

**North East Bexar County Democrats  
Meeting Minutes  
DR Semmes YMCA at TriPoint  
3233 North St. Mary's St., San Antonio, TX  
Saturday, May 7, 2016, 10:00 am**

Exec Comm present: Bob Miller, David Coffman, Bryan Gerard, Mary Angie Garcia, Jackie Christenson, Madeleie Dewar, William B. Johnson, Dee Villarrubia. Absent: Jim Lucas  
35 in attendance.

I. Call to order 10 am

II. Approved agenda

III. Introduced candidates for SDEC John Courage, Sandra Thompson; candidate for Sheriff Javier Salazar; Candidates for 408th District Judge Angelica Jimenez, Gabe Quintanilla.

IV. William B. Johnson introduced speaker Richard Gambitta PhD, Retired Chair, UTSA Political Science and Geography Dept. Dr. Gambitta spoke about the Democratic Party Convention Delegate Election Process and Super Delegates against a broader background of the current political situation. Major points: Democrats are dedicated to a creed (left of center) while Republicans are dedicated to an apostle, not the creed; Republicans are drawing districts, therefore more likely to win; Since Obama-Clinton primary, Republican vote is up 16%, Democratic vote is down 18%; 50% of Bexar County voters are single lever; By 2020, Texas should be Democratic; 85% of Democratic delegates are earned (not winner take al) in primaries or caucuses-they are pledged for the first ballot, 15% are unearned super delegates (elected officials)- they are not pledged; The historic rationale for super delegates is that elected officials are assured a place at the table without fear of defeat in future elections "Rational elites have a check on firestorm irrational voters." Clinton has 1703 earned delegates and 469 unearned super delegates. Sanders has 1450 earned delegates and 31 unearned super delegates. Referred to [270towin.com](http://270towin.com) for more information.

V. David Plylar offered a copy of his new book "Sunset at Rocksprings" for a \$20 donation to the NEBCD.

VI. April 2nd minutes approved with correction of one typo.

VII. Chair's Report: Bob reported that NEBCD plans to open its biennial office in July. The club is also planning to develop an informational brochure.

VIII. Treasurer Bryan Gerard reported account balances of \$27,696.11 at the end of April and \$28,178.48 at the end of May,

IX. Committee Reports:

A. Campaign and Candidate Recruitment Chair Ian Straus reported that County Chair Medina's plan for campaign includes providing opportunities for candidates to meet democrats and independent voters on the north side. He is asking clubs and organizations to adopt precincts that voted 75% democrat in the primaries to increase voter turnout by 10% for November election. Moved, seconded, voted and passed

that NEBCD will take the responsibility of adopting precincts 2135 and 4210 to increase voter turnout by at least 10% in each.

B. Communications: no report

C. Event and Fundraising: Bob announced that Kathy Schiedel has resigned as chair due to family concerns. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, voted and passed that Tony Blasi will chair with Madeleine Dewar as co-chair. Discussed Labor Day Picnic food. Bob Comeaux asked for input re: honorees. He also announced that the Labor Council is planning an event on Labor Day also. Bob is writing a letter re: annual pledges through Act Blue on NEBCD website. He asked for Ideas re: annual Spring fundraiser since venue and food costs are becoming too high for event to raise high amount.

D. Government Action and Monitoring Chair William B. Johnson referred to Dr. Gambitta's presentation. Bob Comeaux asked for volunteers to phone bank today to get out the vote for Chris Herring for NEISD School Board.

E. Membership Chair Mary Angie Garcia reported no new members and invited everyone to inform her when there are changes in information for the membership list. After discussion it was moved, seconded, voted and passed that if an individual becomes a sustaining contributor of at least \$10 per month for a year, then membership in NEBCD will be provided for that year.

F. Precinct Organization Chair Dee Villarrubia announced her resignation as chair and also upcoming resignation of the Precinct Chair Committee of BCDP. She expressed disappointment over lack of support for her candidacy as precinct chair in the primaries. William B. Johnson suggested that NEBCD actively support its members in precinct chair elections.

X. Unfinished Business: It was moved, seconded, voted and passed that the Executive Committee make the decisions about where to locate its campaign office July - Nov 2016.

XI. No New Business

XII. Announcements as listed in meeting agenda with 2 additions:

A. Monday, June 13, swearing in of precinct chairs, 6:30 pm at Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

B. Sunday, Oct 23, My Vote Matters rally, 2:00-5:00 pm, San Pedro Springs Park

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 12:10.