January 15, 2023

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose 22 North Fourth Street, 16th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Secretary of State LaRose:

We are a group of Republican elected officials, Geauga County Central Committee members, and constituents. We are writing to inform you of critical matters affecting the Geauga County Republican Party, and to ask for your help in addressing these matters. These issues have become extremely divisive and toxic to our party and have created a great division among our elected representatives and our base.

To put it bluntly, we are alarmed and dismayed at the unprofessional, counterproductive, and destructive character and actions of our County GOP Chair, Nancy McArthur. While her caustic behavior and poor leadership have been a source of great tension and dysfunction for many years, we find ourselves in this moment in need of urgent help due to an open vacancy on the Geauga County Board of Elections, which Ms. McArthur intends to occupy.

We are dismayed at the prospect of seeing Ms. McArthur on our Board of Elections. Certainly, you are aware of the great friction in our country regarding matters of election integrity. We find ourselves in a place where every policy and decision on election matters is publicized, scrutinized, and often criticized. It is therefore imperative this open position be filled by someone who has the trust and respect of our elected officials and constituents. Many in our county are concerned that Ms. McArthur is not capable of upholding the *Ohio Secretary of State Ethics Policy*. Her past, current, and likely future actions reflect very poorly on all in our party. For the good of Geauga County, our great state of Ohio, and the Republican party, we implore you to set aside the Executive Committee's recommendation and choose an alternate candidate to appoint for this position.

We realize this is a weighty matter and would not presume to ask this of you out of mere personal dislike, nor minor political differences. We ask you to please consider the following body of evidence (numbered and attached), which we have taken pains to present as objectively and truthfully to aid you in this decision.

Please accept our sincere thanks and appreciation for granting your time and attention to this crucial matter.

Respectfully,

(Please see next page for signatures)

Current Geauga County GOP Central Committee Members うま ちょうかい 病 してきえき ちょうかい 病 してきえき うち そうちょう あいてきたち そうちょう あいてきため and the second of the second second second and the second of the second of the second of the All the second and the second and the second and うち ちょうちゃ あってのうち ちょうちゃ あってのうちょう 5 - 7 - 3 - 3 Fr - 2 and the state of the 大き ちょうかい 第二のため入き ちょうかい 第二のため入きの うち ちょうかい 第二のためうち ちょうかい 第二のためうちょう うち ちょうかい 第二のためうち ちょうかい 第二のためうちょう うち そうちゃ あってのうち そうちゃ あってのうち and the man of the terry and the second and the man of the second and the

Former Geauga County GOP Executive Committee Member

Geauga County Citizens

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Newbury, Ohio 44065

Chardon, Ohio 44024

Chesterland, Ohio 44026 Novelty, Ohio 44072 Chardon, Ohio 44024 , Chardon, Ohio 44024 Chardon, Ohio 44024 Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022 (Former CC member Chesterland, Ohio 44026 Chardon, Ohio 44024 Chardon, Ohio 44024 Montville, Ohio 44064 Montville, Ohio 44064 5. 77 S. 1. M. Montville, Ohio 44064 Novelty, Ohio 44072 5 77 P .- M. Novelty, Ohio 44072 Chardon, Ohio 44024 Chardon, Ohio 44024 Novelty, Ohio 44072

Attachments

- Previous BOE performance: Nancy McArthur was previously employed by the Geauga County Board of Elections. Her official personnel file contains Incident Reports, Reprimands, and letters detailing her unprofessional and antagonistic behaviors along with violations of BOE policies.
 - 1. Incident Report

INCIDENT REPORT

Conduct and Discipline Policy

Date: 12.3.2019 Time: 3:15 PM Violator's Name: Noncy McArthur

Brief Description of Violation: Brief Description of violation: Broted in George Maplebert as a spokes person for the Board 1 She was instructed as a inst media communications as a representative of the board.

To Be Placed In Supervisory File.

