



Meeting Minutes

Call to Order - A regular business meeting of the Stafford County Republican Committee (SCRC) was held at the Falmouth Fire Station, 250 Butler Road, Stafford, VA on Monday, 13 July 2026. The meeting was called by the SCRC Chairman, Hank Scharpenberg, the purpose of which was to vote in new members, debate proposed changes to the Bylaws and discuss upcoming events.

Following the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Republican Creed, visitors and guests were then introduced. Next was the appointment of a Proxy Committee for which five proxies were received and announced. The Secretary also confirmed a quorum was present at the meeting. Once a quorum was established, the First and Second Vice Chairs gave their reports, as did the Secretary. The Treasurer then gave her report indicating the Committee had a total remaining balance of \$6,505.66.

The Chairman then provided Virginia State Senator, Tara Durant, the opportunity to speak to the Committee and update the members on various topics such as data centers, the status of pending legislation, and the State's budget. Following Senator Durant's remarks, candidates running for the U.S. House of Representatives 7th Congressional District were given the opportunity to speak to the Committee. Republican candidates Ricky Smithers and Phil Harding each spoke to the Committee about their candidacy and the focus of their campaigns.

The SCRC Chairman then announced the one individual applying for membership in the SCRC (Jason Whitney) and gave him an opportunity to speak. A motion was made to approve Mr. Whitney as a new Member. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a unanimous vote of the Committee.

Following the election of the new member, the Chairman gave his report in which the Chairman conveyed his thoughts on a SCRC Code of Conduct. Specifically, the fact that membership in the SCRC was based on two fundamental principles. First, a belief in and adherence to the tenants of the Republican Creed. Second, a belief that the U.S. Constitution is the supreme law of the land. The Chairman then focused on the need for volunteers for both early voting and on Election Day for the upcoming Republican Primary. Specific actions included the set up and take down of candidate signs, volunteer poll greeters on election day, making SCRC membership applications available to voters, updating candidate information on the SCRC website, and a need for palm cards about the SCRC to hand out to voters. The Chairman also mentioned an initiative to reinstitute the “Speaker Series.”

Old Business

The Chairman briefly reminded the Committee of his vision for the standing and ad-hoc committees and reiterated the need for Members to volunteer for one or more of the Committees.

New Business

Next, the Chairman called for a motion to approve a revision to Article III, Section 5 of the SCRC Bylaws. Specifically, the addition of language that reads *...“Effective 1 January 2027, a member of the SCRC is deemed to have resigned if that member fails to attend “in person” at least fifty (50) percent of the regular meetings in any calendar year*. A medical reason, documented in writing by a Doctor, Physician’s Assistant, or Registered Nurse and presented to the Committee Secretary, will be considered an acceptable reason for missing a meeting.”* The motion was properly seconded; however, during the discussion a motion was made to table further consideration of the amended Bylaws to a later date. The motion was properly seconded and approved, and the original motion was withdrawn.

The Chairman then called for a motion to approve a revision to Article VI, Section 5 of the SCRC Bylaws. Specifically, the removal of language that reads ... “Any Member in good standing may request, and the Secretary shall provide, a copy of the list of all Members maintained by the Secretary, to include relevant contact information. Members must treat this list as confidential and shall pledge to not disclose such list to any non---Member.” The motion was properly seconded; however, during the discussion a motion was made to table further consideration of the amended Bylaws to a later date. The motion was properly seconded and approved, and the original motion was withdrawn.

Adjournment

The Chairman then accepted a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved by a majority voice vote of the Committee. Meeting adjourned.