



## **2017/10/14 LGBT Democrats of NC Convention Minutes**

### **Call to Order 12:10 pm**

Quorum established

Pledge to US and NC Flags

### **Move to approve Agenda:**

Mandy Carter

2nd: Wendy May

Motion passed

### **Moment of Silence**

**Recognition of Candidates and Elected Officials:** Julie Eiselt, John Autry, Chas Beasley, Matt Hughes, Wendy Ella May, Christian Cano, Judge Shirley Fulton, Judge John Arrowood.

### **John Arrowood serving as Parliamentarian at Convention**

### **Break for Food 12:22pm**

Video Presentation - Message from NCDP Chair Wayne Goodwin

Letter from Congresswoman Alma Adams read by Concetta Caliendo

Letter from Gov. Roy Cooper read by Ginger Walker

Letter from Sec. of State Elaine Marshall read by Ginger Walker

Letter (email) from Rep. Deb Butler read by Ginger Walker

### **Introduction of Film “Breaking Through” by Director and Producer Cindy L. Abel and assistant Janine**

### **Viewing of Atlantis Moon Productions Film: Breaking Through: Out of the Closet, Into the Halls of Power**

Thank you by Ginger Walker to Nate Turner for catering

### **“Panel” Discussion: Input from LGBT Candidates and Elected Officials**

John Arrowood spoke about his experiences beginning during the administration of Gov. Hunt; and coming out while still working at a law firm. Running for office while out compared to being appointed contrast illustrated by things like the News and Observer running a headline about him being openly gay and his history of involvement with Equality North Carolina. He expressed that being out and involved helps move the party, and everyone, forward.

Al Austin detailed his experience of being an LGBT African American in politics, and trying to make his community better. He was asked by Christian Cano if it has been harder to be Gay or Black, Mr. Austin replied that being black was harder.

John Autry presented his experience of sheltered naiveté that he had when entering public life and iterated the idea of “Carry the ball another 5 yards” metaphor, citing Star Wars Rogue One analogy for progress in our cause.

#### Discussion suspended for word from Vi Lyles - Charlotte Mayoral Candidate

Ms. Lyles spoke about idea to bring jobs, and the Goodwill program. Housing, crime, neighborhood development and safety.

Janice Covington Allison asked Ms. Lyles about the non-Discrimination ordinance. Vi says she wishes to build a coalition of cities and groups in them and keep going forward in a collaborative way.

#### Return to Discussion:

Mark Kleinschmidt, former Mayor of Chapel Hill, taught Civics at West Mecklenburg High School. He was discriminated against for being gay and lost many students to violence. He spoke about the Great Person of History Theory of History, and that he rather subscribes to the Great Idea Theory of History, which led him to run for office after staying in Chapel Hill after Law School. He mentioned that he used to hire Vi Lyles to consult with the Town Council at Chapel Hill while he was in office.

Wendy Ella May, President of LGBT Club of Johnston County, Former County Chair candidate, and current congressional candidate spoke about growing up with her aunt who was a trans man in the 60s and how she was brought up in an open environment. Now running in District 2, she has organized the LGBT Club, Seniors, and the Johnston County African American Caucus.

Christian Cano spoke on why he decided to run and is running. When a Pastor in Midwood signed onto the Amendment One lawsuit, Christian got inspired to get more involved. He went to see Rep. Pittenger and decided to register as a Democrat and eventually to run against him. His experience was that not only didn't reporters come after him for being gay, gay democrats didn't believe that he was. He also talked about racism and his experience with Charlotte Uprising.

#### **Old Business**

Wendy Ella May moved that minutes and treasurer's report be approved as printed and distributed.

2nd Matt Hughes

Call to Question Rich Elkins

Motion Passed

Wendy May moved that the Standing Rules be accepted as presented

2nd Concetta Caliendo

Call to Question Rich Elkins

Motion Passed

#### **New Business**

Proposed changes to Caucus ByLaws

Change Caucus name to LGBTQ Caucus

Motion to accept Wendy May

2nd September McCrady

Motion Passed

Article III Membership

Section 2 Proposed change to change language to “Who identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, LGBTQ or an Ally;

Moved Wendy May

2nd September McCrady

Motion Passed

Section 3 Membership fee changes to take effect 2019 after SEC approved new ByLaws.

Proposed change:

“1. At-Large Member. The amount of ten dollars per year per each At-Large member, defined as a member who does not reside within and area where there is an organized chartered Club.

li. Chartered Clubs. The amount of five dollars per year per each paid member of the chartered Club will be paid to the state Caucus Treasurer.

Moved Wendy May

2nd John Arrowood

Motion Passed

Article IV Caucus Executive Committee

Section 8 Proxy Votes

Moved by Rich Elkin to accept gender neutral language “they” in place of other personal pronouns in bylaws.

2nd Wendy May

Motion Passed

Article V Officers

Section 12 Diversity and Inclusion

Proposed change:

“In the election of officers of the organization shall make an effort to balance the Auxiliary Executive Committee to reflect all the interest groups of the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary will make every effort to balance the committee with respect to race, gender, gender identity, gender expression, ethnicity and age.”

Moved Wendy May

2nd Mandy Carter

Motion Passed

### **Break in Business to allow words from Mayor Jennifer Roberts**

Ms. Roberts spoke about LGBTQ issues and progress, and being an example to places around the country.

“Think about the victories we have had and how much more we have to do”

Ginger Walker presented a Thank You gift from the Auxiliary to Mayor Roberts

### **3:16 return to Business**

Article VI Organization

Section 6 County Clubs and their scope

Proposed Change:

“Section 6. Only one Club may be organized in any county; provided, however, that two or more Clubs may organize in any county if the additional Clubs represent institutions of higher learning and consist of students, faculty, staff, and their spouses.