VERBAL REPRIMAND

Conduct and Discipline Policy On 12.3.19 at 3:15, I (counseled/instructed) Nancy M Arthur (date) (time), I (counseled/instructed) (employee name) about: the fact she is not permitted to speak to the medigas q representative of the board of electrons. She has been intermed than another vielation of this type is an extremely serieves Vielation of Board Policy. Employee Comments, if any: Director Signature Tenity Director Signature To Be Placed In Personnel File Copy To: Board Employee Signature

Revised October 18, 2019

2. Written Reprimand

WRITTEN REPRIMAND

Conduct and Discipline Policy

Date: 1.2.2020 Employee Name: Nancy McArthur

You are hereby reprimanded for violating the policy and/or rules of the Geauga County Board of Elections, as follows:

On or about ______, 20 <u>19</u> at _____ you:

Violation Description: Sarved as a circulator for multiple filed portions. Including part petitions for term (prime for state senate and ind; French for state supreme low t.

Rule or Policy Violation Cited: Ohio Secretary of State Ethics policy & B 3 b.

Improvements Necessary:

ANY FURTHER VIOLATIONS MAY BE CAUSE FOR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT



Director Signature

Deputy Director Signature

Employee Signature*

a returned to sign.

To Be Placed In Personnel File Copy To: Employee Board

*Signature indicates review, not necessarily agreement.

26

Revised October 18, 2019

3. Letter regarding unprofessional conduct.

TO: The Director, Geauga County Board of Elections

RE: Phone call from Nancy McArthur

Subject: Appointment for Board of Election Position Currently Held by Joan Windnagel

On Wednesday, January 13, 2021, I received a call from Nancy requesting my support and vote for Kevin O'Reilly to replace Joan Windnagel whose term has expired. Knowing that Joan is running again and that I have expressed my support for her, Nancy preceded to tell me all the trouble Joan has caused on the Board and in the office. As a part-time employee, when I mentioned how hard Joan has worked in the office during the Primary and Presidential Elections (2020) she stated that "she had no business being there and was breaking the law". "she (Joan) interfered with other staff members' jobs and went to the polls and caused workers stress, upsetting them".

I my opinion Nancy's action, her use of crude language, and lack of respect was completely unprofessional for an employee of the Board of Elections.

As a member of the Geauga County Republican Executive Committee, I have a vote for the person recommended to the Secretary of State to fill this vacancy.

With Regards,



4. Letter describing unethical conduct.

To Pete Zeigler & Michelle Lane,

I am very saddened to file this complaint with the BOE, but I feel compelled to do so to ensure the integrity of the Board of Election.

One of your employees Nancy McArthur is the Chair of the GOP. The GOP is in the process of selecting a board member. The Chair of the GOP is currently promoting and lobbying for a candidate opposing a sitting board member and making negative comments about a sitting board member. This may be considered appropriate behavior except the Chair is also an employee of the board. I have two issues with this. First the secretary of state Ethics policy states:

4. Members and employees of the boards of elections should avoid actions and associations that create an appearance of impropriety, that undermine public confidence in Ohio elections officials, or that interfere with the performance of duties by Ohio elections officials.

I believe that the Chairman of either party, if also an employee of the BOE, should recuse themselves and separate themselves from the selection process. They are in effect trying to influence folks to select their boss – a direct and indisputable conflict of interest. There is a potential personal gain associated with such actions and I consider that inappropriate. I believe there is an "appearance of impropriety and would undermine public confidence...." I can tell you I am fearful as I use the BOE to file paperwork etc, that I may somehow be personally and negatively impacted, and it is not a comfortable position. I have never felt that way before. I have always had confidence in the integrity of our BOE regardless of the party in control.

In addition, I consider negative comments regarding a sitting board member as insubordination and again inappropriate, and it also undermines public confidence in the Ohio election officials.

The integrity of the BOE should be a key focus of all employees and board members regardless of their personal ideologies and beliefs. Each candidate and citizen should have confidence that the BOE is acting with the highest level of integrity and honor.

