

Minutes for the August 15, 2017 Meeting of the Mason County Republican Executive Committee

Chairwoman Carolyn Cater opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carole Johnson.

Members and Guests present: Rebecca and Charlie Robinson, Jamie Bandstra, Rose DeLoof, Lyla McClelland, John Kreinbrink, Rod Merrill, Tim Muldoon, Diane J Schindlbeck, Heather Vandervest, Representative Curt VanderWall and his wife Diane, Annette Quillan, Hank and Joyce Wykretowicz, Jim Bachelder, Carole Johnson, Carolyn Cater. Absent with excuse were John Beckett, Cheryl Kelly and Kim Cole.

Minutes were posted on facebook early in the month by Rod Merrill with request to review and correct prior to the final draft. Rebecca Robinson made corrections as needed and submitted via email today the final version. There was also paper copies distributed to look over. There were no needed corrections or discussion. Jim Bachelder made the motion to accept the minutes and Joyce Wykretowicz supported. The minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's report documents were emailed to members prior to this meeting by John Kreinbrink and then paper copies were distributed to all to read along while John projected each document on the wall screen. The Expense Detail for January through Aug 15 included new expenses since our last meeting. The Chamber dues were paid, a box of checks were purchased for our new administrative bank account, and the fair booth rent was paid. As discussed at our previous meeting John started a cheaper phone plan with limited minutes which goes up by increments if we use more than our data limit. The Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual showed new \$50 income from auction item and a \$40 deposit expense for the Suttons Landing for the Fall Picnic. The Balance Sheet shows that we have \$5967.59 in the regular bank account. Our new administrative account is not shown on this document yet. Rod Merrill motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report with Rose DeLoof supporting and the report was approved.

Lyla McClelland and John Kreinbrink browsed our historical financials to compare bank balances for the past years with this year. We have had years where we had more money in the bank mainly because people paid membership dues. Some township officials have not been paying their dues while in office each year as they should after they got elected. There is a suggestion from the Steering Committee to reinstate the Dues Committee again in December prior to the annual mailings in January by the Chairwoman.

Introduction of guests: Diane Schindlbeck is here from the State Republican Committee and will have 10 minutes to brief us on what is happening in that Committee., Jamie Bandstra is here to speak about the Charter School he is Superintendent and Principal of in our county called Gateway to Success Academy and Annette Quillan is here to learn more about that school and hear what Jamie has to say.

OLD BUSINESS and COMMITTEE REPORTS

West Michigan Fair (August 8-12) report was submitted by Lyla McClelland. She did the setting up and dismantling the booth. There were no expenses except the rent because we used materials we already had in storage. We collected \$1.15 in donations which will go into our new administrative account. We gave out business cards, literature , bags and pencils. Jim Bachelder, John Beckett, Rose DeLoof, Carole Johnson, John Kreinbrink, Lyla McClelland, Rod Merrill, Becky Robinson, and County Treasurer

Andrew Kmetz worked the booth. Senatorial candidate Ray Franz spent time there as well. Lyla plans to write some suggestions in a letter to the Fair Board President Mike Stakenas about things that had been used in past to successfully attract more people into the commercial building.

Lyla also reported on the Friday Night Live events that happened in the Ludington downtown on July 14, 21, and 28th. August 4th event was rained out. Volunteers for the 2 nightly shifts included Lyla McClelland, John Kreinbrink, Tim Muldoon, Heather VanderVest, John Beckett, and Hank and Joyce Wykretowicz. There was no cost to participate and we received a total of \$5 in donations. Literature and business cards were handed out. The canopy worked very well except in wind. It is recommended to weigh it down on the corners with sand-filled pvc pipes for future use.

Highway Clean-Up this fall will be the week of Sept 23-Oct 1. Hank Wykretowicz will not be here to organize us and asks for someone else to volunteer. John Kreinbrink offers to bring the bags and vests to the Pere Marquette parking area where we meet to begin. Paul McCrath is not here and he usually participates with us so Becky Robinson will get a reminder to him. We do have a meeting prior to this date where we can confirm volunteers to participate. Most people are available on Tuesday the 26th and we decided to plan on that day.

NEW BUSINESS

T-shirts have been something we have discussed getting ordered several times in the recent past. Lyla McClelland spoke with someone who is able to do shirts for us in red similar to what we have gotten before. She sent a sign up sheet around to find out how many and what sizes are needed. This will be revisited at our next meeting.

Canopy Lettering is much needed for our new canopy for displaying the name of our group. Lyla has asked Colleen Barber for an estimate to do all 4 sides. Colleen suggests detachable canvas for the lettering which has grommets. She can do this for \$210 total. This would allow us to use those sides for more than just outside on the canopy. We will make a formal decision about this at a future meeting.

Our Annual Fall Picnic is September 10 on Sunday at 1-3pm at Suttons Landing in Ludington. It is open to the public and will be announced in the Daily News each week until then. We need to be inviting people to come. Commissioners and elected officials are invited. Hank Wykretowicz will get a flyer out to us for copying and distributing this week. Marcia Sadler will cater the food again this year. Since this event happens before our next meeting Lyla asks that people show up to help her with set up at the park.

Delegates and Michigan Republican Incentive Program. Diane Schindlbeck is here from state party to speak about what she is doing in the Precinct Delegate Committee in order to get some training and encouragement out to counties to recruit more delegates. There are many vacancies in our counties which if filled could make a huge difference in the outcome of races next year. We have in this county 65 delegate positions with only 16 filled. There are many methods we can learn to get people interested in becoming delegates and we would be able to receive money for successfully recruiting. Literature is available if interested. She also briefly spoke about a local Trump Rally taking place this next week in Hesperia at the Yoberosa. Food is provided with Dave Agema speaking and other candidates as well. Please read the poster she has provided with details of how to register to attend. She is a member of the Michigan Trump Republicans recruited to support and report back to President Trump.

Creating a Mission Statement Committee would be a group volunteering to meet to develop a new mission statement to address what is our purpose for existing so that we can better establish goals and objectives to meet our mission effectively. That group would bring to our members a completed statement for us to approve. Rose DeLoof, Tim Muldoon, John Kreinbrink and possibly Hank Wykretowicz are interested in working on this committee.

Joyce Wykretowicz requests that we put the youth bus trip to the Capitol on the agenda for the next meeting in September.

Our next meeting will be Sept 19, at 6:30 out at the All Seasons Resort pavilion on Long Lake in Branch. Becky and Charlie will grill hamburgers and hotdogs, provide buns and condiments and some drinks. Please bring a dish to share if you can. You are welcome to come early and enjoy some time at the lakefront if weather permits. We may even offer some pontoon rides if there is any interest.

The address is 7460 E US Highway 10 Branch 49402. 231 690 4649 if you need info.

Jim Bachelder motioned to adjourn the meeting so we can offer Jamie Bandstra time to speak about our own local Gateway to Success Academy Charter School. Joyce Wykretowicz supported and the meeting was adjourned after a 59 minute meeting.

RR-August 22,2017