

# VERMONT DEMOCRATIC PARTY

State Committee Meeting  
Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
State House, Montpelier, VT

## Draft Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting Called to Order by Vice Chair Tim Jerman at 11:00 a.m.
2. Roll Call of State Committee voting members performed by Matt Levin. Enough members were present and quorum was met.  
Vice Chair Tim Jerman welcomed everyone and introduced special guests: State Treasurer Beth Pearce, DNC Delegates Noah Detzer and Ashley Andreas.
3. Presentation and Adoption of the January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 State Committee minutes.  
Motion made by Brandon Batham, seconded by John Moran to approve the minutes of the January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 State Committee meeting. Motion passed without dissent.
4. Report from Treasurer Tess Taylor. Treasurer Taylor reported that current VDP finances are as follows:  
VDP Administrative Accounts: Federal \$10,857.76 Non-Federal \$16,730.32 TOTAL \$27,588.08  
House budget TOTAL: \$17,721.53
5. Approval of Executive Committee Appointments  
Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman appoints Ed Cafferty to the Executive Committee. Bill Sander moves to accept the nomination, seconded by Euan Bear. Motion passed without dissent.  
Senate Majority Leader Becca Balint appoints Senator Mark MacDonald. John Moran moves to accept the nomination, seconded by Billi Gosh. Euan Bear abstains, passed by the rest of the State Committee members.  
House Majority Leader Jill Krowinski appoints Rep. Tom Stevens. Euan Bear moves to accept the nomination, seconded by Bill Sander. Motion passed without dissent.
6. Election of Interim At-Large Executive Committee Member  
Parliamentarian Jack McCullough says nominations can also be named on the floor and the members will serve until November when reorganization occurs.  
Perry Kacik nominates Bill Gosh. John Moran moves to close nominations, seconded by Euan Bear. Billi Gosh speaks about serving as DNC Committeewoman and why she wants to be elected to the Executive Committee. Euan Bear moves to elect Bill Gosh, seconded by Bill Sander. Motion passed without dissent.
7. Election of Interim Assistant Treasurer  
Selene nominates Brandon Batham. Motion passed without dissent. Brandon Batham thanks the State Committee.
8. Election of Interim Party Chair  
Sabra Ewing nominates Nick Clark. Terje Anderson nominates Faisal Gill. Jack McCullough gives each candidate five minutes to speak. Nick Clark and Faisal Gill speak about their visions for the VDP. McCullough opens it up for questions from the State Committee. Selene Hofer-Shall asked where Nick got his numbers about fundraising. Clark said he got his numbers from speaking to members of the Democratic community. Gerry Colby asked how the candidates would encourage around the issues that are important to counties. Gill says he will have community forums around issues. Clark says he will make sure towns are organized. Keith Ballek had a question about fundraising, but it was voted down by McCullough. Andrew Champagne says Town Meeting is important and asks the candidates what they would do to help. Clark says he supports candidates in the Upper Valley and he would use visual materials to highlight candidates. Gill says when he was the Chair of Chittenden County Democrats, they met and invited candidates

to speak at the meetings. They would endorse candidates and help them get volunteers. Gill says even though some candidates are nonpartisan, they can represent our values so we can choose to support them.

McCullough opens it up for discussion. Euan Bear, Barbara Hoffman, Brandon Batham, Mike McCarthy, Tom Stevens, Sabra Ewing, Terry Lefebvre, and John Moran give their opinions/concerns about the candidates.

Ballots are handed out to voting members. Ballots are collected. Tim Jerman announces the vote total. Faisal Gill wins 31-7. Gill takes over the meeting.

9. Outgoing Chair Report

Dottie Deans speaks. Thanks people for supporting her while she was Chair, vows to stay engaged.

10. DNC Member Report

Terje Anderson and Marry Sullivan speak about their experience at the DNC meeting for the election of the new DNC Chair. They both voted for Keith Ellison and worked hard to get him elected.

Vice Chair Tim Jerman says we should think about getting a local chapter for Democratic Municipal Officials (DMO).

Jill Michaels says that if that happens, then we should have Nick Clark lead this effort.

11. Executive Director Report

Conor Casey gives an update and lets the State Committee know about staff transitions. Communication Director Christina Amestoy is leaving to work for the New Jersey Democratic Caucus and Jim Dandeneau has started as the House Campaign Director.

12. Election Recap Presentation by Data Director Rob Hipskind

Faisal Gill moves it to next meeting. Rob Hipskind will make the presentation available for county meetings.

13. Announcements

Terje Anderson is willing to attend county meetings to give DNC updates.

Natalie Silver gives an update from Attorney General TJ Donovan's office.

Nicole Bova announces the dates for the St. Paddy's Day event and Curtis Awards.

Tim Jerman suggests moving Party reorg. to March instead of November. He says it is something to think about as we move forward.

Matt Levin asked people to join the bylaws subcommittee.

Tom Stevens says the paid family leave bill will be voted out of his committee soon. He asked members to call their reps and express support.

State Treasurer Beth Pearce gave an update on her legislative agenda.

Ryan McLaren gave an update from Congressman Peter Welch.

Terje Anderson said we should appoint a committee to get us ready for reorg.

Chuck Sweetman tells Faisal that he should communicate what he needs to County Chairs.

14. Adjournment

Motion made by John Moran and seconded by Brandon Batham. Passed without dissent.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicol Bova, Finance Director  
Vermont Democratic Party