II. Multi-County. Where there are not enough members to form a County Club, Clubs may be organized on a Multi-County or Congressional District basis, provided that the following conditions are met:

- a. Multi- County Club. In forming a Multi-County Club, two or more contiguous Counties that share a geographic boundary with at least one other County may be formed. Each County represented must have at least one active member from each respective county.
- b. Chartering. The charter for any Multi-County will be governed by Article VI, Section 9. Chartering.
- c. Maximum Size. If at any point each County of the combines Multi-County Club has and active membership of or exceeding 10 active members, each county must form an independent chapter.

Friendly amendment offered by Rich Elkins to strike the Congressional from proposed changes, after clarification from Matt Hughes about Auxiliary seats on those boards being agreed upon by the clubs.

Amendment accepted.

Moved Rich Elkins

2nd Matt Hughes

Motion Passed

#### Section 8 Official Name of each Club

Proposed change:

“The official name of each Club shall be the LGBTQ Democrats of [the county in which the Club exists], such as the ‘LGBTQ Democrats of Wake County’. The official name of each Multi-County Club shall include the names of those counties, such as the ‘LGBTQ Democrats of Person and Caldwell Counties’. The official name of a Congressional District Club shall include the name of the Congressional district, such as the ‘LGBTQ Democrats of the North Carolina 10th Congressional District’”

Friendly amendment to strike the last sentence of the proposed change by Wendy May

2nd Mandy Carter

Motion Passed

Section 9 0 it was determined that the change was covered in previous change about membership dues.

#### Section 10 Re-Chartering

Proposed Change:

“Section 10

I. Renewing Club Membership. Clubs must submit a membership list and remit a membership fee of five dollars for each Active Member; and provide proof of active and compliant status with the North Carolina Board of Elections prior to September 20th.

li. Renewing At Large Membership. Each At-Large Member, as defined in Section 3.1 must remit a membership fee of ten dollars; and provide proof of active and compliant status with the North Carolina Board of Elections prior to September 20th.”

Moved by Wendy May

2nd September McCrady

Motion Passed

#### Article VII Committees

##### Section 8 Publicity/Newsletter Committee

Proposed Change:

“ Change the name to: Communications/Publicity Committee. The Communications/Publicity Committee shall be responsible for communications and publicity utilizing the Caucus website and social media, soliticing media coverage and making the activities of the Caucus known to the public through issuance of press releases and publishing aperiodic newsletter. “

Moved by Wendy May

2nd Rich Elkins

Motion Passed

## Section 10 - Special Committees

It was determined that the proposed change did not require a motion from the body as these appointments are at the will of the President of the Auxiliary. Sense of the body motion on intentions expressed by interim president and candidate for Auxiliary President Ginger Walker was moved by Wendy May and Passed.

## Article VIII LGBT Democratic State Conventions

Proposed Changes:

“LGBTQ Democratic State Conventions”

### Section 1. Frequency, Time, Place

This organization shall assemble as a state convention at least every two years, in odd numbered years, however is not prohibited from having a state convention every year. The time and place of the state convention to be determined by the Auxiliary Executive Committee.

Moved September McCrady

2nd Wendy May

Motion Passed

### Section 4 Quorum

Proposed Change:

“A quorum for the Convention shall be 50% plus 1 of the duly registered delegates.”

Moved Wendy May

2nd John Arrowood

Motion Passed

Jaime Hildreth moved that the Caucus accepts our designations for District Appointments adhere to standing District lines in effect by current (at any given time) legislature.

Passed

## **Wendy May moved to open elections with John Arrowood as election chair.**

### **President**

Mandy Carter nominated Ginger Walker

2nd Wendy May

Wendy may made motion to close nominations and elect by acclamation.

Motion Passed

Now standing Auxiliary President Ginger Walker stepped in to chair the rest of the elections.

### **Vice President**

Matt Hughes nominated by Wendy May

2nd Mark Kleinschmidt

Gina Cruz nominated by Arsidez León

2nd Jazz

Short speeches by Matt Hughes and Gina Cruz

Standing Vote Matt 13, Gina 7

Matt Hughes elected VP

### **Secretary**

Nate Turner nominated by September McCrady

2nd Wendy May

Wendy May motion to close nominations and accept by acclamation

Motion Passed

### **Treasurer**

Pat Warren nominated by Wendy May

2nd September McCrady

Wendy May motion to close nominations and accept by acclamation

Motion Passed

### **VP of College Outreach**

Arsidez León nominated by Gina Cruz

2nd Wendy May

Graheme Strickland nominated by Matt Hughes

2nd Mark Kleinschmidt

Arsidez León spoke

Matt Hughes spoke for Graheme and read a letter from him.

Wendy May moved to close nominations

2nd Cameron Joyce

Standing vote Arsidez León 19 Graheme 2

Arsidez León Leon elected VP of College Outreach

LaWana Mayfiend spoke briefly about the importance of turnout to turn NC Blue again.

President Ginger Walker presented a gift to thank Lawana for her participation and support.

### **District Elections**

1:

2: Kendall Moore

3: Roy Smith

4: Gina Cruz

5:

6:

7:

8:

9:

10:

11: Clay Eddleman Pres., Mindy Collins VP

12:

13: Jack Register Pres., September McCrady VP

Wendy May moved to declare elections official and closed.  
Vote passes

**County Club Updates**

Peter Engels - Mecklenburg  
Wendy May - Johnston

**Announcements**

Lavender Pen Tour

President Ginger Walker thanked Jaime Hildreth for convention support, thanks also presented to September McCrady, John Arrowood, Rich Elkins, and Nate Turner.

Move to adjourn by September McCrady  
2nd Mandy Carter  
Motion Passed

Meeting Adjourned