



Ohio Democratic Party Executive Committee Meeting Agenda
Saturday, June 6, 2020

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Declaration of Quorum
- III. Approval of State Executive Committee Minutes from 1/15/20
- IV. Appointments
 - a. Resolution 2020-06—Replacement of At-Large member
 - b. Resolution 2020-07—Replacement of Statewide Org At-Large members
 - c. Resolution 2020-08—Replacement of Large County Ex-Officio member
- V. Discussion: George Floyd Murder, the Right to Protest and Racism as a Public Health Crisis
- VI. Issues
 - a. Resolution 2020-09—Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis
 - b. Resolution 2020-10—Supporting Voting Rights and a Safe, Fair and Accessible General Election
- VII. 2020 Election Update
 - a. Biden Campaign
 - b. Chair's Update
- VIII. Resolution 2020-11—Appointment of DNC members for 2020-2024 term
- IX. DNC Convention Updates and Appointments
 - a. Resolution 2020-12—Appointment of PLEO Delegates
 - b. Resolution 2020-13—Appointment of At-Large Delegates
 - c. Resolution 2020-14—Appointment of At-Large Alternates
 - d. Resolution 2020-15—Appointment of Convention Pages
- X. Caucus Updates
 - a. Ohio House
 - b. Ohio Senate
 - c. OLBC
 - d. ODCCA
 - e. ODWC
 - f. Young Dems
 - g. Young Black Dems
 - h. College Dems
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Adjournment

Ohio Democratic Party
State Executive Committee Minutes
January 15, 2020
7:30pm
Columbus Downtown Hilton

Members Present: Bill Benner, Jeremy Blake, Kevin Boyce, Stacy Brooks, Liz Brown, Shontel Brown, Tim Burga, Tim Burke, Martha Campbell, Janet Carson, Grace Cherrington, Maryum Cooper, Colleen Corrigan-Day, Judy Craig, Brad Cromes, Melissa Cropper, Robert Davis, Tim DeGeeter, Bill DeMora, Kathy DiCristofaro, Scott DiMauro, Bonnie Dunkelman, Sam Ferruccio, Michael Friedman, Patricia Frost-Brooks, Lou Gentile, Phil Giavasis, John Gilligan, Bethe Goldenfield, R. Sean Grayson, John Haseley, Ed Helvey, Brian Hester, Becky Higgins, Adrienne Hines, Jen House, Stephanie Howse, Dontavius Jarrells, Joyce Kale-Pesta, Karl Keith, Marcia Knox, Ben Leland, Constance Lighthall, Kevin Malecek, Kathy Malone, Larry Malone, Ron Malone, Rhine McLin, Gwen McFarlin, John O'Grady, Mark Owens, Dinah Phillips, Ann Reno, Carolyn Rice, Mike Sexton, Jason Stevens, Maureen Sweeney, Emilia Sykes, Tom Tagliamonte, Ann Tanner, Kim Thomas, Bridgette Tupes, Ronnie Wardrup, Andre Washington, Paula Watson, Carolyn Weston, Randy Weston, Melissa Wilde, Sandra Williams, Kathy Wyenandt Kurt Young, Rob Zimmerman and Chairman Pepper.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman David Pepper.

Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman David Pepper.

Quorum Declared by Secretary Bill DeMora.

Approval of the minutes from December 21, 2019 meeting. Motion by Mike Friedman, 2nd by Martha Campbell. Motion approved by acclamation.

Resolution 2020-01: Replacement of Finance Committee Member. Motion by Scott DiMauro, 2nd by Becky Higgins. Approved by acclamation.

Resolution 2020-02: County Assessments. Motion by Bethe Goldenfield, 2nd by Judy Craig. Approved by acclamation.

Resolution 2020-03: Endorsement of Congressional Incumbents. Motion by Tim Burga, 2nd by Kevin Boyce. Remarks in support from Liz Brown, John O'Grady, Brian Hester, Mike Friedman, Janet Carson, Ben Leland and Jen House

Resolution 2020-04: Ohio House Incumbent Endorsements. Motion by Emilia Sykes, 2nd by Stephanie Howse. Remarks in support from Melissa Cropper and Lou Gentile

Resolution 2020-05: Ohio Senate Incumbent Endorsements. Motion by Sandra Williams, 2nd by Lou Gentile.

Update from Secretary Bill DeMora regarding the 2020 DNC Convention and delegate selection.

