

Southern Mecklenburg Republican Club

May 2008 Meeting

Minutes

THE MEETING WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008, AT CARMEL COUNTRY CLUB, CHARLOTTE, NC, AT 6:30 P.M.

I. Welcome and Invocation

Steve Firestone, Club President, welcomed members and guests. He thanked Carmel Country Club for hosting our meeting, and extended special thanks candidates for local office who were in attendance. The invocation was held, and Steve led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Club Business

Steve discussed several items of new business. We learned that the Southern Mecklenburg Republican Club is eligible to send delegates to the annual meeting of the NC Federation of Republican Men at this year's State Convention. We also learned that our Executive Committee will be inquiring about gaining membership for our female members in the NC Federation of Republican Women.

Our club is currently in the process of forming committees. Any interested members were encouraged to get in touch with the Executive Committee.

George Young, our Treasurer, gave the financial report. After expenditures, we are currently \$734.00 in the black.

Mike Arnold was elected Chairman of the Membership Committee. Mike spoke briefly, outlining his desire to conduct outreach in 60-70 local precincts, and the need for our members (and more generally, our party) to recruit Precinct Leaders in these precincts for grassroots work.

III. Speaker

After Mike finished speaking, seeing that there was no other new business, Steve introduced the night's keynote speaker, Dempsey Miller. Dempsey is running for NC House District 99 against Nick Mackey. Dempsey covered a wide range of topics, outlining his platform favoring increased funding for public safety, more jail space for repeat offenders, and the adoption of a "3 strikes, you're out" approach to justice. He also spoke about his economic plans, advocating lowering both individual and corporate tax rates. With regards to education, Dempsey reiterated that we all have an investment in the future through public education, and spoke of bringing back a greater selection of vocational training for high school students. He concluded by stating that we as North Carolinians have a heritage as a "good roads state" to be

proud of, but warned that to reclaim that point of pride, we need a refocusing on investment in infrastructure.

IV. Closing

Steve thanked Dempsey for speaking and all our members and guests for attending, as well as the Carmel Country Club staff for their excellent service. He said the club will be in touch with everyone as soon as the next meeting's location and time are determined. George Young reminded everyone to turn in their nametags before leaving. Member Tom McMahan rose to congratulate Bob Rucho and Neil Cooksey on their successful primary campaigns. After a round of applause, the meeting was adjourned by Steve Firestone.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Love,
Secretary
Southern Mecklenburg Republican Club