

## **Culpeper County Democratic Committee**

9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025

### **Minutes**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 9:32 a.m.
2. Welcome visitors: Clyde Findley and Heather Schulz introduced themselves.
3. The agenda was approved unanimously on a motion by Alison Howard, second by Steven Jones.
4. New members were approved unanimously: Kathleen Bentz, Raymond Kinsley, Heather Schulz, and Candace Riegel, associate member (Debbie Davidson, Steven Jones). Membership rose to 196.
5. The July minutes were approved unanimously (Dan Else, Steven Jones).
6. The treasurer's report was tabled until September (Randy Dunn, Carolyn Walker).
7. Chair Mary Jo Monahan's Comments
  - Membership is strong at 196.
  - We continue to set up at the Farmers Market three Saturdays a month.
  - On 7/17, we held a Good Trouble Lives On protest at HQ and Culpeper's Social Security office with a registration drive among people arriving for the Third Thursday concert.
  - On 7/23, we held a train-the-trainers session on writing to government officials.
  - Trump continues to be disgusting. Keep the faith. Show up. Vote.
  - Pat Soler introduced her Take 5 initiative: Do 5 short things each month for the cause.
  - Marysa Mullen created a handout describing the positions on education of all six Democratic candidates on the November ballot.
  - Sara Ratcliffe solicited people willing to be interviewed about their support for her and advertised plans for community conversations.
  - Sign up for the Piedmont Summer Rally, 3-6 p.m. Saturday 8/16, at Prince Michel.
  - A Labor Day rally is planned 10-noon 9/1 at HQ and Walmart.

- Early voting starts 9/19. We'll crowd-canvass at the Registrar's office 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Fridays plus the final two Saturdays.
- Local candidates' speed dating event is planned 2-4 p.m. Saturday 9/20 at the library.
- We'll muster 5:30 p.m. 8/7 at the Brandy Station gas station for the Firemen's Parade.

#### 8. Standing Committee Chairs

- Office, Laura Adler: We canvass every Saturday afternoon. We're doubling office staff, a volunteer opportunity.
- Rapid Response Team, Randy Dunn: Tariffs are going into effect "finally, again." They'll mean higher prices on everything. We need postcard writers ready to go on the spur of the moment. It's time to do something.
- Events, Mary Jo for Marilyn Dunphy: BIE Day was very successful, a more positive experience this year.

#### 9. Committee Chair Reports

- Vice Chair of Community Operations, Mary Jo for Ed Dunphy: He and Charles Jameson have been putting up the big Sara and Abigail signs.
- Vice Chair of Precinct Operations Joseph Smith: canvassing 12-3 p.m. every Saturday. Precinct Operations Subcommittee chair Steven Jones: wear your swag at your grandkids' back-to-school events.
- Vice Chair of Intraparty Collaboration, Dan Else: all the committees are stepping up their games
  - Culpeper County put on a potluck supper to watch David Brooks' speech at the Aspen Festival. We'll hear at future meetings from local emergency management officials and Sheriff Chilton on ICE operations here.
  - In Madison, there was a community presentation by former USAID official Anne Gore on the impact of its gutting on the world
  - Orange: Sign wranglers have been busy.
- Carolyn's Game: So You Want to Be an Autocrat! inspired laughter, energy.

Adjourn 10:31 a.m. (Alison, Steven)

Discussion: CCDC's 2025 Election Plans: All Hands on Deck for a BIG Turn-Out!  
Fewer than 100 Days to Go.

**Next Meeting: Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025**