

## **DC Democratic State Committee**

### **Minutes**

#### **General Body Meeting**

**Nov 7, 2019**

The general meeting of the DC Democratic State Committee (DCDSC) was held Thursday, November 7, 2019 at the Democratic National Convention building. Charles Wilson, DCDSC Chairman presided and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There were 55 members in attendance.

Committee members approved the minutes for the October Executive Committee meeting, October General Body meeting and October treasurer's report.

Chairman Wilson gave his opening statements to the general body and introduced Roderick Owens, the DNC's Political & Organizing Director.

Chairman Wilson introduces Hala Ayala, a democrat politician representing the 51<sup>st</sup> district in the Virginia House of Delegates.

#### **DELEGATION SELECTION UPDATE**

Committeeman John Lazar discussed the affirmative action committee and that the committee will be offering trainings for DC residents so that they will be able to be involved in the electoral process for the upcoming 2020 elections. The training for trainers will be held Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at the We Work Navy Yard, 80 M St SE.

#### **DC STATE CONVENTION PROPOSAL**

Committeeman Phillip Pannell proposed to change the process of how three electors are chosen by reforming the process to make it more competitive to encourage participation in becoming an elector while also benefiting the party.

The proposal states that in order to run to be an elector, a candidate would have to pay \$500 or get 400 signatures from DC Democrats. Electors would be elected at the state convention. Each ward having 100 delegates consisting of members of the state committees, elected officials etc.

Volunteers would entail recruitment of high school students for community service hours at the convention.

A party convention would have a plenary session for all candidates running to be an elector.

How do we pay for the convention? The entire second floor with all the rooms for approximately \$8,000. Committeeman Pannell proposes to be a delegate there has to be a \$20 registration fee.

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A committee will be set up from one member from each ward and affiliate organization. Committeeman Pannell motions and Committeeman Chuck Burger seconded the motion.

Motion that the committee endorses having a state committee April 18<sup>th</sup> will establish a planning committee for the state convention/delegate selection.

The general body votes yes with 3 oppositions and the motion passes.

At Large committeewoman Sharece Crawford has questions about the flexibility of the plan. Concerns about how this event will benefit the delegate convention.

Committeeman Pannell reassures the body that this will not change the delegation process; the proposal is to have the statehood convention with the delegate selection.

Vice Chair Linda Gray has concerns about the financial resources that the statehood convention will cost and wants to focus on getting delegates to Milwaukee.

Point of order by Committeewoman Chanel Autrey whom feels hesitant about the date of the convention. Suggest a different location to save money.

#### **Review of Amendments to the DCDSC By Laws**

Ethan Van Ness, a ward 6 Democrat is our volunteer parliamentarian discusses the changes made to the bylaws.

Concerns about how the process of amending the bylaws will proceed. Vice chair Linda Gray expresses concern that the body hasn't had the time to go over the amendments due to the bylaw meeting not held.

#### **Committee of constitution and by laws**

Article 1. Current section reads that DCDSC shall hold meetings on the first Thursday of the month. (added) That there should be 9 regular meetings per calendar year. Rationale being that there aren't a specific number of meetings for a constitution which is 4. This isn't seen as being enough with width of business that needs to be handled.

Motion was made to accept the amendment and was second

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Open for discussion

At large Committeewoman Elwood, has a recommendation to say they shall have *at least nine*  
Second

Call to question: Committeewoman Sherri Kimball asks does *at least* call for us to cancel other meetings?

Vote

**Majority Vote Yes**

**Sherri Kimball VOTES NO**

**Debora Shore VOTES NO**

Committeeman Beau Finley motions to change hold to schedule, Committeewoman Crawford seconds the motion.

**Discussion.** Concerns about the language of changing *hold to schedule*.

Committeeman Beau Finley: Withdrawals motion to agree to Committeeman Burger's motion

Committeeman Chuck Burger: Shall hold regular meetings 9 times out of the calendar year. Strike out the first Thursday of the month. The executive committee by majority may schedule regular meetings or cancel.

Motion to move to close debate, motion was second.

Majority votes to close the debate

**Vote on reopening section one**

**Yes-21**

**No-16**

*The DCDS shall hold regular meetings 9 times out of the calendar year. Strike out the first Thursday of the month. The executive committee by majority may schedule regular meetings or cancel.*

#### **Section 2**

At large committeewoman Monica Roache suggest that section 2b says address or phone number. Move to amend "email address or phone number."

Discussion is had about if an email were to bounce back.

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Vote

Majority wins amendment passes for section b

Committeewoman Renee Bowser votes no

Amendment

Add or cancellation

Second

Vote Section 2 as printed

Passed Unanimously

**Section 3**

One third of actual present state committee members shall constitute a quorum

Call to question all those in favor of section 3

Majority vote yes passes unanimously

**Section 4**

***One fourth of executive committee present shall constitute quorum***

Motion to accept amendment the  $\frac{1}{4}$  amendment

Vote Yes-21

Vote No (to keep it  $\frac{1}{3}$ )-22

***The vote stays 1/3 for the executive committee to call a quorum***

A count attendance was made, and 43 voting members are in attendance.

Motion was made to accept amendment was made and was second

**Vote**

**Unanimously passes**

**Section 5**

Motion to accept section 5

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**Vote**

**Unanimously passed**

***Section 6***

Motion to approve Section 6 as is, motion was second

Motion called for a vote and was unanimously passed

A Motion was called for the general body to recess and continue business at the next general body meeting, motion was second.

**Vote**

**Unanimously yes**

**Meeting adjourned 9:08**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Brandon Frye*

*Active Recording Secretary*