Sincerely,

5. Testimony of poll worker

Dem Poll worker - Recruiter/Trainer
Precent Worker Trainy Friday October 9,2020 10:00AM - 12:00
During the second half of the class, Poll Pad Training
Nancy McArthur presenting, There was an older woman in
The front, row. She has worked in past years, was having
difficulty with the equipment and instructions. Nancy's
Comments to her where rule and condescending. Telling her
 she needed to keep up. Both I gave her assistance from Time to time. We are also to help all
others in the room. At one point the man next to her
offered assistance and was told by Mancy not to help
her. Nancy teld attendees in the class to keep seated, eyes
up front, No talking, even when they are being assisted by
The other trainers.
Nancy's beliavior as a Trainer is the same at all training
classes. Continually wanting us () to part thru and limit questions fanswer time. In this election
cycle we have more first time workers than usual.
Cycle we have more first time workers than usual. I have seen PEO's ask "why are you posting us", "why
 are you going so fost? Our Poll Workers for only use the Poll Pad at elections. It
 Our toll Workess two only use the Toll Tad at elections. It takes time to fell comfortable with the equipment. To rush
The Training is Not helping our PEO's feel controlable controlet
the Training is Not helping our PEO's feel controlable confident + well trained. The atmosphere borders on toric
 2

6. Testimony of poll worker

- Rep Poil Worker - Recruiter / Trainer liave read the comments made and ido cerren aurall the what awas stated.

B. Violent spectacle at Metzenbaum Center, January 7, 2023 Prior to the 1/7/23 Executive Committee meeting at the Metzenbaum Center, Ms. McArthur was seen by several witnesses and captured on video laying her hands on a citizen who was attempting to enter the front door of the building. She was seen to block this gentleman, yell in his face, lay her hands on him multiple times, pull on his clothing, and shove him. Nancy also grabbed the elbow of a woman in the doorway and attempted to shove her.

Unfortunately, it was not only Committee members who witnessed this spectacle, but also other community members using the building and many citizens who had gathered outside the building in order to urge their Central Committee representatives to vote for Mike Petruziello to fill the vacant Board of Elections position. It is especially unfortunate that citizens who were there to try to make their voices heard by their Republican representatives witnessed this disturbing incident.

7. Constituent video https://rumble.com/v25qdgm-nancy-mcarthur-blocks-citizen-from-public-building-2ndtimeinside-door.html 8. Security footage #1 from the inside camera of the Metzenbaum Community Center.

https://rumble.com/v24u8ew-gop-incident.html

9. Security footage #2 from the outside camera of the Metzenbaum Community Center.

https://rumble.com/v24u5ks-gop-issue.html

10. Voluntary Statement submitted to Chester Police by Chardon resident (2 pages).

Voluntary Statement
Chester TWP. Police Department Chester TWP. Police Department 12696 opalocka Dr. 12696 opalocka Dr. 12696 opalocka Jr. Time: <u>(605 MrS</u>
Telephone: Date of Birth: Address: City/State/Zip:
Location of Statement Taken:
I attended a meeting on Im 77th
at met zenboun Center to pan dect
information. There were a pero of us
Une the clours opened and as
a fustile City ating as the Today
Tances Mc aufur 10000 graphenia this way
miles withat and stisking kin bock
tilling him to get book. Ne was then
misted bock, at that time was
ust asking to use the Dathroom and
She wriked Nei to me and said
Contt entre.) have always been able
It go into that building "every moken
Signature of Statement/Writer Unit #
Supervisor:, Unit#

Voluntary Statement Case # 523.0205 Page Dof 2 Chester Twp. Police Department 1.12.22 Date: peentald 1.0 10 Ind 0 00 1110 ene 1 RI onlo Of Abseling 220 Chl elople 12ane ue Were args ore 12) made Caracins Signature of Statement Writer Jaing Quest on ase Who its aterte ule. Sol Sped Mle

