

Carolyn Cater called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Chamber of Commerce meeting room in Ludington.

Brandon Wright led us in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chairwoman Carolyn Cater, Vice-Chair John Beckett, Treasurer John Kreinbrink, Secretary Rebecca Robinson, Sheriff Kim Cole, Cheryl Kelly County Clerk, Hank and Joyce Wykretowicz, Jim Bachelder, Rosemarie DeLoof, Cathy Ingraham, Carole Johnson, D. Wayne Kelly, Lyla McClelland, Rod Merrill, Tim Muldoon, and Guests: Heather Vandervest, Erin and Elaine Cater, Diane and Alyssa VanderWall, Rob Alway(Mason County Press), Brandon Wright (MRP),Stan Peterson, Jessica Karboske, and featured speaker Attorney Carlos Alvarado. Excused: Nancy Mauer.

Rose DeLoof requested we open the Agenda to add discussion of June speakers. Jim Bachelder made the motion to amend the agenda to include upcoming speakers for June to the agenda under subcommittee reports in New Business. Hank Wykretowicz supported and the motion passed.

Minutes from the March 20th meeting were presented by Rebecca Robinson. Rod Merrill Media Master had posted a copy on our facebook page for corrections. There was a correction regarding how the Badger Tickets came to be received as donations for our game of skill prize for the Lincoln Dinner. No further corrections made or suggested. D.Wayne Kelly made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected and Joyce Wykretowicz supported. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report was presented by John Kreinbrink. He brought some paper copies but also had the financials projected on the screen as they were discussed. Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual 2018 shows us under budget for membership income. We have done well in the bus trip sponsorships and are above budget by \$500. Expense Detail since additions since our last meeting included Lincoln Dinner expenses of candy for the game of skill and advertising in the LDN, and a credit card transaction fee. We took one transaction already for the Lincoln Dinner and John expects to be able to accept cards at the dinner. Cash payments are limited to \$20 or less. These fees will show up on future reports. Also on the expense detail under postage and stamps there were 2 entries for \$150 each for stamps. Hank W asked if this was an error. This led to discussion about 2 different lists for mailings and some efforts being duplicated. Carolyn said she has unused stamps to return and there are enough envelopes for next year. Further discussion is needed regarding the spring membership mailings and how much to be budgeted for that. In our Balance Sheet we show \$11,165.46 total which includes both State and Administrative bank accounts. D. Wayne Kelly made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report with Jim Bachelder supporting. The Report was approved.

Introduction of Guests: Rob Alway is here to cover this meeting and speaker for Mason County Press, Brandon Wright from the Michigan Republican Party is here to help in any way to enlist volunteers in this important election year, Stan Peterson is a concerned christian citizen from Pere Marquette Township and Jessica Karboske is also a concerned citizen interested in what we do. She is pro-life.

OLD BUSINESS:

We will table the By-Laws discussion and vote until a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lincoln Day Dinner update and report was given by Lyla McClelland. It will be this coming Thursday the 19th and there are 80 confirmed attendees. 32 program ads were sold. Rose and Rod are running the game of skill and need volunteers to sell the tickets(guesses). After the meeting Rose will hand out sample forms and explain to those who can volunteer. Lyla M invited speakers Colbeck(Governor),O'Malley(101rst Rep), and the 3 (35th Dist Senate) Franz, VanderWall, and Rendon. Much hard work has gone into all the details for this dinner.

Bus Trip Update and report was given by Lyla McClelland. The Capitol Bus Trip is scheduled for Thursday April 26th. Carolyn Cater and 5 other adults will be chaperones and 50 students will attend. \$2075 was collected and the cost of the bus is \$1600. We have a surplus we can use to purchase water and snacks with. Copies of our Federal Constitution have been provided by Brad Chandonnet and our State copies will be provided by Curt VanderWall who will also join the group for lunch. CAley and Schuette have invited the group to visit their offices. The students are a mix from Ludington Area High School, the Charter school G2S, Mason County Eastern High and from a local Home School Group. Mason County Central declined this time but wants to be included in future invitations.

Future Meet-N-Greet will need to be planned prior to June 23rd when the absentee ballots go out if possible. Hank W made the motion to explore developing a June Meet-N-Greet with as many candidates who can attend. Jim Bachelder supported that motion and it carried. Chairwoman Carolyn Cater will put together a committee to get this planned.

The issue of whether or not to set up Headquarters was brought up. Rod M suggested that it would be beneficial to use our already established Friday Night Live Venue to serve as a temporary Headquarters to distribute information on the elections local and state prior to the Primary. Rosemarie made that motion to use the FNL booth as a temporary headquarters and John K supported. That motion passed.

Rosemarie DeLoof updated on the speaker committee. She has Jack O'Malley speaking for May and the bus trip students will be included to briefly speak during the regular part of our meeting. Since Sheriff Cole has requested a millage he will be invited to speak for the June meeting. It was suggested that Colbeck wants to speak at the June meeting but we have decided to invite him to the Meet-N-Greet along with the other candidates instead. There is not a speaker for July but Cheryl Kelly recommended that we could invite speakers to discuss the millage requests on the ballot for Oakview and the Senior Centers. Cheryl Kelly made the motion to accept the line-up of speakers and Lyla supported. We approved the speakers and Rose will make the connections.

Although not on the agenda Joyce W brought up the need to get some planning started if we are to participate in the Independence Day Parade this year. We need to purchase more candy this year and make arrangements for the vehicle etc. John Kreinbrink made the motion to have a Parade Committee organized to work on this and Jim Bachelder seconded. The motion carried. Chairwoman Carolyn is asked to pull together a committee soon.

We agreed unanimously to adjourn as the hour was getting late and Mr. Alvarado was ready to speak. The meeting was adjourned.

Attorney Carlos Alvarado is considered a local expert on Immigration Laws and specializes in this. He has clients from all across our country but lives here in Ludington where he has a law office. He is originally from Chile but has also lived in Germany and France. He has worked as an instructor at colleges and for the Indian tribes here in Michigan. He described his job in dealing with the process of helping people through their Immigration experiences. He was very interesting and helped us understand some of the problems encountered in this process and the need for real reform.

RR/ April 19,2017

Corrected: 5-10,2017 RR