ODP Updates – Legacy Dinner March 15th; May 9th ODP Executive Committee Meeting for Delegate selection. Trump takedown continues. Ohio is a Fair Fight supported state with new voter protection staff Gretchen Bennett and Vashitta Johnson

Remarks from 10th District Court of Appeals Judge Jennifer Brunner, Candidate for Ohio Supreme Court

Caucus Updates:

ODCCA – Janet Carson

ODWC – Kathy DiCristofaro

Ohio House – Emilia Sykes/Aryeh Alex

Ohio Senate – Sandra Williams/Mille Vaughan

Young Dems – Jen House

OYBD – Dontavius Jarrells

OLBC – Stephanie Howse

Motion to adjourn from Mike Friedman, 2nd by Gwen McFarlin.

Meeting Adjourned.

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-06

WHEREAS, Geneva Bates was an appointed member at-large of the of the State Executive Committee and a longtime member and activist for OAPSE; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bates, after serving more than a decade on this committee has resigned her position on said committee; and,

WHEREAS, Article III, Section IV of the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution calls for the Executive Committee to ratify the replacement of a member who resigns, and;

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party would like to thank Geneva Bates for all of her years of service to the party and the labor movement;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Courtney Belcher, a legal secretary for OAPSE, be appointed to the State Executive Committee as an appointed member at-large of the Committee.

Approved June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2012-07

WHEREAS, Article III, Section VI of the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution calls for the Executive Committee to have members who represent various statewide Democratic organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the Ohio Young Democrats (OYD) and the College Democrats of Ohio have both elected a new President since the last meeting of this Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, the new President of OYD, Christopher Anderson, has been recommended to be its representative on the State Executive Committee, and the new President of the College Democrats of Ohio, Matthew Nowling, has been recommended to be its representative on the State Executive Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Christopher Anderson and Matthew Nowling be appointed to the State Executive Committee as the representatives of the Ohio Young Democrats and the College Democrats of Ohio, respectively.

Approved on June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-08

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 6 (1) of the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution and Chapter 2 of the By-Laws call for the Chairpersons of the Executive Committees of the twelve most populous counties to be ex-officio members of the State Executive Committee, and;

WHEREAS, a newly elected Chair of the Lucas County Democratic Executive Committee has taken office and assumed his duties, and;

WHEREAS, Michael Ashford has been duly chosen by Lucas County democrats as its Executive Committee Chairman,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Michael Ashford be appointed to the State Executive Committee in his role as the newly elected Chairman of the Lucas County Democratic Party.

Approved on June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-09

Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis

WHEREAS, racism is a social system with multiple dimensions -- individual racism that is internalized or interpersonal and systemic racism that is institutional or structural, and is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks; and

WHEREAS, race is a social construct with no biological basis; and

WHEREAS, racism unfairly disadvantages specific individuals and communities, while unfairly giving advantages to other individuals and communities and saps the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism is a root cause of poverty and constricts economic mobility, negatively impacting health care, criminal justice, education, housing, employment, food and nutrition and many more issues that determine health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, at this critical inflection point in American history, African Americans are confronting two crises -- the coronavirus pandemic and police violence -- that are disproportionately impacting their community and bringing racial injustice to the forefront with peaceful demonstrations in cities and small towns in every state and around the globe; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association and American College of Physicians have all stated that racism is a public health issue and condemned police violence; and

WHEREAS, Black babies die at more than twice the rate of white babies in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Black women account for 17 percent of Ohioans giving birth, but represent 34 percent of pregnancy-related deaths in the Buckeye State; and

WHEREAS, Black Ohioans have an average life expectancy that is several years less than white Ohioans; and

WHEREAS, Democratic leaders across the state have repeatedly called attention to these inequities and demanded action; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Joyce Beatty has offered a resolution recognizing racism as a national crisis and the need for a truth and reconciliation process; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, led by President Stephanie Howse, has introduced legislation that would declare racism a public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Commissioners, Cleveland City Council, Columbus City Council, Hamilton County Commissioners, Akron City Council, Summit County Council, Toledo City Council and Lucas County Commissioners have considered or will consider resolutions to declare racism a public health crisis in their communities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Democratic Party State Executive Committee recognizes that structural and systemic racism is embedded and entrenched in every aspect of our nation, declares unequivocally that racism is a public health crisis and calls on Gov. Mike DeWine and Ohio's legislative leaders to join in our declaration and enact equity in all state policies.