11. Voluntary Statement submitted to Chester Police by Chardon resident (2 pages)

officer 1-12.23 Sean Petrelli **Voluntary Statement** Chester Twp. Police Department 12696 Opalocka Dr. Chesterland, Ohio 44026 Case # Date: Time: Telephone (440) 729-1234, 9446 Page _____ of ____ 38 Date of Birth City/State/Zip: Chara Telephone. OLN Location of Statement Taken: hester Police Aept yeas ADDAUT uga's Jule 900 gnature of Statement Writer Witnessing Officer Unit # Supervisor: _, Unit#

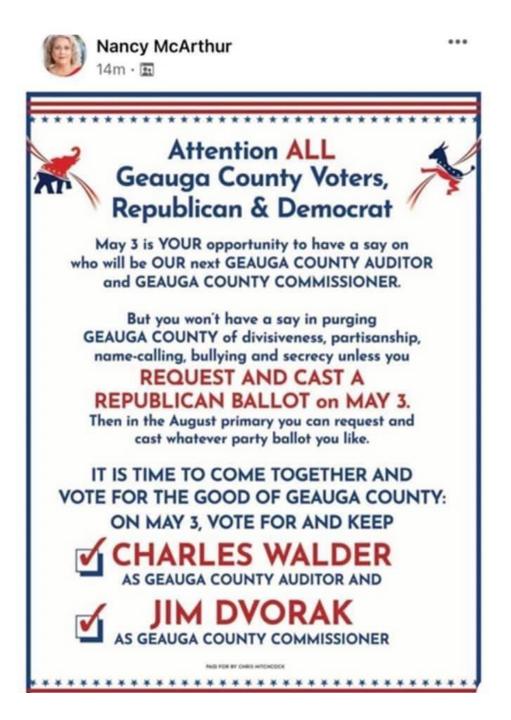
Page 2 of 2 Chester Twp. Police Department Case # Date: m selecr 12 hav KIL nature of Statement Writer

12. Police Statement #3

A third statement was submitted to Chester Police by Geauga County resident

C. Diluting the vote of Republicans in primary

13. Ad sponsored by Chris Hitchcock encouraging Democrats to come out and vote on the Republican ballot on May 3, 2022 primary. This page was circulated and shared by Geauga County GOP Chair Nancy McArthur publicly across social media. Many Republican voters were incensed that our own party leadership would dilute the power of our Republican votes in our own Primary.



- D. Repeatedly violating Robert's Rules of Order
 - 14. Observations from a Geauga County Central Committeeman:

In early October the Geauga County Central Committee met to consider an appointment to a vacant seat on the committee. Prior to the meeting, Chair Nancy McArthur sent an email proposing Ms. Heather Moseman. Many on the Central Committee are inherently skeptical of any such nomination due to a prior history of Ms. McArthur's appointments.

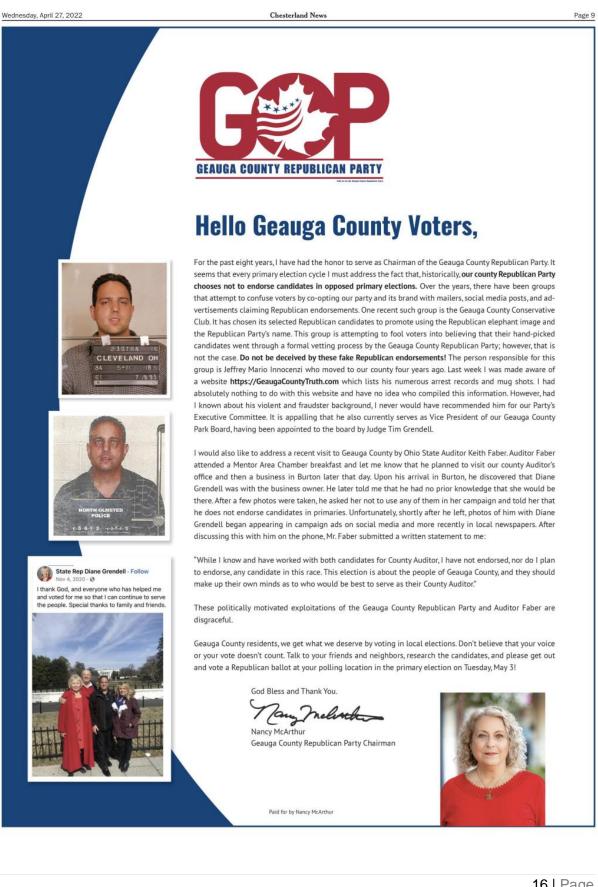
At a date prior to that meeting the Bylaws of the committee were changed to give the Chair unilateral and exclusive authority to appoint.

