center rental contract and will post it on the website when complete. She also discussed current office clean-up efforts.

Sherry said that some people are still resistant to Anedot or any type of automation and are still insisting on paying by check.

Third Vice Chair Report: No report. Discussed ballot chasing, low number of absentee ballots for this election. Cathy said absentee ballot chasing seemed to work based on her experience with it. She initially got a list of approximately 15 people, half of whom she knew. She was able to call the ones she knew and leave messages for the rest. It must have worked, since by the Saturday before Election Day, only two people remained on the list. One was someone who said she was waiting until Election Day. The other person was probably doing the same thing. Cathy also said that if anyone has a cell phone, mass texting has proven to be helpful, since many will not answer their phones or necessarily listen to their voice mail.

Randy said the Eleventh Hour Church is no longer available for next year's precinct caucus and County Convention. The church is moving out because of the rent increase. Another location will have to be found.

Denise mentioned the Republican Call for 2024. She stressed the need to read it daily and highlight important items. We have until December 15th to state or date and location. No one can change the date without first getting a place. It's better to keep the recommended dates because they contain the "next steps" that need to be taken. Changing dates puts you out of sequence.

Sherry said she will add convention dates to the calendar. need expressed the need for someone else to help on the website.

Secretary's Report: Cathy said she had received a copy of The Call and the 2024 Convention Planning Manual. She said she would be reading them. This is the first time she has been directly involved in this process. She will do everything possible to move this process along.

Immediate Past Chairman's Comments: Randy had already mentioned what happened with the Eleventh Hour Church. He has one lead on a Methodist church and needs to check with Flat Creek Baptist Church. Early voting starts on November 27th and goes through December 1st. Election Day is December 5th.

Old Business: Push cards still need to be ordered now that election season is over. Poll watching coordinators for next year will be Suzanne Miller-Nolte and Betty Franke.

New Business: Elaine asked Charles Oddo about the FCRP tax situation. Should we keep going the way we are going? Turns out we are doing fine just the way we are. Denise stressed the need for everyone to read and understand the convention documents. Doing the precinct mass meeting would not work because of the very tight space. The goal is more people, not less. More people are interested. Denise offered to sit down with Cathy and go through what needs to be done. Committees need to be formed. Page 14-18 lists committees. Notify them in advance. See who did it last year and get as many of the same people doing it again next year, if possible. Have meetings ahead of time so it is not rushed, and things can be planned ahead of time.

Pily said that once we have decided on the location of our activities, we must notify her so she can work out the insurance coverage. She needs the name, address, and dates to provide to the insurance company. The question was posed why the insurance rates are up. Certain events cause the rates to go up. We had the conventions last year as well as the rally in October.

A **motion** was made by Sherry to budget \$150.00 for the Christmas party decorations. Cathy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Elaine mentioned the GoDaddy reimbursement that came out of her credit card. In the amount of \$275.88. Sherry said she would call GoDaddy.

Elaine has other reimbursements. She is trying to budget how much is needed for snacks, water, upkeep, etc. She will start using a spreadsheet to project. She has \$333.56 for water, snacks, plates, plastic ware, and other incidentals. She also has \$122.33 for weights for canopy, tent, banker's boxes. The total is \$455.89. Cathy made a **motion** to approve, and it was seconded by Sherry. The motion carried.

Before departing, Denise offered her services as the lead for the convention cycle. Sherry made a **motion** to approve. It was seconded by Cathy. The motion passed.

Adjournment: Although no motion was made, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