Approved on June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-10

Supporting Voting Rights and a Safe, Fair and Accessible General Election

WHEREAS the right of the citizens of Ohio to cast their ballots in fair and free elections and to have their votes counted is held sacred by the Ohio Democratic Party;

WHEREAS any reduction in access to early voting will disproportionately disenfranchise people of color, low-income citizens, the elderly, and our military, who often rely on flexible, early voting periods, especially amid a pandemic;

WHEREAS increasing the difficulty of voting by mail/absentee voting will disproportionately affect people of color, low-income citizens, health-compromised citizens, the elderly, and our military, who rely on absentee ballots to overcome obstacles to voting in person and to secure their health and safety;

WHEREAS repealing or expanding statutory ratios of voters to voting machines or voters to precincts and/or consolidating polling locations will result in long, often unmanageable lines and a far less safe and orderly election, undoing the bipartisan consensus reached after the 2004 Ohio debacle and a commitment to never allow that scenario to occur again;

WHEREAS refusing to allow multiple secure ballot repositories (drop-boxes) in large counties will reduce Ohio citizens' access to safe voting and promote the traffic and lines seen in the April Primary;

WHEREAS refusing to use funds from the federal CARES Act and the Help America Vote Act to send ballots to every registered voter in Ohio and/or to pay return postage for ballot applications and ballots is contrary to the intention of those Acts;

WHEREAS removing the ability of public health experts and officials to create safety guidelines for in-person voting, if necessary, will unnecessarily force voters to risk their health to exercise their right to vote and will reduce participation in the election;

WHEREAS restricting nongovernmental voter participation organizations directly affects people of color, low-income citizens, and the elderly, as these non-profit organizations are particularly likely to reach and engage these underserved citizens;

WHEREAS Democrats in the Ohio House and Senate have proposed numerous common sense bills and amendments to strengthen both in-person and mail-in voting, including on-line ballot applications, mailing postage-paid ballots to all voters, additional in-person early voting locations, multiple secure drop-boxes, counting ballots postmarked by Election Day, and allowing 17 year old High School Juniors to train and work at polling locations;

WHEREAS Democrats holding public offices at all levels around Ohio, as well as others who respect voting rights, have an opportunity to assist in protecting the right to vote in Ohio against the onslaught of purging by servicing as hubs of non-partisan voter registration all across the state;

WHEREAS the 2020 General Election will be the first U.S. Presidential Election since 1982 without the protection of a consent decree forbidding the RNC from engaging in organized voter suppression;

WHEREAS an unfettered RNC plans to return to the vote-challenging, poll-watching, and intimidation practices that were repeatedly found to be in violation of the Voting Rights Act;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Democratic Party condemns the voter suppression practices and techniques described in this resolution and commits unequivocally to fighting voter suppression in all forms, whether that fight occur at the state level, or at the county board of election level; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Democratic Party supports all of the heretofore described common sense reforms proposed by Democratic elected officials and urges the 133rd Assembly of the Ohio Legislature and the Ohio Republican Party to join in committing to fight voter suppression in all forms and to promoting best practices in expanding access to the polls for all eligible Ohioans; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Democratic Party urges elected Democrats at all levels of public office to open hubs of non-partisan voter registration, where appropriate, between now and the last day of registration;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution be disseminated to all County Chairs, Democratic elections officials and Democratic officeholders in the State of Ohio.

Approved June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-11

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 9 of the Ohio Democratic Party Constitution grants authority to the Chair to recommend appointments to the State Executive Committee for membership on the Democratic National Committee (DNC); and

WHEREAS, DNC rules require Ohio to name new DNC members every four years; and

WHEREAS, the DNC has determined that Ohio has been allotted nine members of the DNC for the 2020-2024 term, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Party plus seven additional members; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman is nominating the following individuals as his recommendations for appointment:

Becky Higgins
Valarie McCall
Nina Turner
Tim Burga

Joe Rugola
Ron Malone
Mark Mallory

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed individuals be appointed for the 2020-2024 term on the Democratic National Committee representing the State of Ohio.

Adopted
June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chairman

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-12

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party is required to submit a Delegate Selection Plan to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee for their approval; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party has been assigned 153 total delegates and 11 alternates for the 2020 Democratic National Convention by the Democratic National Committee; and

WHEREAS, these aforementioned delegates consist of 89 district delegates, 8 district alternates, 5 members of Congress, 11 members of the Democratic National Committee, 1 Distinguished Party Leader, 18 PLEO delegates, 29 at-large delegates and 3 at-large alternates; and

WHEREAS, the approved Ohio Delegate Selection Plan calls for the Chair of the Party to recommend to the Executive Committee the names of individuals to fill the 18 PLEO delegates to the National Convention; and

WHEREAS, the PLEO delegates are apportioned based on the final statewide percentage of the vote for each Presidential candidate; and

WHEREAS, the final statewide vote was Biden 72.37% and Sanders 16.74% with no other candidate reaching the required minimum threshold of 15%, which translates into 15 Biden PLEO delegates and 3 Sanders PLEO delegates; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals have been nominated for PLEO delegate to the National Convention;