Information was collected relative to Ms. Moseman, including her voting record (copies of which were brought to the meeting for consideration of the Central Committee prior to voting.

Anticipating difficulty gaining the floor in order to open discussion on the merits of Ms. Moseman, a course of action was decided in advance of the meeting. A Committeeman rose with a Motion to Submit documents (evidence of Ms. Moseman's voting record) and to open the floor to discussion. He was promptly seconded by no fewer than four Committeemen. He was denied the right to speak by the Chair. He and the people who had seconded his motion remained standing. Ms. McArthur began to shout over him. He proceeded to forward the motion two more times, each of which was seconded. Ms. McArthur refused to acknowledge him and threatened to call the Sheriff. Several people shouted back that the Sheriff should indeed be called and that she should be removed from her seat. At that point several Committeemen got up in disgust and left, as the Committeeman trying desperately to gain the floor was now also trying to apprise the remaining audience of their Rights as Committeemen. We are elected and all have an equal Right to be heard. Ms. McArthur has a duty as Chair to observe neutrality and provide a forum in which any and all can speak, regardless of her position on issues. Both are a disastrous failure at every meeting.

E. Personal attacks on fellow Republicans

15. Ms. McArthur ran an advertisement in the *Geauga Maple Leaf* on April 27, 2022 smearing Mario Innocenzi, who had announced he was challenging her for the Geauga County GOP Chair position. Also attacked in this ad was former State Senator Diane Grendell and Geauga County Judge Grendell. In addition she references the website, Geauga County Truth (<u>https://geaugacountytruth.com/about/</u>) as a source which had recently been created on April 4, 2022. This advertisement was also signed by Nancy McArthur using her Geauga County Republican Chairman position. "Paid for by Nancy McArthur" was printed at the bottom of the ad.



- F. General disorganization/disarray of GOP office & website
 - 16. Video of Headquarters (Attached to email)

17. Screenshot of outdated Executive Committee from Geauga GOP website. (geaugagop.com)

2018 - 2022 GEAUGA COUNTY GOP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2019 Executive Committee List					
Precinct	Name	Address		Zip Code	
Chardon City D	Nancy McArthur, Chairman			44024	
Bainbridge Twp A	Karen S. Swan, Vice Chairman			44022	
Chardon Twp C	Lisa Tvergyak, Chairwoman			44024	
Auburn Twp E	Doug Hogan			44023	
Bainbridge Twp B	Kate Jacob			44022	
Bainbridge Twp C	Richard Dobre			44023	

Screenshot of outdated Central Committee from Geauga GOP website. Constituents cannot find contact information for their elected Committee members.
(geaugagop.com)

Geauga County Republican Party Central Committee

Zip Precinct Name Code Member Address City State Chagrin Falls AUBURN TWP A Edward M. Ryder 44023 OH Chagrin Falls AUBURN TWP B Mary O'Toole 44023 ОН AUBURN TWP C P. J. Cavanagh Auburn Twp ОН 44023 AUBURN TWP D Michael Troyan Chagrin Falls ОН 44023 AUBURN TWP E Craig R. Sirna Auburn Twp 44023 OH Karen S. Swan Chagrin Falls 44022 BAINBRIDGE TWP A ОН BAINBRIDGE TWP B Anne Patram 5/23/19 Chagrin Falls ОН 44023 BAINBRIDGE TWP C Kristina O'Brien Chagrin Falls 44023 ОН **BAINBRIDGE TWP D** Nancy Garrison Chagrin Falls OH 44023 BAINBRIDGE TWP E Mary B. Matheney Chagrin Falls OH 44023

