

Horry County Democratic Party Convention

March 9, 2024, 10:00 am – Noon

Academy for Technology and Science

(notes of Joan Blackwell)

Refreshments and Booths from the different clubs met before the meeting started.

Meeting called to order at 11:12 am by Alestor Linton-Pryor who then had to leave to take part in certification meetings. The meeting was then turned over to acting chair, Shirley Oliver.

Invocation by Reverend Katrina Reeves

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Shirley Oliver

Shirley Oliver thanked all for coming out in the rain.

In memoriam of deaths since the previous year included Naomi Ruth Barber-King, sister-in-law of Martin Luther King Jr., Dexter King, son of Martin Luther King Jr. and Carolotta Scott.

A hat was passed through the audience for donations. (coffee, orange juice and donates were provided).

Credentials Chair, Patricia Hampton, reported they has 83 delegates, 8 guest and 2 candidates. Quorum was achieved so convention could be conducted.

The Election of County Officers was made by acclamation.

Shirley Oliver explained the history behind why so many of the women at Biden's State of the Union was dressed in white: women who worked for the vote and women's equity routinely wore white.

Bruce Fischer introduced candidates:

- Peter Bember who is running for State Senator in District 33 to replace Lee Rankin gave a 5 minute speech.
- Mal Hyman and Daryl Scott are both running to unseat Russell Fry in District 7. Daryl Scott had to attend another convention, Mal Hyman was ill but his campaign manager gave a 5 minute speech on his behalf.

Officers from 20 precincts and 3 alternatives were present and accepted by acclamation to elect them to the executive committee.

Two Resolutions were read and adopted, the first was regarding hateful speech, cease fire in the Israel-Gaza War, etc. (Presented by Grace Gifford, see attachment at back of

minutes) and the second on securing the voting system in South Carolina (by Roberta K). Motions made on both, seconded and carried.

Election of Delegates were discussed. We send 120 (60 men and 60 women – this was corrected later on 3/19/24 at the HCPD office where it was clarified that NO gender quotas are in place) to the State Convention. Chair Alestor Linton-Pryor has the ability to make guest of other delegates to be made delegates. Motion made that all guests who signed up to go to the State Convention who have registered as delegates to be approved by Alestor. Motion made, seconded, carried.

Announcements were made

- Bruce Fischer announced Voter Registration event to take place at Freewoods Farm. Call HCDP office or speak with Bruce to sign up for 1 - 2 hour blocks.
- A new “Freedom School” was recently established in SC.
- Each club spoke on their meeting times, dates and upcoming events and speakers.
- Shirley asked previous chairs to stand up to show the diversity in our party.
- It was announced that the State Convention is to be held on May 18, 2024 in Columbia. Venue to be announced later.

Chair Alestor Linton-Pryor spoke about the President’s State of the union address and received a standing ovation for her comments. She summarized the President’s accomplishments and mentioned that the Myrtle Beach Airport received a \$10 million dollar grant to pay for the new construction currently going on at the Myrtle Beach airport.

Grace Gifford asked people to drop lanyards off at front desk.

Meeting adjourned at 12:19

Note: These are my personal notes and not the official HCDP Convention Minutes so items may have been missed. Among those in attendance from the Club included Jac Starkey, Jason Strow, Joan Blackwell, Joy Blackwell, Shirley Gore, Deborah Young, Crystal Dragone, Pat Sharma, Linda Bianca, Diane Lewis. (Sorry if I missed any Southender members in attendance.)

Attachment A

DRAFT Resolution Horry County Democratic Party

WHEREAS: Horry County Democratic Party works to build diversity, upholds the principles of equality and human rights and values all life;
and

WHEREAS: Our communities are experiencing incidents of divisive and hateful speech and action, including a cross burning; and

WHEREAS: We experience profound sorrow at the tragic loss of life in the Israel-Gaza war and recognize the troubling possibility of further escalation of war in the region; and

WHEREAS: Escalation of violence in a region where there are multiple nuclear-armed States should concern South Carolina citizens, as we have several nuclear weapons building facilities within our state borders possibly making us a potential target;
and

WHEREAS: Peace is possible and ceasefire in the Israel-Gaza war will contribute to the release of hostages, and allow humanitarian aid to reach people in need and allow rebuilding to begin;

THEREFORE: Horry County Democratic Party express gratitude to the Biden Administration for the air drop of food to the population of Gaza,

- We call for the supply of needed water, fuel and medical supplies
- We call on our Congress and Federal Government to use diplomatic problem solving to work within International Law to bring about a permanent ceasefire and
- We call for divisive speech and actions in our communities be addressed by all levels of Government.