
BEAUFORT COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

19 January 2023
Meeting Minutes
Pinecrest Country Club, Bluffton

Attendance: 34 executive committee members were in attendance at the meeting and signed in. Attendance lists are on file. Agendas were distributed to all attendees.

Chairman Hennelly called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Cherrie Cahoon presented the invocation

Sherrie Mikrut led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Diane Moreno led the Republican Creed.

Request for Quorum: Sherrie Mikrut Recording Secretary announced There were 34 executive committee members in attendance which provided a Quorum for the meeting. (24 is required).

October 20, 2022, minutes, and agenda were presented for approval. Motion by Don Cooper, second by Karla Huebert and approved unanimously by voice vote. Minutes are on file.

The Chairman welcomed the attendees and recognized 14th Circuit Solicitor, Duffie Stone; Treasurer Maria Walls; Retired SC House of Representatives Edie Rodgers; Beaufort Co Council District 6 Tab Tabernik; and Jasper County Republican Chairwoman Karen Wyld

Maria Walls reported on the new BCRP Website update, which will be user friendly and hopefully increase the younger demographic:

- What the Beaufort County Republican Party Stands for, and Precinct Reorganization in detail
- Event Page, have club members email Maria on their events and she will post on the site
- It will be relevant, as to what is going on today
- New Blog Post every Saturday. All of Beaufort County Representatives will be on the Blog, starting with Sheriff Tanner
- There will be the Pre-Registration for the Precinct Reorganization Meetings

Mr Hennelly added that the Beaufort County Republican Party is the only one responsible for Reorganization in Beaufort County

The Chairman Recognized Officials attending the meeting

- Solicitor Duffie Stone, working on stopping repeat offenders in our community, has put together a team to stop these offenders
 - Challenges that are needed to be made to improve safety in Beaufort County are:
 - Bond reform, to stop violating bond while out on bond
 - Stiffer penalties for gun violence
 - Stiffer RICO acts to stop gang violence and Human Trafficking

- Beaufort Council Member Tab Tabernik District 6, reported that it is important that you voice your issues to your county representative

Chairmans Report:

1. We have completed all our 2022 BCRP Objectives
2. There will be a new platform at the state Party
3. BCRP membership is at 1028, our county has the largest membership in the state
4. We have seen an increased in precinct meeting
5. There was a poll worker or watcher at every polling location that was a member of the BCRP, our goal is to have poll worker at every precinct who is a member of the BCRP
6. We worked on the CD1 redistricting and was successful in getting the map we wanted.
7. Had Great Election Support
 - a. Rallies
 - b. Palm cards distributed, 10,000
 - c. Phone calls, 10,000
 - d. Door knocking 5,000
8. Our legislative members are chairs of many of important committees, we have more legislators in important rolls than any other county in the State
9. Election Integrity Reform Bill worked in 2022, mail in ballots reduced from 17% to 4%; 551,668 voters were removed from the Rolls. A group called SCARE are appointed and they act as a lobby group, to undo the Election Integrity Reform Bill.
10. GOP voted 2-1 straight party over Dems, we focus hard to vote straight party ticket, we had 26 Republican winners and won 9-1 in contested races, we won 59 precincts and lost maybe 12
11. Precinct Reorganization, all information will be on the BCRP Website
 - a. Required by the South Carolina Code of Laws Title 7, Chapter 9. We follow SCGOP Rules and BCRP Rules to elect precinct officers and delegates
 - b. A special email account has been set up for Precinct Reorg, BCRPreorg@gmail.com
 - c. In March there will be the Precinct Reorg Meetings a schedule will be published in February on both state and BCRP website
 - d. County Convention on April 1 in Sun City
 - e. State Convention May 13, 2023, in Columbia
 - f. RNC Convention April 2024
12. Call for Officers, before Feb 1, if you wish to run to office for BCRP must send an email to BCRPReorg@gmail.com , name, address, precinct, what office wish to run for and to send a bio and resume, and that will go to the nominating committee.
13. Membership Report: 1,028
14. Executive Committee Meetings for 2023:
 1. 1st Quarter Meeting January 19, 2023, in Bluffton
 2. March Reorg meetings
 3. April 1 County Convention Sun City
 4. 2nd Quarter Meeting in May will be next business meeting Beaufort at AMVETS,
 5. 3rd Quarter Meeting September in Bluffton
 6. 4th Quarter Meeting Beaufort

Note: Most meetings will be Third Thursday of the month, but is subject to change

State Committeewoman Report: Xiaodan Li

The December Quarterly Meeting hosted by the SCGOP Drew McKissick

1. 2022 Election Results
 - a. Net Gain of 7 House Seats, which gave Republicans a super majority
 - b. Republicans let Dems in early voting by 12 points and by straight party by 27 points
 - c. In all statewide elections the GOP won by double digits
2. Legislative Priorities for 2023
 - a. Support our state GOP Legislators in close primaries or registration by party
 - b. School Choice; Senator Tom Davis has pre-filed a bill for this
 - c. Judicial Election Reform
3. Divisions within our own GOP Party two county's fighting in county court, in Oconee County and Horry County
4. Gave an update on voting laws and changing landscape trends in states, to win GOP must unite under Common Sense Conservatism per Ronald Regan, Conservative and Preserve what works as Kevin Hennelly has done for BCRP to Grow and to Win
5. Must apply Federalism to the election model

A question came up about Redrawing the lines for CD 1, that is with our Attorney General Alen Wilson, no decision has been made

An email will be going out asking you for who you support for RNC Chair, please complete, and send back, the results will be sent to our state representatives who have 3 votes at the RNC, to let Columbia know how we feel here in Beaufort Co.

Treasurer Report: Carmen Manning

1. 2023 Budget Report End of year we have \$47,000 in the bank, the entire report is On File
2. Looked at the budget on how we were accounting for items, and we made some better categories. to consolidate items, to make it easier to read
3. Ed Stevenson elected to be Treasurer for 2023

Treasurer Report Approved by Don Cooper seconded by Joe DeChristfaro

NEW BUSSINESS

1. Susan Zellman the Recording Secretary passed away, Keven read Resolution to appoint Sherrie Mikrut to Recording Secretary, Motion by Don Cooper, Seconded by Larry Ross. Passed by voice vote
2. Appointment of Rules Committee: BCRP Rules state that in the year of convention you need to appoint a Rules Committee and do Biennial review of the Rules and any changes in the Rules will be adopted at the convention and will take affect after the convention. Keven Hennelly made the nomination and seconded by Larry Ross of three members, one from each area in Beaufort County, approved by voice vote
 - a. John Casey from the South Region
 - b. Paul Manning from the Central Region
 - c. Bill Pierro from the North Region
3. Appointment of BCRP Parliamentarian: Keven Hennelly nominated and seconded by Susan Giarrusso from Hilton Head, John Casey from Hilton Head to be the Parliamentarian. Approved by voice vote.

Public Comments

- Skip Hoagland: Feels we need to focus on local politics, stop illegal use of tax dollars, to abide by laws and to be transparent.
- Nancy Pardo York: from Venezuela, to eliminate the two-week early voting, to have same day elections and eliminate paper ballot
- Debbie Barton: names are not being removed from voting list, and an error she saw on election day
- Elizabeth Ivie Szalai: Talked about the content of some books in Beaufort School Libraries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by the Chairman.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sherrie Mikrut, Recording Secretary

1 February 2023