



LGBT DEMOCRATS OF VIRGINIA

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Minutes

Saturday June 02, 2012
General Caucus Meeting
George Mason University – The Mason Inn, Meeting Room #5

Call To Order: The General Meeting of the LGBT Democrats of Virginia was called to order at 2:47pm on June 03, 2012 in Fairfax, at George Mason University, by Maggie Sacra.

A quorum was met for the meeting.

Chair's Announcement: Maggie welcomed those in attendance and apologized for the late start to the meeting. She explained to those that had not attended the state convention that the proceedings had gone past the expected 2:00 PM completion time. She also stated that she would try to keep the general meeting to the time prescribed on the agenda as a Board meeting was scheduled immediately after the general membership meeting and we only could use the room until 4:00 PM.

Secretary's Report: Maggie stated that Chuck had provided the draft Secretary's Report of the last meeting on the website. She asked if anyone had any questions or corrections. There were no questions or corrections. Don motioned for approval of the Secretary's Report as provided. Brian seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: With cash on hand, the check from the LGBT Democrats PAC (formerly Virginia Partisans), and money expected through Act Blue still to come, we have about \$3,300.00. There is still a motion pending for additional PAC funding for the new brochure.

Outreach Report: Don informed the committee that the tri-folds were in and looked great. Even the printer, who prints these all the time, was impressed with our layout. The newly printed "I Vote" lapel stickers, as well as the "VA is for All Lovers" stickers were a great hit at the convention and should serve us well the rest of the year. Maggie said that we should have enough of the "I Vote" stickers for all the Prides and possibly enough for precincts on Election Day, if we have a need.

A sign-up sheet was sent around for Capital Pride volunteers. A separate volunteer sheet was sent around for all other Pride events. Also added to the list were Harrisonburg Pride, on July 22, 2012 and Fairfax Pride on September 8, 2012. If anyone knows about other Prides in Virginia, please contact Don Davenport (membership@lgbtvadem.org) and we will add it to the schedule. It is our goal to attend every Pride that we can.

Old Business: There was no old business.

New Business:

Maggie stated that as this was the first general membership meeting under the new Board, she would appreciate it if all Board members in attendance for both the Caucus and the PAC would introduce themselves and say a few things about themselves and their goals. After completion of the introductions, Maggie asked if anyone had questions for the Board members. An addendum to the minutes provides a short synopsis of the statements of the Board members in attendance.

Maggie then introduced Michael Jones, our new OFA - LGBT liaison. Michael informed us that OFA would be handing out LGBT friendly materials at various Pride events and would like us to take a part in helping with phone banks and other events where they feel that we would be a better fit. Mike also informed us that he would be the go to person for Obama materials including buttons, handouts and hopefully signs. Michael gave out some Obama materials and asked us to sign up for phone banking on the OFA site. Michael also fielded several questions.

Adjournment: The General Caucus Meeting of the LGBT Democrats of Virginia was adjourned at 3:40pm. Maggie informed everyone that the next meeting would be the same date and location as the next Central Committee meeting of the DPVA and that information would be forthcoming.

Addendum to the Minutes

Chairperson of the Caucus and At-Large Board Member of the PAC: Maggie Sacra is a founding member of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Virginia. From 2009 to 2012, she served as the organization's first Treasurer. Maggie is an active member of her local Democratic committee. She served as the 1st Vice Chair of the Caroline Democratic Committee for two years, and then as Chair for four years. During her term as Chair, her local committee was awarded Committee of the Year by the Democratic Party of Virginia. Maggie is also a member of the 1st Congressional District Democratic Committee. In addition to her service in the Democratic Party, Maggie serves as the Treasurer and GSA Liaison on the Board of GLSEN Richmond, an advocacy group for LGBTQI students. She also volunteers at the Gay Community Center of Richmond, and has been awarded the center's Volunteer of the Year award. Professionally, Maggie has been an educator and is now a Certified Public Accountant.

Executive Vice Chair: Brian Boyce is a founding member of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Virginia, and previously served as the Richmond Chair for Virginia Partisans, which is now the PAC of LGBT Democrats of Virginia. Brian has been an LGBT advocate since 1990, when he served on the board of the Richmond Gay Pride Coalition. Brian is a United States Air Force veteran, and served in Desert Storm.

Vice Chair for Outreach and Membership: Don Davenport is the former Fundraising Chair for the Caroline Democratic Committee, a community organizer, long-time Democratic activist, and a member of Equality Virginia, the ACLU, and YDA. Don was inspired into activism by Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. His activism for LGBT causes goes back to the 1969 Stonewall Raid, where he was involved in the actual "Stonewall Riots", as well as the Snakepit Raid in Greenwich Village. Among other actions, he joined over 1 million people in the 1993 March on Washington. Don is the owner of an online jobs board, a commercial construction company, an online auction business, and builds and sells apps for businesses in Virginia.

