

**MINUTES: Culpeper County Republican Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 22, 2022**

Note: The meeting call was sent via email September 15, 2022.

Call to Order	Chairman Steve Mouring presiding. Meeting started at 7:01pm
Invocation	Steve Mouring
Pledge of Allegiance	Steve Mouring
Republican Creed	Steve Mouring
Sign in Sheet	Please indicate whether you're willing to have your email shared within the committee or see the Recording Secretary and let her know.
Welcome of Guests	Steve Mouring let people know we have added a slot at the end of the meeting for nonmembers to speak. A total of 11 guests introduced themselves.
Previous Meeting minutes	Dewey McDonnell made a motion to approve minutes. Janet McDonnell stated op of 3 rd page need to change "folks through" to "folks thought" and that next month's meeting dates should be the 22 nd not the 21 st . Secretary accepted corrections. Terry Leach second. Motion carries unanimously.
Agenda	Terry Leach moved to receive agenda. Dewey McDonnell second. Motion carries unanimously.
1 st Good of the Order	Craig Mills spoke on behalf of the Yesli campaign. Campaign less than 60 days away. Next week, \$1.5M of tv ads will hit. Following week \$1.3 million in ads. Door knocking best way to engage voters. Phone banking also helpful. On Oct 20 th , Back the Blue campaign rally 6pm with Yesli, Nick Freitas and AG Jason Miyares at Madison at the Mill, 323 N. Madison Road in Orange.
2 nd Good of the Order	Mike Allers spoke about his campaign for Senate in 28 th district to run against Bryce Reeves.
Chair Report	<p>Have had several candidates to be interviewed. Bylaws provide for and require a nominating committee. Steve will get that committee going. Need a process for vetting candidates equally. Had a meeting with farmers and county officials about new power towers and data centers. Susan Gugino was there.</p> <p>Steve and Dewey represented us at a district meeting a couple weeks ago. Got sample ballot pdfs from Registrar. Couple mistakes that needed correction. Will be sent out. <u>For the town elections, can vote for 2 people, but we are recommending you only vote for ONE.</u> Don't use the other vote so that Erick Kalenga makes it through.</p> <p>Last week was at Farmer's Bureau of Culpeper meeting met a number of people. Several elected officials were there. Dr. Robert Malone was at meeting and he is a serious Republican so it's nice to have him in the vicinity.</p> <p>Got a call from one of the America Frist organizations, run by Bill Hawkins, which is timely. We are trying to get our act together for precinct training for people working outside. Bill's organization has a lot of materials available to help get people trained.</p> <p>Second golden gavel award presented to Bill Scherr.</p>
Vice Chair Report	Lorraine Carter stated one of her roles is to be the cheerleader. We need help at HQ because we're going to be open more. Need help at the polls. Please get involved.
Recording Secretary's Report	<p>Susan Monaco reported that Missy and Nick White were moved to affiliate membership. Emails went to 4 people who have missed 2 meetings in a row. Reminder that if you miss 2 meetings, you will get an email. If you miss a 3rd meeting you will move to Affiliate.</p> <p>Introduced 2 potential members: Rhett Thompon and Steve Manning, who spoke briefly about themselves. We will vote on them next month.</p>
Corresponding Secretary Report	Her job is to communicate. Lots of avenues to communicate. Dedicated phone, text, email, newsletter every Fri. Let her know if you're not receiving it. We have a Facebook page. Use our website: culpepergop.org. It's a dynamic site with a lot of info: current events, events for other counties, page for CCRC

