

Culpeper County Democratic Committee

Culpeper Police Dept. Community Room

9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024

<https://meet.google.com/gnj-cbkz-ivq>

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 9:22 a.m.

We heard briefly, with much appreciation, from three of the nine candidates to succeed Abigail Spanberger in Congress because they dropped in for coffee and stayed to chat:

- (Joe Tennant, campaign staffer for) [Briana Sewell](#)
- [Carl Bedell](#)
- [Eugene Vindman](#)

2. These new members were accepted unanimously:

Michelle North, Susan Pikrallidas, John Dyess, Sharon Church, Cara Annunzi. Pam Davis, Richard White. Gail Matthews, Bea Doyle, Kirsten Heffron, John Doyle, Sharon Guenther, Bill Maiden

3. Comments from Chair Mary Jo Monahan

Mary Jo expressed her thanks to ex-chair Jim Restel, her readiness to take on the job, and her goals for 2024-26:

- a. Recruiting competent, electable candidates. Culpeper remains deeply red, but we have momentum, and we're slowly changing outcomes.
- b. Continuing to make CCDC a valued presence and participant in the community by getting involved and showing up – at community events, at civic meetings, and on county boards – as Democrats.
- c. Building CCDC's infrastructure to sustain the group into the future. "It's the business of staying in business," she said. We need a policies and procedures manual to facilitate the transition between old and new officers. We need to increase membership, including working with the Young Democrats.

Quoting MLK, she said " 'The time is always right to do what is right.' So let's get to work."

4. The agenda was approved unanimously on a motion by Marilyn Dunphy, second by Carolyn Walker

5. The 1.6.2024 minutes were approved unanimously (Dennis Verhoff, Carolyn)

6. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously (Ed Dunphy, Jim Restel)

February 2024 General Meeting
January 1 - 31, 2024

Bank Account			
Starting Balance			\$ 4,952
Income			
	Donations (Including \$500 In-kind)	\$ 530	
	Dues	\$1,650	
	Less ActBlue and Paypal Fees	(40)	
	<u>Total Income</u>		\$ 2,140
Expenses			
	Office Expenses		
	Rent (In-kind donation)	\$ 500	
	Internet	83	
	Office Supplies	-	
	<u>Total Office Expenses</u>	\$ 583	
	Operations Expenses		
	None this reporting period	-	
	<u></u>	\$ -	
	<u>Total Expenses</u>		\$ 583
	Net Change for Period		<u>1,557</u>
Ending Balance			<u>\$ 6,509</u>
Current Bank Balance			\$ 6,509
Restricted Funds			
	\$1,500 for Operating Expenses	\$ 1,500	
	Less previously expended	1,485	
	Less December Operating Expenses	<u>15</u>	
	Remaining Reserve for Ops		\$ -
	<u>Total Restricted or committed</u>		<u>-</u>
Total Available Funds			<u>\$ 6,509</u>

7. Committee Chair Reports

- **Chair's Report**
 - Ed Dunphy, vice chair for Community Operations, will oversee the Candidate Recruitment, Events (Marilyn Dunphy, chair), Fundraising, and Communications committees.
 - Roger Gorg, vice chair for Precinct Operations, will oversee the Precinct Ops Committee (Steven A. Jones Jr. chair) and the Voter Protection team,
 - Alison Howard, secretary, oversee the Membership Committee (Carolyn Walker, chair)
 - Carol Nelson will head a new Community Education Committee, reporting to Mary Jo. One task will be to line up community speakers for our monthly meetings.
 - We're looking for an office manager. Please volunteer.
 - We'll need volunteers to update our Strategic Plan. The previous one is done and dusted – all goals furthered and/or accomplished.

- **Vice Chair Ed Dunphy: CCDC was a rudimentary committee before the Women's March that followed the 2016 election. Look at us now.**
 - Quality of candidates is great. Abigail set the standard. Moderates beat back MAGA for School Board in the Salem District because Kelley Pearson was a great candidate. Ditto David Lee for East Fairfax Supervisor, and the new sheriff, Tim Chilton.

- We need to encourage the state party to make the Voter Builder database free to candidates.
- We have a robust presence on local boards – aviation, planning, transportation, library, parks and rec, soil and water -- and members in the NAACP, where the new leadership is young and energetic. A new strategic plan is in the works there, too.
- Our IT and social media operations need an upgrade. Consider volunteering for the Communications Committee if you can help.
 - Marilyn Dunphy, Social Events. We're nice people, and we should get to know each other informally. First up, a gathering at Mountain Run Winery to watch the State of the Union address on Thursday, March 7. Later: a congressional candidates forum in March, Culpeper Pride Day in June, a celebration of the nominee after the primary.
- Vice Chair Roger Gorg
 - Working on a text to encourage Democrats not to skip the presidential primary thinking Biden is shoo-in.
 - We want someone who will track legislative issues and keep us informed and up to date
 - The new perimeter for tables outside the polls is 100 feet rather than the previous 40. We'll consider whether and where to be.
 - Steve Jones reported on recent registration drives at the two county high schools, which netted 66 new young voters. Some also signed up to serve as elections officers inside the polls.
 - Steve also previewed crowd-canvassing outside the Registrar's office on Feb. 24
- Carolyn Walker: We ended 2023 with 106 members. In only the first few weeks of 2024, we're at 59 members and counting. She reminded us that membership must be renewed, and dues paid, annually. Members are accepted all year.

8. Meeting Adjourned, 10:49 a.m. (Ed, Steve)