

**Jefferson County Republican Executive Committee**

***Minutes of Meeting***

***January 19, 2016***

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Colin Barton at the Chamber of Commerce building. Invocation was given by Colin Barton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bruce Sandell. Roll call was taken, a quorum was present.

The Chairman welcomed the large number of guests and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

The December minutes were posted on the website. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed. A question was raised regarding receipt of the e-mail notifications. Tom Love reported that you must put Jefferson GOP.com in as a recipient to prevent being sent to your spam. Also make sure Tom Love has the correct address.

Treasurer's Report – Jane Vollertsen reported that, as of December 2015 we had \$1,071.29 in the savings account, and \$7,750.07 in the checking account. Contributions amount to \$1,070. Expenses include a phone bill, and gift to the Simpsons. Motion to approve was seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business**

- a. Amendment to the Florida Misuse of Public Office Act- Beverly Sutphin made a motion to consider approval of the resolution. Discussion followed. Concern was raised that the bill may have been promoted by the media. Concern was raised by Beverly over the content of the resolution. Dave Frisby made a motion that we support the effort to create statute that will limit public corruption. Seconded and passed.
- b. Fundraising Project – Colin thanked Fred Beshears, Beverly Sutphin and Jane Vollertsen for successfully carrying out the sponsorship project to raise the matching funds required. The JCREC total contribution reached \$2,540. Steve Rissman suggested getting with Clyde Simpson to initiate the paperwork for the RPOF Rural County matching funds. Funds are matched on a 3:1 basis. Funds that come back to us are used to help fund local campaigns. Beverly emphasized that this effort needs to be ongoing year long. Receipts for dinner also count toward the fundraising.

Guest Speaker – Tyler Russell was introduced representing Dr. Neal Dunn, candidate for Congressional District 2. Tyler explained Dr. Dunn's background including a military and business background. He resides in Panama City, chairs the Bay County Cares, and started a local bank.

**New Business**

- a. Local Positions open include: Clerk of Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Superintendent of Schools, County Commissioner District 1, 3, & 5, Tax Collector. Tom Love mentioned that Republicans should have a good chance in Commission Districts 1 and 5 and School Board Districts 1 & 4 (non-partisan). Precinct committeemen and women have to qualify after noon on June 20 up to June 24 at noon.

- b. County Commission “Game Changer” project. Costs will run about \$12.5 million dollars. County will not get a deed to anything. Plan to increase the gas tax. County Commission voted 3-2 to approve the feasibility study. Steve Rissman is our representative to the County Commission. Tom Love stated that this project clearly is an example of Republican vs Democratic principles. Commissioner Stephen Walker is clearly against it. Assumptions on revenue are very questionable. Curt suggested that we invite Stephen Walker to come to a meeting and invite the public to hear about the project. Buddy Westbrook suggested approaching the commissioners one on one also. Dave Frisby made a motion to have the Chairman invite a County Commissioner to speak at a meeting and set the date for the meeting. Seconded and passed.
- c. Meet and greet neighbor socials. Concept being suggested that we host socials to meet our neighbors. Outreach to encourage more membership. Steve suggested that we do clever, small ads in the local papers, maintain a JCREC office after the primary through the general election, and common sense letters to the editor. He will work up a schedule and budget for the ads.
- d. JCREC Legal Counsel – Curt Kiser will serve informally.
- e. Finance Committee – Fred Beshears, Chair and Jane Vollertsen, Treasurer. Table until the next meeting

#### **Reports**

- a. School Board – No Report
- b. City Council – open
- c. County Commission – Steve Rissman – Reported on the “Game Changer” project.

**Contacts for State and National Level : Jeb Bush/Curt Kiser; Fred Beshears/Marco Rubio; Donald Trump/Bob Siddell.**

**Motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sally Kiser, Secretary**

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