

Fayette County GA Republican Party

Executive Board Minutes

April 11, 2023

The Executive Board of the Fayette County Republican Party convened at 7:00 pm on April 11, 2023.

Present were Chairman Elaine Kilgore, 1st VC Dr. William Yarde, 2d VC Sherry Harris, 3d VC Walt Hanley, Secretary Cathy Vaught, Asst Secretary Nominee Windy Blair Treasurer Pily Oddo, Asst Treasurer Rod Owen and Immediate Past Chairman Randy Ognio.

The meeting was opened by an invocation from Cathy Vaught. Randy Ognio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's Report: Pily Oddo gave the Profit and Loss Treasurer's Report for March 2023. Total income earned was \$5, 459.26, about \$1,090.74 more than in March 2022. Part of this increase can be attributed to income derived from the Fayette County Convention and some rentals. Total expenses for event rentals, facility operations and utilities were \$1,982 compared to -0.22 in March of 2022. Total liabilities and equity for March were \$21,605.52 as opposed to \$22, 214.15 in March 2022, which showed a decrease of \$608.63. Total operating income from the Precinct Caucus and County Convention was \$5,421.35, net income was \$3,413.46, program revenue less cost was \$702.45. with \$1,500.00 paid to Eleventh Hour Church for the use of their facility. This resulted in a \$2,007.89 loss.

Pily also mentioned that the cost of insurance for the caucus and convention was \$494.00. This was a statement and not a bill. The cost of a new Georgia business license for the Fayette Event Center from the Secretary of State was \$60.00 for two years.

Checks can be written to or paid from the Fayette Event Center, with the same account number as the FCRP. The cost will be \$100.00 to do this. A motion was made to approve this, and the motion was approved.

Vice Chairs: First Vice Chair Dr. Yarde outlined more of his plans for the Fayette Event Center. He plans to meet and talk with Event Center Custodian Greg Clifton one to two times monthly and monitor him more closely, especially in the areas of maintenance. He also plans to maintain closer contact with the church that is renting about not immediately removing their property and leaving it around, as it is inconsiderate to the next renter.

Dr. Yarde also mentioned that a business license for the Event Center from the City of Fayetteville will cost nothing.

Second Vice Chair Sherry Harris mentioned that the Event Center was on YELP, Punchbowl, and other sites, but the websites and phone numbers are incorrect. We need to get the password to deal with YELP to change it—someone needs to take this on. Elaine Kilgore is advertising on Facebook. Joyce Vandiver, who oversees rentals, has her phone number on the current advertisement, but without her name.

Sherry also mentioned that although the Event Center has a long name on GoDaddy, we can purchase a domain for up to \$100.00, but can do it on GoDaddy for \$37.00 a year. A motion was made to approve purchasing a domain for up to \$100.00. The motion was approved.

Pily Oddo suggested featuring a picture of a church in addition to events and meetings.

Sherry also handed out a proposed FCRP organization chart. She also stated that it would be beneficial to the organization to digitize records by use of Google Sheets spreadsheets. She would also maintain accounts, databases, passwords, GoDaddy, Instagram and membership renewals. She conducted an analysis of membership increases and decreases in the last two years. 2021 and 2022 saw a return of members and an increase in new members. 2023 saw a loss in membership retentions. It was suggested that Jane Gallo form a committee to call those who had not renewed. There are about 25 members who have retained their membership since 2021. We will need to keep tabs on membership numbers over the next couple of years, especially those aged 40, 50 and below as well as people in their early 60's.

Sherry would like to create a master password list. She would like to serve as “Chief of Staff” by assisting the Chairman. She will try to implement and stick with Robert’s Rules and By-laws. She suggested two Executive Boards (second and fourth Tuesday) on the monthly calendar, with the second meeting possibly being a Zoom meeting. If the second meeting is not necessary, then it can be cancelled. Meetings can consist of regular meetings, special meetings, and emergency meetings. It was mentioned that the County Committee Meetings are already special meetings where the precinct leaders can be called. A special meeting by itself is not needed.

Third Vice Chair Walt Hanley said he was looking for people who make financial contributions. He pulled the data for various Fayette County Democrat and Republican causes. These causes match the voter roles and show what is going on in the precincts. Democrats make frequent contributions to various funds. For example, data from Forrest Avenue showed contributions of \$20- 30,000 to Democratic causes. This is also not uncommon among some of those who attend our monthly meetings. We need to provide a fundraising tool by finding these donors in precincts to become regular members.

Walt is looking at three precinct manuals to see what they have in common and what is missing. He will create a new precinct manual out of that, as well as provide precinct training and new strategies.

New Business: Immediate Past Chairman Randy Ognio mentioned the recently conducted Audit citing the excellent job conducted by Treasurer Pily Oddo, where a formal report would be given at the next Executive Board.

Randy also mentioned March 2024, when we should plan for candidate qualifications. The Secretary of State's office could not tell him which offices would be on the ballot, saying they "did not know".

Chairman Elaine Kilgore said a decision should be made on how to elevate alternate delegates to primary status at conventions. She suggested pulling names from a hat. The delegates must caucus on who to move up and must approve the process.

Pily Oddo needs a new Quick Books Package. The current one she is using is not our own software. She is suggesting looking at one for \$500.00. She will look at the type of setup we can use. This has been tabled until after tax season.

The use of Gmail accounts has been tabled, and it has been suggested we go to a free account. Business Gmail should have online storage, word documents, and calendars that would give the Executive Board reminders. More information is needed.

A motion was made to establish the use of guidelines on group use of the Event Center, to include fundraising, special events and small events in addition to regular events. Sherry will work on this and Dr. Yarde will establish fees.

A proposal was made by Elaine Kilgore to fund up to \$50.00 for the Young Republicans if these funds are available. This could be revisited each year. This would allow them time to build their own organization and funding.

Angela Bean, who was taking over the Rule Committee from Cathy Vaught, said she needed input from the Executive Board on job descriptions. Some committees have not been assigned to any Vice Chairs. We need flexibility. What would the Executive Board like to see accomplished?

It should be added to the by-laws that it is the Chairman's responsibility to call two County Committee meetings. There are three voting proxies. Those missing three meetings without a proxy can be considered resigned. There is no provision for special or emergency situations. The chairman can call a meeting with a seven-day notice. It should be the committee that writes the rules but does not make the decisions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

CATHY VAUGHT

FCRP Secretary