

## February 20, 2018 Minutes for the Mason County Republican Executive Committee Meeting

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

Members Present: Sheriff Kim Cole, County Clerk Cheryl Kelly, John Beckett, Carolyn Cater, Cathy Ingraham, Carole Johnson, D.Wayne Kelly, John Kreinbrink, Nancy Mauer, Lyla McClelland, Tim Muldoon, Henry Wykretowicz, and Joyce Wykretowicz. Excused are Jim Bachelder, Rosemarie DeLoof, Rod Merrill, and Rebecca Robinson. Guests: Brian Patrick (Bill Huizenga Rep), Brandon Wright (West MI GOP Rep), Jefferson Henry (Guest Speaker), Brad and Ben Chandonnet, Ray Karboske, Heather Vandervest, Diane and Alyssa Vanderwall.

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Pastor Brad Chandonnet.

### Introduction of Guests

Minutes submitted from the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Read by Carolyn Cater with projection viewing from committee. No discussion or questions. Carolyn Cater made the motion to approve the minutes and John Beckett supported the motion with the minutes approved.

John Kreinbrink submitted the Treasurer's Financial Report for review. Only outstanding bill is the cell phone. He reports paying considerably less with cell phone rather than the landline. Committee has approximately 1000 dollars in the Administrative account for the Youth Outreach Bus Trip and the remainder is in the State account with a total of 6083.38. Assets depreciated to 0.00.

Membership dues have not risen in price. He is setting up a process to take credit cards on a temporary basis while we are fund raising in the spring. Lyla mentioned that she was asked if we might be able to accommodate people with an online credit card payment. John said he would look into that. No further discussion. Motion made by Wayne to approve the report. Hank supported the motion. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

### Old Business:

Youth Outreach Bus Trip Progress Report: Lyla McClelland informed the schools of the date change to April 26<sup>th</sup> with the number of students and itinerary addressed. Sent out correspondence to Commissioners, County, City and Township officials asking for financial support. Currently have 850 dollars toward

the trip. A discussion about supplying Federal Constitutions brought to light that Brad Chandonnet can get us these.

Membership Committee Report: Tim Muldoon reiterated that our focus this year will be on contributions along with membership. Lyla stated that the list is significantly smaller and we are hoping to save money on postage. We are looking at approx. 225 letters. Government officials will be getting personal invitation to contribute through emails and phone calls because of the upcoming Lincoln Day Dinner (LDD). Lyla mentioned that many officials will show for the dinner but not necessarily pay dues. Because the letter will be going out before the next meeting Carolyn will be forwarded a list of individuals that have expressed that they will write a personal note with the letter. Tim states that he will continue to have these membership meetings quarterly. No further discussion.

New Business:

By Laws Revision Report: The committee met for a review and revision of the by-laws with Hank Wykretowicz asking the Executive Committee members to review the revised by-laws so that they can be voted on at the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The revised by-laws will be posted on our committee page and the old by-laws can be reviewed on our website. No discussion or questions.

Lincoln Day Dinner Progress Report: Carolyn addressed the fact that a Committee was formed for the LDD event with Joyce, Cheryl, JFK, and Carolyn to be on the Committee along with Lyla. Lyla said because of the work and the fact that items were largely sold at a significantly low price there would be no silent auction this year. Fund raising opportunities will be looked at by the committee using games of skill. Lyla attempted to reach out to all 8 candidates today (Feb 20<sup>th</sup>) however some don't even have correct numbers on the SOS filing page. Her next step will be contacting each candidate with a "Hard Copy" notification specifically informing them that they must be a valid Primary Candidate by the evening of the LDD. Last attempt to contact the individuals will be electronically. We will again try to promote sponsorship of the LDD program. Lyla also mentioned that she would like to see a list of the individuals on the LDD program who sponsored a student on the Lansing Bus Trip as a way of saying Thank you. No further discussion.

Brian Patrick (Boomer) from the Bill Huizenga office brought news of what is happening in DC. Tax reform voted in. He's fighting for funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. He's on the Financial Committee and feels that the fundamentals of the economy are strong. Other things he has done: Implemented the Mortgage Choice Act to correct a problem with Dodd-Frank, worked on a bill to remove regulatory hurdles when a small business wants to sell to a relative, (Mergers and Acquisitions), and looking at the idea of banning bumpstocks. Congressman Huizenga believes we have a spending problem. John Kreinbrink mentioned that we are looking at a 20 Trillion dollar debt with a billion going to interest alone. Brian said he would be happy to talk with anyone about issues that concern them.

Brandon Wright. A West Michigan GOP Field Organizer is currently working in five counties (Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason and Benzie). His current job is to recruit volunteers and help build a networking community of grassroots. He is here to help our organization succeed with the Phase II round of earning as much as 250 dollars through phone calls. Pointed out the need for us to also go door to door as the weather improves. He cautioned us that the Democrats are in full speed and pointed out a Democratic event in Benzie that drew in approx. 50 people! No further discussion.

Chairwoman Cater made a motion that we should adjourn so that we could give the speaker the floor. John B supported the motion and the meeting adjourned.

Jefferson Henry of Henry Research and Resources, and The Pere Marquette Lake Watershed Council then spoke to us.

Discussed such issues as old sewer drain pipes throughout the county with insufficient funds to maintain. The fact that money is available through grants with our state divided up into different water sheds. Unlined dumping basins and a history of unregulated materials creates a number of issues. Asked us to get educated and hold government officials accountable because one of the problems is that no one wants to take ownership of the problem according to our speaker.