

Minutes for the January 17,2017 Meeting of the Mason County Republican Executive Committee

Chair Carolyn Cater called the meeting to order.

Ray Franz was asked to lead the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: D Wayne and Cheryl Kelly, Rod Merrill, Hank and Joyce Wykretowicz, Lyla McClelland, Jim Bachelder, Kim Cole, Carole Johnson, Andrew Kmetz, Carolyn Cater, John Kreinbrink, and Rebecca Robinson. Excused absences: Rosemarie DeLoof, John Beckett, Tim Muldoon and Cathy Ingraham. Others Present: Charlie Robinson, Ray Franz, Joe Folland, Nancy Vandervest Dee Bennette, Erin Cater, Jennifer Smeltzer, and Heather Vandervest.

Minutes: Rebecca Robinson submitted minutes from the December meeting via email and also had paper copies available. After looking over the minutes with no discussion Rod Merrill motioned to accept and Jim Bachelder supported. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Kreinbrink submitted documents via email and had them available to look at on the screen at the meeting. The Balance Sheet as of Jan 16 showed we received some income from a couple memberships. Our bank account balance to start this year is \$3505.07 with \$200 not yet deposited bringing it to \$3705.07. Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual w/total net income for this month at \$174.79. The Expense Detail is only one item being the phone bill at \$25.21. Some brief discussion on Carolyn sending out letters to members with the 2017 applications to request dues be paid. Jim B motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Rod M supported. The Report was approved.

Introduction of Guests: Dee Bennette is with Right to Life and announcing the Sunday March in Ludington starting at 2pm from the Community Church with Father Wayne Wheeler speaking. Nancy Vandervest is Hamlin Township Supervisor and Precinct Delegate. Joe Folland is a Scottville resident and speaker for Oath Keepers Organization a Veteran Non-Partisan Group who offers support for Veterans. The Oath is our Constitution and they speak to encourage people to know and follow it. Jennifer Smeltzer is familiar to us as Assistant to Ray Franz as he worked as Representative for the 101st District. She is running for office at the state convention for the 1st District. Ray is currently the Chair and Jennifer the Vice-Chair in the Manistee Republican Party.

OLD BUSINESS

At our December meeting 2017-18 officers were elected as follows- Carolyn Cater Chair, John Beckett Vice Chair, John Kreinbrink Treasurer, and Rebecca Robinson Secretary.

Curt VanderWall was sworn in as the new 101st District Representative. Carolyn copied and shared the Mason County Press article about Curt from Jan 11.

No committee activity to Report on this month.

NEW BUSINESS

Mason County Convention to take place in this meeting room at 7pm January 26. Everyone should have received a Call to Convention letter from Carolyn with details earlier this month. The purpose of this Convention is to elect Delegates and Alternates for the state Convention Feb 10th and 11th. We need 16 to participate if possible. Packets for the Convention will become available soon but if you know you are going the Radisson is booking now. It is very close to the location of the Convention in Lansing. Friday will caucus for 1st and 2nd District Chair and Vice Chair and Sat is regular Convention.

The Lincoln Day Dinner date and speaker cannot be scheduled until Lincoln Hills Club opens for the season. Lyla McClelland will work on getting that scheduled and Speaker will be announced later as we find one.

Monthly Speakers Committee Rosemarie DeLoof has volunteered to head this committee and has already arranged for Katie Miller from the Health Dept for February. There was some discussion on the best time to have the speakers begin during the meeting some preferring the beginning and some the end. It may also depend on their availability. Should be limited to 15 minutes with Q&A after for not more than 15 minutes. Suggested to start by 6:45. Carolyn to talk to Rose about this prior to next meeting.

This year Committees are as follows: Events Committee with Lyla McClelland as head, Speaker Committee- Rosemarie DeLoof, Media Outreach Committee -Rod Merrill with him manning the Website and Facebook projects, Hank and Joyce continue with the Highway Clean-up Committee.

During the last meeting it was also decided to discuss starting a Steering Committee for this year. Carolyn Cater appointed herself along with all other officers and committee heads to man this committee.

Brainstorming Session produced the following ideas to pursue in future meetings.

- More youth sponsored activities
- Have a presence at WSCC
- Have a presence at those events already scheduled(fair booth, Friday night live, parade for 4th of July) and add some new fundraisers. We have good success for the Lincoln Dinner and our Picnic.
- Make our presence visible in community charitable activities such as the Hospitality Inc. Homeless Shelter(Several members expressed interest and John K will provide info to each via email)
- Start a scholarship with focus on written/spoken entries on The Constitution which we judge and award ourselves.
- Invite speakers who work with youth in other areas of our state such as Ferris University and State Youth Chair

The Inauguration is this week on Friday and some members would like to get together. Carolyn mentioned a party in Grand Rapids if anyone wants to share rides.

Joe Folland offered his services as speaker to our group which will be referred to Rose to schedule. He has much experience and would like to be more active in our group.

The Audit of the Treasurer 2016 was completed by John Kreinbrink and Hank Wykretowicz with Paul McCrath. It went well no mistakes to report. Paul also did some training for John on how to prepare the reports needed for the Treasurer.

Our next meeting will be here at the Chamber of Commerce meeting room at 6:30pm February 21, 2017.

RR/1-22-17