

GOP Minutes from 11-28-16 Meeting

The Kossuth County GOP met November 28, 2016 at Pizza Ranch in Algona with 16 in attendance, 8 of which are Central Committee members. (Patricia Berte, Nick Bitz, Rev. Todd Hartsock, Chuck Legler, Dr. Brent Owen, Gary Person, Wendell Steven, and Pam Wymore). Wendell Steven called the meeting to order at 7 PM. Roger Tjarks led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Rev. Todd Hartsock opened the meeting with prayer. Pam Wymore presented the financial report received from Treasurer Conley Nelson which showed income of \$84. from the sale of T-shirts and expenses of \$579.81 for checks (\$28.75), political ads (\$492.), and utilities for headquarters office (\$59.06). The balance is \$2,653.33. Minutes of the October 24, 2016 were read and approved with two corrections.

Discussion was held about the General Election, and things the County GOP could have done better leading up to that event. It was the consensus of the group that our headquarter location contributed to the success of the outcome of the election. Kossuth County had an 80% turnout of registered voters. President Elect Donald Trump had a 29% advantage over the Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton. Suggestions for improvement were the **need for more people to volunteer in manning the headquarters office, more organization of the door-to-door canvassing to eliminate double coverage in some areas, and participation in all community parades during the summer months.**

Discussion was held about the possibility of retaining the headquarters office location throughout the coming year to be used for educational purposes to help people understand the political structure of our republic, the constitution, and related topics. It was suggested that these educational sessions could be called "Freedom Groups" and be open to both Democrats and Republicans. **A committee of Dr. Brent Owen, Co-chair Pam Wymore, Pat Talbot, and Lyle Prunty was formed to look into possible curriculum and the structuring of these educational sessions. They will report their suggestions for proceeding at the January, 2017 meeting.**

It was the consensus of the group that the Kossuth Co. **GOP T-shirts should sell for \$10.** rather than \$20. each since our cost for them was \$10.

Discussion was held about election of Central Committee officers, which, according to our by-laws, must be held before April 1st following each General Election. A suggestion was made to call a special meeting on December 5, 2016 for that election, but it was decided to **wait until the January 23, 2017 meeting to make a decision about the date for that election.**

Concern was raised about the lack of participation of Central Committee members in monthly meetings. **Wendell will send a list of those members including email addresses and phone numbers to Pam Wymore and Dr. Brent Owen who volunteered to contact those who were elected to this position at the Caucuses and remind them of their responsibilities in fulfilling that role.**

Two reminders were shared:

The Kossuth County GOP Constitution and By-Laws are available on our website.

Our Mission Statement: "Kossuth Republicans promote a mission of smaller government and stronger families for healthier communities."

Next meeting will be January 23, 2017.

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The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Donna Steven reporting for Secretary Susan McLaughlin

