

High Point Democrats in Action - 16 Oct 2005

LouDean & Bob H, Emma, Kay, Al, Bob D & Kirby met, ate Krispy Kreme doughnut holes & discussed Democracy...

Kay mentioned the Guilford County Town Hall meeting, scheduled this month for Monday [the 17th] rather than Thursday, will be featuring George Gilbert as the speaker. Kay also thought Mel Watt would be at HP City Hall but was unsure if it was Monday or Tuesday.

Al thinks we've strayed from our mission; we've listed some lofty goals we can't achieve, however we need to find candidates we can put up for office in '06 and fund them.

Emma brought up having monthly gatherings to build our numbers.

Bob D. mentioned going out in the community. we have several issues that are unresolved. he also mentioned Vivian Malone, who died this week [Vivian Malone attended Alabama when the doors were locked during segregations. he feels she is a hero who more folk should know about.] Bob raised the issue of the letter that was included with last meeting's minutes. Kirby then read the letter -- and apologized for not reading the minutes, including the letter, at the start of the meeting. the issue is important, but the timing is not right, now, and Bob expressed some disappointment that no action had been taken. that led into a discussion of how do we hit hot issues when we meet every 2 weeks. Kay offered up the idea of a newsletter -- but then you get into politics... go to DemocratssWrite.com

we migrated into discussing editorials & letters in the paper -- Emma's recent piece was great; conservatives attack the person, not the problem, and several letters recently support the DEM view.

Bob wants to tell Vivian Malone's story; she's a hero.

Al brought up finding candidates again; the DEMs are no different than the GOPs right now and we need to find someone different. we have a year before Nov. 2006. that led into a discussion about abortion; Bob said we need to get away from the issue bc it's killing us in the south. the GOPs exploit the late term discussions; the original ruling says first trimester; the polls always show that pro-choice is the majority; it's a serious issue that's costing votes; it's a serious issue and the point is it won't go away. it's so prejudice against women; why can't we leave it private? we need to frame it differently; the 'pro-life' people are pro-fetus but not pro-people, if folks could just see that. the problem is the people elected to office. LouDean reminded us that 'if men got pregnant, abortion would be a sacrament'.

Kirby asked how we develop a timeline. the filing period is Jan-June.

Bobby Hinson is a P.I. running for Sherrif.

what do we do? run an ad? send a newsletter? take a zip code each and put out flyers? investigate blogging? put out door-hangers? how do we get our message out into the community?

contact labor unions & piggy-back with other groups to draw in folk. have informative brochures and/or movie night. once we grow the numbers we can get it going. have events so we can tell folk, 'come out to...'

Al reminded us of his signature '2000?' at end of editorials, letters, etc.; there are things we can do that create interest.

Bob D brought us back to open issues from last meeting, namely the idea of a Thanksgiving feast for DEMs & other unfortunates, which we discussed. we should do it on Saturday after, on 11/26. do we use Armstrong Park? the shelter at the Prseby church? Washington Terrace Park?

we formed a committee to organize the event -- a gathering of food & celebration for socialization & community service -- to meet between our meetings and move forward. the committee is Bob, Kay, LouDean, Emma & Al. they'll meet Friday [10/21] at 5 at Bob D's office. anyone else is welcome to attend the meeting.

Al: we need a banner that says DEMs. we select a location, hang our banner, have our event. but after they go away, have we recruited?

LouDean: have a sign-up sheet.

Al: what's our objective? socializing?

Bob H: we need to meet on specific topics in public places.

we then closed what had been quite a lively meeting.

next meeting Sunday, 6 November, 4pm at Bob Davidson's office.

again, sorry for the confusion on this week's meeting.