November 21, 2017 Minutes for the Mason County Republican Executive Committee Meeting

Chairwoman Carolyn Cater called the meeting to order at around 6:30 in the meeting room at the Lakeshore Resource Network Center in Ludington. We had to relocate again this month from our usual location in the Chamber of Commerce meeting room due to continuing plumbing problems.


The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Cathy Ingraham.

Minutes submitted from the October 17th meeting had been posted, corrected and reposted by Rod Merrill on member only facebook page for review. There had been errors on the suggested tip amount for the Bus Trip to the Capitol and also regarding the Homeless Shelter volunteer opportunity. The final corrected copy was emailed to members and others by Rebecca Robinson prior to this meeting and paper copies are available at this time. There was no discussion or questions and Rosemarie DeLoof made the motion to approve as submitted. D.Wayne Kelly supported the motion and the minutes were approved.

The Treasurer’s Report also was emailed out prior to this meeting for review and John Kreinbrink made paper copies available as well as using the over head screen for viewing and discussion. Not much new for this past month on the Expense Detail just a phone bill. Total paid expenses so far this year has been $4876.77. Total income was $7566.67 which fell short of the budget by $583.33. We are down in memberships from our desired budget. The Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual showed net income after expenses is $1996.88. In the Administrative checking we have $228.15 and the State checking there is $5225.87 for a total of $5454.02. Please refer to the Balance Sheet document for specifics on details. Rosemarie DeLoof made the motion to approve the submitted report and Lyla McClelland supported. The Treasurer’s Report was approved.

Introduction of Guests: Bob and Karen Carr are here to speak briefly about running for the US Senate, Matt Kooiman is representing Bill Huizenga’s office, and Colton Mokofsky is here from the Ludington Daily News.

OLD BUSINESS:
Rose DeLoof was in charge of organizing the Homeless Shelter volunteer opportunity night for November 29th. She reports that those staying the night are herself, John Kreinbrink and Jim Bachelder. John and Cathy Beckett and Tim Muldoon will be evening visitors. Carolyn Cater is providing the supper entre and plans a meat/potatoes(scalloped potatoes) dish along with goulash. Cathy Ingraham will bring dinner rolls, John Beckett will provide the salad and Carole Johnson a dessert. Planning for 25 people. The breakfast meal will be brought in by Cheryl Kelly.

Committee Reports:
Issues and Priorities: Policies and Procedures Committee Results. The Committee met and completed Policies and Procedures document which is submitted by Hank Wykretowicz as Chair of the Committee but since he is absent for this meeting it will be studied and then voted on at our next meeting for approval.
The BusTrip/ Youth Outreach Committee was reported on by Chair Lyla McClelland. The Committee met on November 13th. The date selected pending approval by Bus Line and the State Offices will be April 10th which is a Thursday. There is a noon session the group can attend. There will be 25 students from Ludington Area Schools, 20 from Mason County Central and 5 from Mason County Eastern. Those numbers represent the population in each district. There will be 6 chaperones which can be from each school. If needed one from our group may attend. Lyla has done some work contacting groups and composing a letter describing the opportunity to sponsor a student for $25 each. The Optimist and Rotary Clubs will be solicited first and then Executive Committee members, Commissioners and State mandated members, and Township Officials. Matt Kooiman suggested we contact Bill Huizenga and he will be interested to sponsor a student as he has done for other counties. We will be emailing and mailing these out in the months ahead of the trip. State Constitutions will be available to students on the return trip home and we will need to procure drinks and snacks for both ways. Lunch will be provided at the Capitol.

Rose DeLoof reported on the Speakership Committee. Next meeting is Christmas time and there is no scheduled speaker. Tonya Schuitmaker has expressed interest in coming to meet us as she is running for Attorney General. In January we would like someone from the Lakeshore Resource Center to speak and give us a tour.

Rod Merrill reported on the Media Master Committee. He has been trying to keep up with posting candidate information as it comes to him. Please submit information you want published. Again, Matt Kooiman reports that he will provide info from Huizenga for posting and there is alot of it. Also please comment and share those items published so that they reach a larger audience.

NEW BUSINESS:
It has been brought up in past meetings that the By-Laws may need some revising. Carolyn appointed Hank Wykretowicz and Cheryl Kelly to be a part of a By-Laws Committee. In order to change the group would have to have 60% agreement to make a change to the existing by-laws. Carolyn will sit on this Committee as well.

Membership List for the upcoming election year, 2018. Tim Muldoon volunteers to Chair a Committee to meet prior to our next meeting to “brainstorm” ideas to recruit members. Rosemarie DeLoof, Cathy Ingraham, and Lyla McClelland agree to participate. He will invite others and schedule a meeting room. There is a need to revise the current list of potential people and all are asked to supply names as they can think of them. Also completing Phase II of the Incentive program would help with this. There will be a report on progress at our next meeting.

Our next meeting will be a short meeting with a Christmas Party on December 19th. Please bring food and Christmas goodies. Each member is asked to bring a Christmas Gift to the West Shore Pregnancy Center or to John Beckett’s office in town prior to the meeting so that these can be distributed before our meeting. A list of ideas for gifts has been handed out which has the address and phone number of the Center and the hours it’s open. Tonya Schuitmaker wants to attend.

Bob Carr was given the floor to briefly discuss his running for the office of US Senator hoping to defeat Debbie Stabenow. He has a long history with the Ludington Area having been affiliated with the railroad and car ferry for years. He now lives in the Traverse City area.

D.Wayne Kelly made the motion to adjourn so we could hear what the Sheriff has to speak about.
Carolyn Cater supported and the meeting adjourned.

Several information handouts were distributed with reference to local Events this month in our community. We also have Sheriff Cole here to speak as our featured speaker.

Sheriff Cole did an excellent presentation on the history of the Sheriff Department and some of the crime investigation statistics since he has been in office. We have an ever increasing drug problem leading to more crime, traffic accidents and drug deaths than ever before. Under his leadership there has been a steady gain each year in solving investigations but there is a huge need for more officers to help.

RR/November 30,2017