

General Meeting of the Bulloch County Democratic Party Aug. 18, 2018

The General Meeting of the Bulloch County Democratic Party was Aug. 18 in the new headquarters on Olliff Street. Chair Jessica Orvis brought the gathering to order at 12:05 p.m. with 22 in attendance.

The Chair introduced Eli Wilkerson who is working for the Coordinated Campaign for state candidates.

Treasurer Don Armel reported a current balance of \$4,089.86. He stressed the need for more ticket sales for the annual Gala fundraiser and the need to reach out to other counties. Email will be sent to chairs.

Keynote speakers will be Janice Laws, Francys Johnson, and John Barrow. Liz Johnson will be master of ceremonies. The event will start with a wine reception at 6:00 p.m. Extra tickets will be sold to cover the expense for Young Democrats to attend. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Orvis, Armel or EventBrite online.

John Brown moved that some actual tickets be printed for those who prefer having one in hand. Armel noted that a quarter page can be printed that will serve as a reminder of the event and would also serve as a ticket. The motion was seconded and passed.

Armel will have names of all attendees and anyone wanted the printed reminder can contact him on email or Facebook. When a table is purchased, the names of each person to be seated at the table should be sent to him as well.

Melany Bowen suggested we ask other candidates for a brief message, personalized for Bulloch County, which could be played at the Gala. Wilkerson will follow up on this idea.

Adrienne Dobbs asked for clarification on attire, and it was declared a “dress-up” event.

The Chair announced that the fundraising reception for the speakers would be in the Boardroom adjacent to the Ballroom and would start at 5:30. Wine and finger foods will be available for one hour. Everyone attending the Gala will be notified of the reception, and the speakers can invite people as well.

The Chair announced the delegates and alternates elected by caucus to attend the State Convention on August 25: Adrienne Dobbs, Melany Bowen, Eduardo Delgado, Liz Johnson and Jessica Orvis, and Cherry Brewton. John Brown will attend as our state committee representative.

A report on voter registration efforts will come later.

Connie Johnson reported success with the postcard writing campaign. Help is coming from the Indivisibles both in the state and out. A new shipment of cards is coming, and she will deliver them to the homes of those who ask.

The Chair asked for volunteer poll watchers and eight people responded. (See attached list).

Delgado announced the first meeting of the Young Democrats at Georgia Southern will be next week. He reported on voter registration efforts of the Young Democrats and called for volunteers to help on campus. Planning for a debate for congressional and gubernatorial candidates is underway, possibly sponsored by the political science organization.

The Chair asked if anyone would like to be parliamentarian. No takers as yet.

The Treasurer moved to change the names of qualified signers on the bank account to Jessica Orvis, Bill Herring and himself. Brown seconded and the motion carried.

Sheila Leach reported on the Francys Johnson campaign: Absentee ballots are recommended and so is early voting. Some 15,000 new voters are needed in this election.

The congressional candidate for District 12, Francys Johnson, encouraged the group by reporting that the race is now a five point race. He cautioned that people need to check their status to be sure they haven't been purged from the voting rolls, and he called upon his supporters to demand a debate with Rick Allen.

The move for adjournment came at 1:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dahlia Newton, Recording Secretary