The Republican Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by Vice President Beckett at 6:30 p.m. Present: John Beckett, John Kreinbrink, Rod Merrill, Tim Muldern, Caroline Johnson, Kim Cole, Heather Vandervest, Wayne and Cheryl Kelly, Lyla McClelland, Diane Vanderwall, Cathy Ingraham, and Hank and Joyce Wykretowisz. Guests: Tina Muldern and Linda Spencer-guest speaker.

V.P. Beckett led the Committee in the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by C. Kelly and seconded by R. Merrill to approve the minutes from the December 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by R. Merrill and seconded by W. Kelly to approve the 5 Treasurer reports submitted noting that these will be sent by Treasurer Kreinbrink to the State per By-Law annual guidelines. Motion carried.

Old Business:
Issues & Priorities—Hank Wykretowisz reviewed the By-Law’s Policy and Procedure that has been updated. Motion by W. Kelly and seconded by C. Ingraham to accept the updated By-Law’s and Policy and Procedure. Motion carried.

Other Committee: L. McClelland updated the group on the Bus Trip and Youth Sponsorship’s. Lyla noted that date picked is April 5 for the Bus Trip, unfortunately, was informed that the State Legislature was not in session during this time due to Spring Break. Lyla noted that letters were sent to both Scottville and Ludington Optimist Clubs, as well as the Rotary Club of Ludington, and all County Commissioners asking to sponsor a youth for this Republican Sponsored Trip. Individuals wishing to sponsor a youth are asked to please see Lyla to fill out the appropriate paperwork.

Lyla will make contact with a representative from the State and School officials from Ludington Area Schools, Mason County Central and Mason County Eastern and change the date once a new one has been established. Needed are 50 sponsorships or $1600.00 to cover the cost of the bus rental, $25/per student. All members are encouraged to participate and sponsor a Mason County Youth in this endeavor.

In addition, Lyla noted that she had a conversation with the Ludington Daily News regarding an article that was in the paper from high school student regarding the student’s impression regarding politics. Lyla will be interviewed at a later date. Lyla has made contact with the student and invited her to our meetings.

Speakers for upcoming meetings: Rosemarie Deloof and Tim Muldern put together a list of upcoming Guest speakers. If you have any ideas on topics, please see one of them.

Media Master: Rod Merrill noted that viewing has been down on the Face book page. Please make sure all postings are of “Positive content” should you post something on the page. Rod is looking for ways to increase viewership.
Membership Committee: Tim Muldern reviewed the Membership meeting that took place on November 30, 2017. Several great ideas were discussed. Main theme is to increase membership to the Local Party and ways to accomplish this goal. They will meet again January 22, 2018 at the Book Mark back room at 5:30 p.m. to discuss further ideas and implementation. An updated membership list is in the process.

New Business: By-Laws Committee will be meeting and making a few adjustments.

Lyla discussed increasing membership for 2018 and everyone submitting 2 names and writing a personal note to send with the membership letter.

Discussion regarding support of the Pere Marquette Cross at the Peterson Auditorium-January 23, 2018.

John Wells will be meeting with the group in the future. Caroline will need to coordinate. This item was tabled at this time.

Next meeting February 20, 2018 at the Chamber of Commerce meeting room at the Mason County Airport.

Discussed the National Day of Training for the Republican Leadership Initiative. More information is to come regarding this topic.

Cathy Ingraham noted that she was circulating petitions to have part-time Legislature for the State of Michigan. She was informed to review the By-Law’s as use of the “Party” name was not allowed until after Committee approval of 60% of members in attendance at a formal Executive Committee meeting.

With nothing further to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Guest Speaker Linda Spencer of the SS Milwaukee spoke with the Committee at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kelly, sub for Rebecca Robinson