	<p>events, meetings and agendas. Tab for Yesli. Link for all voting paces and dates. On Oct. 8th at Yowell Meadow Park, she and Steve have rented Pavilion A, which will be next Battle of Badges kickball game. All are invited to attend. Bring a snack, soda, chair. Purpose is threefold: support law enforcement, talk about Yesli, let people see CCRC is participating in community events. It will be in newsletter, not on FB or website. This is a private, not public event, so can't advertise publicly.</p>
Treasurer Report	<p>Sherry Crissman gave an update on collections (\$187.20) and expenditures (\$2,827.25) \$5,970.65 left in account.</p>
Finance Chair Report	<p>Vanessa Short asked Susan Monaco to hold up flag available for \$20 donation. Rodeo was a huge opportunity for us to greet public and everyone had to pass us when they came in. Gave out 300 bottles of water with Yesli stickers on them. Chili cook-off next Tuesday. Need more volunteers to bring chili. Hoping to have 10 entries. Signup sheets on table. Also looking for donations of cornbread. Event goes from 5:30-8:30. Judges will be elected officials: Joe Short, Russ Rabb, Erick Kalenga.</p> <p>Octoberfest is cancelled as we couldn't get a permit from the town for the parking lot.</p>
Precinct Coordinator	<p>Craig Mills stated he wants ALL 15 precincts staffed on election day. Has about ½ slots filled right now. Trying to set a standard and have it staffed from beginning to end. Need to show public what we stand for. This is a big election. We can't outspend Spanberger, but we can outwork her. Effort beats talent. We need to get Yesli across the finish line. Will be signs going up around the county in the next few weeks. Ongoing escalation of intensity.</p> <p>Per Steve, several precincts have no coverage right now: South Ridge, Mitchells and Willow Shade. Low on volunteers for Richardsville.</p> <p>Clive Richmond, Secretary of Election Board stated that Registrar mailed out 1,900 absentee ballots this week. In person absentee voting starts tomorrow.</p>
Motions before us	<p><u>MOTION #1 – That \$268.41 be appropriated to Precinct Coordinator for the rental of 15 tables to be used for election day precinct work.</u></p> <p>Motion carries.</p> <p><u>MOTION #2 – That not more than \$270 be appropriated to Precinct Coordinator for acquisition of 3 basic-quality tents to be used for election day precinct work and other events.</u></p> <p>Per Steve, we had 3 tents that disappeared, so this would replace them.</p> <p>Motion carries.</p>
Election Integrity Committee	<p>Terry Leach stated 36 Republicans, 45 democrats and 11 swing voters worked as Election officers for Governor election.</p> <p>Need people to volunteer to be poll watchers. Steve can assign them to observe what's going on inside the polls. You don't have to be there all day so please sign up. Wants 2 per precinct.</p> <p>Bill Hawkins with Virginia America First will come to Culpeper next week to train people. You don't have to be a member of the committee to do this.</p> <p>Laird Knight from Orange County explained difference between election officers (these are paid by county), poll watchers and poll workers.</p> <p>Larry Green reiterated the importance of handing out sample ballots as some people don't decide for whom to vote until they get inside. Yesli is having an event in Prince William County Saturday morning at 9am and he will drive people up there with him leaving at 730 am. Spanberger is doing an event that evening with Mark Warner. Our country is at stake here and we need to get involved.</p> <p>Per Barby, if someone goes to vote and are told they've already voted, Election Officers can only give them a provisional ballots. Outside workers can give them an affidavit we've had prepared to contest what happened. People outside will be really important. Terry Leach has the affidavit.</p>

	Per Dewey, if you're told you've already voted, that's a case of stolen identity and you need to contact Sherriff's office. Working to coordinate that.
No Conservative Left Behind Committee	Mike Gerzina stated that door knocking volunteers are needed each Saturday before election. Needs people to volunteer to be part of his committee. Per Steve, door knocking is valuable to campaign as well as to us. They don't have to be part of the committee
Good of the Order #2	Laura Morris from Spotsylvania County, President of Republican Women of Virginia, which provides a voice for women, but allows men to join, spoke about her organization. Formed it because she saw our constitutional rights were being trampled on. Group is activists...phone calling, door knocking. Democrats outpacing us in absentee ballots. In Culpeper, we have 17,000 GOP voters, 6,000 Democrats, but 13,000 swing voters. That's who we need to go after at precincts. <u>People outside polling locations are the last line of defense for people who have no idea who's on ballot or for whom they need to vote.</u> We are fighting for the soul of our country. Per Steve, on the back side of our sample ballots, we will include info on how people can interact with us, so they will serve dual purpose.
New Business	Disposition of HQ – our lease ends 10/31/22. New organization will take over lease and our rent will drop to \$500/month, which will free us up financially. Dewey McDonnell has formed America First Patriots, a non-profit club. Will take over lease 11/1/22 for 13 months. CCRC will have same use except for back room, which will be used for spirit gear. He will also use the 2 upstairs rooms. House will be open 5-6 days a week (hopefully Tues-Sat) from 11:30am-2pm and 4:30-7pm, If successful, CCRC rent could drop to \$0. Board of Directors is Lorraine and John Carter, Rex Monroe, John Brick and Betty Franklin. Lorraine will head up general media promotion and event work and John Brick on record keeping. Group meets once/week. Difference between a club and a PAC is PACs are set up to support candidates. Per Steve, wants to defer vote until next meeting. Lorraine discussed merchandise available. Hats, flags, shirts, etc. Will be available at the house for donation.
Good of the Order #3	Senator Bryce Reeves spoke about pushing Yesli over the finish line as well as some of the things the Dems pushed through during Covid. Can win in blue states with the right candidates. Yesli is the right candidate. We have to turn out people in big numbers.
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 8:25. Next meeting will be October 27 th at Peppers Grill

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Monaco, Recording Secretary
October 3, 2022