Vice Chair for Technology and Communication for the Caucus and President of the PAC: Joel McDonald was appointed as the first Vice Chair for Technology and Communication for the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Virginia in 2009. He was reelected in 2010 and in 2012. Joel also serves the Democratic Party as Precinct and Elections Director of the Virginia Beach Democratic Committee, Vice President of Hampton Roads Young Democrats, and also is the newly elected President of the LGBT Democrats of Virginia Political Action Committee. He has worked closely with the leadership of the PAC since joining the Caucus in 2009. He has been instrumental in expanding the influence of LGBT Democrats of Virginia. In 2011, Joel helped organized the first PAC fundraiser in Hampton Roads in many years to support a local pro-Equality candidate for the House of Delegates. Joel is a communications and IT consultant, specializing in small businesses, non-profits, and political campaigns.

Vice Chair for Elections: Charley Conrad is a founding member of the LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Virginia and former Chair of the Caucus. He is former President of Virginia Partisans, now the PAC of LGBT Democrats of Virginia. Charley is a grassroots Democratic activist who has served as an

Area Chair since 2009, overseeing GOTV (Get Out The Vote) efforts for five precincts in Arlington, VA. Charley is a 20 year veteran of the United States Navy, and the father to a wonderful son.

Secretary: Charles (Chuck) Unger formerly served as Treasurer of the Caroline County Democratic Committee. He was instrumental in shaping the Committee, which received the 2010 Committee of the Year Award for small committees. He also served and as an avid grassroots activist and campaign volunteer. Chuck co-owns a construction company and several online enterprises. He is also a member of Equality Virginia and the ACLU, and serves as a valuable community organizer in his county and throughout the Commonwealth.

Treasurer: Abbi Easter has been a Democratic grassroots activist in Virginia for over 25 years. In addition to always being active in Democratic campaigns, she served as a magisterial chair, local chair, Treasurer of the Democratic Party of Virginia, and now serves as the Chair of the 7th Democratic Congressional District. Previously, Abbi served as an at-large member of the Caucus board. Abbi is the Chief of Staff for Virginia State Senator Donald McEachin. She and her husband have six grown children and three grandchildren.

At-Large: Christopher Schaffer is a lifelong Democrat, and has been a member of the Fairfax Democratic Committee since 2008, and a Precinct Captain since 2009. He is a founding member of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee's LGBTQA Committee. Christopher is a dedicated Democratic activist, and has worked on campaigns at all levels, from the White House to the school board.

At-Large: Robert Martin has lived in Spotsylvania County for 27 years, and is a member of the Spotsylvania County Democratic Committee. Robert has served as Outreach Coordinator of the Fredericksburg Area HIV/AIDS Support Services (FAHASS), and is active in the ELCA Lutheran Church at the local and state level, focusing on LGBT faith issues. He is also a past president of Fredericksburg Pride. Before moving to Virginia, Robert served on a school board on Long Island, NY. Robert lives with his husband in Spotsylvania, and has two sons and two grandsons.

At-Large: Linh Hoang and his family emigrated from Vietnam to Oakland, CA, when he was 10 years old. He studied Management at Georgetown University, and now lives in Fairfax, VA. Linh served on D.C.'s Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, and played a major role in Barack Obama's 2008 presidential campaign, reaching out to Asian Americans in Northern Virginia. Within the LGBT community, he is best known for his time as chair of the local group Asian/Pacific Islander Queers United for Action, or AQUA, which he first joined in 2004. In 2009, Linh was a recipient of Metro Weekly's Next Generation award.

At-Large: John Whitley is the former co-Chair of the Williamsburg Democratic Committee and former Chair of the LGBTQ Outreach Committee of Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists. John has experience in identifying, training, and helping to elect LGBT leaders inside and outside the political arena.

PAC Vice President: Brad Hodgson serves as Vice Chair for Outreach for the Frederick County Democratic Committee, and has worked with many campaigns a various levels. Brad served President of PFLAG of the Northern Shenandoah Valley, and currently is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of

AIDS Response Effort (ARE), the local AIDS Service Organization in Winchester, VA. Brad is also a member of the Shenandoah Valley Gay Lesbian Association, Human Rights Campaign and Equality Virginia.

PAC Treasurer: Tom Osborne previously served as Treasurer of Virginia Partisans, and is now stepping back into that role with the PAC of LGBT Democrats of Virginia.

Immediate Past President of the PAC: Tiffany Joslyn served as the PAC President for a year and a half. Under her leadership, the PAC raised and distributed over \$25 thousand dollars to pro-Equality candidates throughout the Commonwealth. Tiffany has a long history of Democratic activism, from founding the LGBT Caucus of the Arlington Young Democrats in 2009, to serving on the Outreach Committee of the Arlington Democratic Committee, and co-Chairing the National Stonewall Democrats Bi-annual Convention. For her work, Tiffany received the inaugural Gertrude Stein Young Democrat of the Year award. She currently serves as a Commissioner on the Arlington Human Rights Commission and as a member of the PenPlace Site Review Planning Committee. She is a graduate of the Sorensen Political Leadership program and a volunteer with the DC Bar Association Lawyer Assistance Program. Professionally, Tiffany is an advocate for criminal justice reform on behalf of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

For a complete list of Caucus and PAC Board members, please go to our website at <http://lgbtvadem.org/>.