Biden

Wade Kapszukiewicz
John Cranley
Andrew Ginther
Stephanie Howse
Kenny Yuko
Vernon Sykes
Paula Hicks Hudson
Armond Budish
David Leland
Nickie Antonio

Emilia Sykes
Bride Sweeney
Sandra Williams
Brigid Kelly
Tina Maharath

Sanders

Trevor Elkins
Tara Mosley Samples
Tristan Rader

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed individuals serve as PLEO delegates to the 2020 Democratic National Convention

Approved
June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chair

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-13

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party is required to submit a Delegate Selection Plan to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee for their approval; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party has been assigned 153 total delegates and 11 alternates for the 2020 Democratic National Convention by the Democratic National Committee; and

WHEREAS, these aforementioned delegates consist of 89 district delegates, 8 district alternates, 5 members of Congress, 11 members of the Democratic National Committee, 1 Distinguished Party Leader, 18 PLEO delegates, 29 at-large delegates and 3 at-large alternates; and

WHEREAS, the approved Ohio Delegate Selection Plan calls for the Chair of the Party to recommend to the Executive Committee the names of individuals to fill the 29 at-large delegates to the National Convention; and

WHEREAS, the at-large delegates are apportioned based on the final statewide percentage of the vote for each Presidential candidate; and

WHEREAS, the final statewide vote was Biden 72.37% and Sanders 16.74% with no other candidate reaching the required minimum threshold of 15%, which translates into 24 Biden at-large delegates and 5 at-large Sanders delegates; and

WHEREAS, at-large delegates must be chosen to achieve gender equality for the delegation and delegates must also be chosen that allow the overall delegation to meet its required affirmative action goals; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals have been nominated for at-large delegates for Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders to the National Convention;

Biden

Scott DiMauro
Sean Grayson
Anthony Caldwell
Gary Martin
Shannon Hardin
Aftab Pureval
Dontavius Jarrells
Ryan Puente
Leo Almeida
Rick Neal
Kevin Boyce
Dean DePiero
Ted Strickland
Melissa Cropper
Lisa Chanana

Georgine Welo
Jeniece Brock
Patricia Frost-Brooks
Elizabeth Brown
Shayla Favor
Jessica Miranda
Angela Shuckahosee
Megan Kilgore
Cindy Demsey

Sanders

Jamie Dixon
N. J. Akbar
Diane Morgan
Tammy Dressel
Lisa Nguyen

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed individuals serve as at-large delegates for Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders to the 2020 Democratic National Convention

Approved- June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chair

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-14

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party is required to submit a Delegate Selection Plan to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee for their approval; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party has been assigned 153 total delegates and 11 alternates for the 2020 Democratic National Convention by the Democratic National Committee; and

WHEREAS, these aforementioned delegates consist of 89 district delegates, 8 district alternates, 5 members of Congress, 11 members of the Democratic National Committee, 1 Distinguished Party Leader, 18 PLEO delegates, 29 at-large delegates and 3 at-large alternates; and

WHEREAS, the approved Ohio Delegate Selection Plan calls for the Chair of the Party to recommend to the Executive Committee the names of individuals to fill the 3 at-large alternates to the National Convention; and

WHEREAS, the at-large alternates are apportioned based on the final statewide percentage of the vote for each Presidential candidate; and

WHEREAS, the final statewide vote was Biden 72.37% and Sanders 16.74% with no other candidate reaching the required minimum threshold of 15%, which translates into 2 Biden at-large alternates and 1 at-large Sanders alternate; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals have been nominated for at-large alternate to the National Convention;

Biden

Pablo Manon Mateos
Kristin Boggs

Sanders

Jo'el Thomas-Jones

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed individuals serve as at-large alternates for the 2020 Democratic National Convention

Approved
June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chair

William P. DeMora, Secretary

Ohio Democratic Party
Resolution 2020-15

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party is required to submit a Delegate Selection Plan to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee for their approval; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Democratic Party has been assigned four (4) Convention Pages by the Democratic National Committee; and

WHEREAS, the approved Ohio Delegate Selection Plan calls for the Chair of the Party to recommend to the Executive Committee the names of individuals to fill the four Convention Page positions to the National Convention; and

WHEREAS, the following individuals have been nominated for the position of Convention Page to the National Convention;

Kathryn Malone
William P. DeMora
Todd Rensi
Lynn Powell

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above listed individuals serve as Convention Pages to the 2020 Democratic National Convention

Approved June 6, 2020

David Pepper, Chair

William P. DeMora, Secretary