



Dade County Democratic Committee

Meeting Agenda

Location: New Salem Community Center (5404 GA-136 Trenton)

Date: 8/27/25

Time: 7:00 pm

I. Call to order by Chair/Quorum/Approval of Agenda

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Reports

- a) Reading/Approval of past minutes (Gladys)
- b) Financial Report (Rita)
- c) Party Matters (Karen)
- d) Community (Debbie)
- e) Voting (Gladys)
- f) Events (Rita)
- g) Candidate Training (Tom)

IV. New Business Items

- a) Fall Fundraiser (Georgeann)
- b) Bylaws Change - 1st Reading
- c) Campaign Organizing Leader request from DPG
- d) Election position (ESPLOST)/Municipal/Signs
- e) Caucus/Council/**NGD**
- f) Emerging Local Issues - Election Building, Animal Control Building

V. Ongoing/Completed/Information Items

- a) November elections (PSC, Municipal, Budget and Other Items)
- b) 1945 Days Table review (Volunteers)
- c) Postcards for Swing States (Emily D)
- d) Recent or upcoming protests? (Group)

VI. Adjournment by Chair

North GA Dems Meeting Summary

Voter Education in Election Primaries

The **VEEP** program will be the **North Georgia Democrats' (NGD's)** way of **providing educational resources to Democratic voters** in North Georgia during primary election periods.

THE NEED: VEEP is needed because during the primary election period, information about Democratic candidates across North Georgia is at a low point. There are several reasons for this:

1. There are segments of the North Georgia region whose primary news sources lie outside the state.
2. Because the region is strongly Republican, most local news sources across North Georgia, even those that are sympathetic and open to reporting on Democratic Party news, often don't because they don't have access to sources of information upon which to report.
3. The Democratic Party itself cannot be an effective source of information about individual candidates because, in most instances, it has to maintain a degree of neutrality during the primary election cycle.
4. The Democratic Party primary candidates themselves often aren't effective sources of even biased information about themselves in our region, because our region is not a major center of Democratic votes during the primary cycle.

THE RESULT: **Democratic voter knowledge across North Georgia lags where it should be during primary season**, which in turn leads to voter participation lagging where it could be because many voters exist in a kind of information "blackout" and aren't tuned in to voting during the cycle.

THE SOLUTION: Since our local county committees also have to remain largely neutral during primary season, **a non-profit that exists outside the party structure can help fill the information gap** facing Democratic voters in North Georgia. **That non-profit is NGD.**

HOW IT WILL WORK:

1. NGD will develop a set of straightforward questions to ask each set of primary candidates. Those **questionnaires** will be sent to the candidates after direct contact with someone from the campaign is established.

2. An interview, preferably a video **(Zoom) interview**, will be scheduled with the candidate and NGD. If candidates don't or can't be interviewed by video, they can return the questionnaire with their answers. The video interviews will be roughly 20-30 minutes in length, with the interviewer (someone with NGD) going through the questionnaire with the candidate in a conversational style.
3. **Recordings of the interview** will be made for later distribution to the participating county committees across North Georgia (see financing section below for more info.) Each video will have some kind of NGD logo or identifier on it.
4. NGD will pay people to do **"1-pager" style infographics** (again, with NGD logo) about each candidate based upon the interview and questionnaire. If the candidate doesn't return the questionnaire or complete an interview, the 1-pager will be completed using the candidate's website and other resources, **but it will be noted that they chose not to participate.**
5. Videos and infographics will be digitally sent to participating counties for content on their social media platforms, helping to spread the information within as far and wide as we can.
6. NGD must **upgrade its social media and website** to keep them current as part of this process. It is proposed that we hire someone to provide a few hours of work each month to do this, as well as make any necessary preparations to begin the VEEP program.

HOW WILL THIS BE FUNDED?

There will be some costs associated with this program. NGD currently has a Zoom account that it pays for monthly. The infographics will need to be created, and the best approach to do that with many candidates is by paying people to do them.

Funding should come from three revenue streams:

- 1) **Each current active Board member** should contribute about **\$25/month recurring (\$300/year)** to the non-profit. NGD will also soon explore changing its bylaws to reflect this reality and incentivizing the organization to add more voting Board members.
- 2) NGD Board members will directly ask **North Georgia counties** if they want the educational materials for the primary election season. If the county indicates in the affirmative, the County Committee will vote to **donate \$25 per year to NGD** to take part in the VEEP program from this year forward.
- 3) If additional money is needed to cover costs, the **Chair and Treasurer will work to get additional individual donors** to donate to NGD. NGD can also **"sell" the materials to county committees outside of North Georgia for a one-time \$50 donation.**

What NGP Can Do for Your County

1. Provide the primary election information listed above
2. Keep Murray's events and meetings on Mobilize (this helps bring in new people, volunteers, etc)* no additional charge
3. Provide access to Zoom for meetings, no additional charge
4. Provide printing for educational materials at multi-county events (no additional charge)
5. Provide knowledge and assistance to youth or underserved group formation while working with your multi-county partners. (Any funding for this initiative will need to be raised independently by you, but we can offer experience-based support to facilitate this process.)

What Your County Can Do for NGP

1. Join our bloc of north Georgia counties in VEEP to leverage more influence over politicians cooperating with us
2. Sharing the VEEP materials to as wide an audience as you can
3. Provide routine monthly updates to ngdchair@gmail.com to keep your Mobilize events and meetings up-to-date
4. Let us know in advance when you need Zoom to avoid conflicts
5. Appoint a person to attend our quarterly/monthly meetings and/or people who can assist in writing political questionnaires, interviewing candidates, or using Canva or similar software to make infographics