3/21/2020

19. Screenshot of outdated Geauga County Republican Party Platform (geaugagop.com)

GEAUGA COUNTY PR REPUBLICAN PARTY

Platform of the Geauga County Republican Party

Ratified by the GCRP Central & Executive Committees on March 21, 2015

Preamble

The Geauga County Republican Party stands for policies and governance of moral and ethical nature that protect individual liberties, efficiently manage hardworking taxpayers' dollars, affirm individuals and families, and create a thriving local economy.

Because the United States of America is founded on the principles of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" and of equal opportunity for all, our platform shall always remain consistent with these principles.

Because it is our belief that limiting the size and scope of government best protects individual freedom and liberty, our platform supports limited government.

Because the family is the best place to develop values, principles, and morals, our platform supports a strong family with limitations on government interference.

G. Prejudicial actions to ensure her own nomination
20. Lack of full communication to committee members.

Shortly after Nancy McArthur became aware that a County Board of Elections position became open due to resignation she sent out text messages. Rather than notify all Central and Executive Committee members, messaging was selective. County Central Committee members fell into three categories:

1) Some received this text message:



Ed Ryder has resigned from the Board of Elections as of 12/7. His term is up at the end of February. Rather than having an emergency meeting right before Christmas for a temporary recommendation, I am looking at scheduling an Executive Committee meeting on Saturday, January 7th at 10 AM for both the temporary and the full four year term recommendation to Frank LaRose for him to make an appointment.

Will you be able to attend that meeting?

I am seeking the recommendation and ask for your support.

Thank you!

Nancy McArthur

2) Some received this text message:

	Tue, Dec 13, 6:59 PM
Hi 🛲	
term is up at the Rather than hav meeting right be temporary recor scheduling an E meeting on <u>Satu</u> <u>10 AM</u> for both t the full four year recommendatio	ns as of 12/7. His e end of February. ing an emergency efore Christmas for a mmendation, I am xecutive Committee arday, January 7th at the temporary and r term n to Frank LaRose an appointment.
Nancy	

- 3) Many received no text message at all. (It is generally understood only people who were most likely to support her bid for the position received text messages).
- 4) After Mike Petruziello entered the race and no information was provided by Central Committee leadership; a new member to the central committee took it upon himself to collect what email addresses he could find and inform the entire committee that there were TWO (2) candidates for the position. This should not have been his role; this important information should have come directly from leadership.

21. Disallowing debate, question, or negative comments about candidates for open Board of Elections position.

Part 1:

Observations of Central Committee Meeting from Committeeman:

On the morning of 7 January, the Geauga County Central Committee met to consider an appointment for an open County Board of Elections seat.

As the meeting began, it was asserted that no negative comments against a candidate for the nomination would be permitted.

Later, this was softened, upon challenge, to suggest that it was a request and not an actual authorized order.

Before the prospect of prohibiting any perceived negative comments was challenged, a Committeeman stood to nominate Mike Petruziello for the Board of Elections position. She was providing her judgement on the matter, including what she liked about Mr. Petruziello and began to outline her concerns about Ms. McArthur for the role. It was at that time that I observed Ms. McArthur lean over and whisper to the acting Chair, who proceeded to cut off the nomination, disallowing any comments that might be perceived as negative about Ms. McArthur. This meant that the body was unable to learn of the three (3) Formal Complaints against Ms. McArthur from her prior time working at the Board of Elections.

1) This information was pertinent.

