

GOP Minutes from 10-23-17 Meeting

The Kossuth County GOP met October 23, 2017 at KFC in Algona with 17 in attendance, 11 of which are Central Committee members. (Wendell Steven, Dr. Brent Owen, Patty Berte, Jim Black, Ryan Faber, Dennis Holmes, Kathy Keller, Pat Talbott, Pam Wymore, Dennis Wymore, and Terry Ziesman). Wendell Steven called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Donna Steven opened the meeting with prayer, and Jim Black led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no updated treasurer's report. Minutes of the September meeting were unanimously approved without change. **Jim Black spoke on behalf of the Candidate Recruitment committee, suggesting that all Central Committee members be thinking about potential candidates and talking to them, encouraging them to consider running.** Discussion followed on the Supervisor positions possibly opening up in the County, with Pam Wymore, Don Besch, and Don McGregor stepping down. The Central Committee will help candidates financially with campaign expenses which run from \$2,000-\$3,000. Door knocking is the most effective technique for securing votes. Supervisors earn \$32,000. per year and average time commitment is 15 hours per week. The Board of Supervisors biggest responsibility is the budget and the biggest issue is drainage.

Dr. Brent Owen spoke on behalf of the Fundraising Committee. House parties seem to be the most effective method of fund raising. Attracting a well-known politician from the State level with funds raised to go into the Kossuth County treasury would work best. The possibility of a Support the Blue event was raised which would honor Law Enforcement and be a way of the GOP giving back to the community.

Josiah Oleson, representative for Ron Corbett, candidate for Iowa Governor spoke. Ron Corbett began his political career in 1986 when he was elected to the State House of Representatives. In 1994 he became the youngest ever elected Speaker of the House. He was elected Mayor of Cedar Rapids in 2009, a position he still holds, successfully seeing that city through recovery from the flood of 2008. One of his main concerns is mental health issues for the State in light of mass shootings in our Nation. He distributed copies of Ron Corbett's book, Beyond Promises and stayed to answer questions and visit with people following the meeting.

Wendell Steven informed the group that Susan McLaughlin has submitted her resignation as Secretary of the Central Committee. **A replacement for Secretary will need to be elected at the November meeting.**

Wendell Steven submitted his letter requesting to be relieved of his duties as Chairperson of the Central Committee. **A replacement for Chairperson will need to be elected at the November meeting.** Jim Black expressed appreciation for all the work Wendell has done on behalf of the Committee which was endorsed by the entire group assembled. Dr. Brent Owen will continue as Co-Chair, and Wendell will lend his support to the new Chairperson, helping in any capacity he can. He urged the continuation of participation in all parades in the County.

Two upcoming events were shared:

Caucus will be held February 5, 2018 at the Burt Community Center. Volunteers will be needed at 4:00 PM to set up tables and chairs for the event. And Clean-up after.

Next meeting will be held November 20, 2017 at the Algona Pizza Ranch, 6:30 PM Social, 7:00 Meeting. Election of Chairperson and Secretary will be held.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM .

.Submitted by Donna Steven reporting for Secretary Susan McLaughlin