2) Ms. McArthur had no business interfering in a proceeding where she was not acting as Chair and/or impeding a member's freedom to speak.

Part 2:

After both Nancy McArthur and Mike Petruziello spoke, Committeemen made a motion to open the floor to discussion and question and answer, which was seconded. Deliberation was disallowed without consideration or vote. It is believed that the possibility of damaging information had been considered beforehand and it had been decided that no discussion would be permitted that might cast Ms. McArthur in a negative light. 22. Blocked admittance to the meeting to Geauga County Board of Elections Director Michelle Lane.

Geauga County Board of Elections Director Michelle Lane Denied Entrance to nomination meeting

https://rumble.com/v24kc9m-geauga-county-board-of-elections-director-michelle-lanedenied-entrance-to-.html

23. Allowed voting by Executive Committee members whom she single-handedly appointed. (conflict of interest)

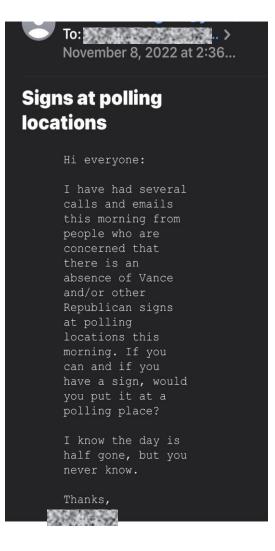
Observations of Central Committee Meeting from Committeeman: On the morning of 7 January, the Geauga County Central Committee met to consider an appointment for an open County Board of Elections seat. The entire body, comprised of both Central Committee and Executive Committee includes roughly 20 voting Executive Committee members who are appointed exclusively by Chair Nancy McArthur. It is a point of contention that the Chair holds exclusive, unilateral decision-making authority over this important group. The conflict this represents, given Ms. McArthur's interest in obtaining this position for herself, was not lost on one Central Committeeman who proposed a motion that these votes be excluded. This motion was shot down and not considered. It is generally believed that Ms. McArthur loses this nomination without the roughly 20 additional votes from appointed members.

H. Failure to promote candidates on Election Day November 8, 2022.
24. A compilation video of dialogue and photos shared between constituents as a result of no Republican candidate signs at polling precincts all across Geauga County.
Once this was discovered, constituents in a collaborative effort went into action at the last minute to ensure the placing of Republican signs were at as many polling locations as possible from 6 AM until 2 PM on election day November 8, 2022.

Where's Nancy - Election Day Nov2022 Geauga County

https://rumble.com/v1tdjji-wheres-nancy-election-day-nov2022-geauga-county.html

25. Email sent out asking for help with sign placement after others also discovered Republican signs were not at the majority of polling precincts within Geauga County. Date with timestamp included with screenshot of email.



I. Promoting an established Democrat to Central Committee

25. Testimonial of her disallowing CC candidate's voting record prior to vote Observations of Central Committee Meeting from Committeeman: October 2022: Nancy McArthur called a meeting of the County Central Committee to vote on the nomination of Heather Moseman to an open seat. In advance of the meeting, Ms. Moseman's name was circulated to Central Committee members. Several conducted research into Ms. Moseman and arrived at the meeting with questions about her credentials for the role.

This seat remained open due to a petition filing issue at the Board of Elections; a member of the community circulated a petition, collected signatures, and was prepared to run. The petition contained a printing error and was rejected by the Board of

Elections. Discussion of appointing this person were not permitted. Central Committee was informed that the Chair has exclusive authority to appoint members.

Members of the Central Committee attempted to gain the floor in order to present certified voting records of Ms. Moseman but were not permitted to speak. The Central Committee was informed by Ms. McArthur prior to voting that Ms. Moseman is a lifelong Republican; however, the voting record clearly refuted that claim.

Forcibly excluding discussion of Ms. Moseman and not allowing Central Committee discussion of either her past or the potential other candidate who had community backing, and unilateral appointment without proper discussion violates the integrity and purpose of the Central Committee.