



Saginaw County Republican Party
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2023

Call to Order

- a. Vice Chairman Gary Ell called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and will be leading the meeting.
- b. Gary Ell reiterated and emphasized that this party is the definition of America First.
 - i. People, everyday people, our delegates, our patriots that stand for God, Family and Country.
 - ii. We stand firm with the Republican National Platform.
 - iii. We strongly align with Judo-Christian principles.
- c. Gary Ell Vice Chair stated if you are a delegate and would like to see a Treasurers Report, please email Eric Gladwish.
- d. Vice Chair Gary Ell recognized the following:
 - i. Laura as a member of the 8th District and secretary.
 - ii. Meghan Reckling as our guest speaker.
 - iii. Commissioners in attendance:
 - a. Rich Spitzer
 - b. Mark Piotrowski
- e. Dennis Krajniak has been appointed as our newest Sergeant of Arms.
 - i. We are looking for a couple more as we would like to have 6 so that not everyone is on duty.
 - ii. He is joined by the following Sergeant of Arms:
 - a. Duane Riha
 - b. Brian Forbes
 - c. Richard Smith
 - d. Jim Conger

Prayer

Led by Kurt Deming

Pledge of Allegiance/Recognition of present Veterans

Led by Kerry King

Committees Reports

a. Prayer and Care – Duane Riha

1. We fight with prayers against strongholds.
2. Prayers for our Supreme court.
3. We had a prayer meeting in Freeland on Sunday. There were about 35 people, not all delegates. It was great to see Bishop Chet Atkins and people of all denominations come together and praise the Lord.
4. We try to have monthly meetings around the county.
5. November will be in Merrill at the Wesleyan Church.
6. On October 12th, 13th, and 14th we will be at Black Lake.
7. We will be praying for our Nation and our State.
8. We might even have some time for some rest.

b. Communications – Vicki Kowalewski

1. Vicki Kowalewski stated that the web page is up, go to it.
2. We have Facebook, Telegram and Twitter.
3. We are signing up delegates for 2024.
4. The new precinct delegate affidavit form is out however, it is missing the birthdate.

c. Events Committee – Gary Ell

- a. Gary Ell stated we have good speakers every month so that it is not just a business meeting.
- b. This is a Save the Date for Mistletoe Swing Christmas Party on December 15th in Saginaw at Swan Valley Golf and Banquet Center.
- c. There will be entertainment and some guest speakers.
- d. We have 3 of the 4 people that will be speaking running for senate seats.
- e. A special guest will run a live auction.

d. Legislative Committee – Suzanne Hall

1. There is so much going on in Legislative. It is difficult to spend time on what is going on because there is so much and going so fast.
2. It is important to search your email and look for the newsletter. This is the best way to get information on Legislative.
3. Attending these meetings are the best way to sign petitions and get information.
4. If you have any interest in what is going on at the federal, state, and local level, we welcome you to our committee.

e. Outreach Committee – Martha Avina

1. Martha Avina thanked the many volunteers that have been helping.
2. This month we are helping Old Town Christian Outreach.
3. The donations for this month will go to the mission trip to West Virginia.
4. If you can help anytime, they run every Saturday at 7:30 a.m. They need help.
5. October is respect life month.
6. We are helping His Restoration Ministries.
7. November we are trying to get people to help with Thanksgiving meal at the East Side Soup Kitchen.

f. Bylaws and Candidate Recruitment – Jim Conger

1. Jim Conger stated that even though we are the committee for bringing in new candidates we are by no means the determining factor of who we as the SCRCP will endorse.
2. We have a Candidate Voter Evaluation Form to give more information of where candidates stand.
3. This is also an evaluation for delegates.
 - i. Gary Ell Vice Chair followed up explaining why we have a Candidate Profile.
 1. We want to know who we put our support behind.
 2. It would be telling if someone ran as a republican label and chooses not to fill out the evaluation.
 3. Our bylaws state that we will not support them if they do not fill out the evaluation form.
 4. We want to know more than just their speech.
 - ii. Vice Chair Gary Ell stated that he is challenging us to get one other new delegate for 2024 other than your spouse.
 1. There are 667 open delegate positions for Saginaw County.
 - iii. Gary Ell Vice Chair discussed the golf outing.
 1. The golf outing raised just shy of \$10,000.
 2. When we started putting the event together, we knew 8 of us that could golf.
 3. For the outing we had 72 golfers and 120 businesses that sponsored or donated for the outing.
 4. We plan to do something similar for the Christmas Gala.
 5. The banquet center holds 300 people.
 6. Mark your calendars for next years golf outing on July 27, 2024, at Swan Valley Golf Course.

Our Guest Speaker Meghan Reckling Bio:

Meghan Reckling's journey began on a family farm in Howell, where she learned the values of selflessness and service to her country and community. Her inspiring path marked by a deep commitment to making a difference, has led her through various roles in both politics and community service.

During her high school years, Meghan was an active member of the Teenage Republicans, engaging with local and statewide chapters. Throughout the years, Meghan served as the Secretary, Vice-Chair, and Chair of the Livingston County Teenage Republican Club. After graduating from high school, Meghan briefly attended Michigan State University, where she studied political science.

Meghan's career in politics began during her first year of college when she undertook an unpaid internship in the Michigan House of Representatives. Her dedication and talent quickly earned her a full-time position as a Legislative Assistant in 2004, setting the stage for an impressive 20-year career. Serving in both the Michigan House and the Michigan Senate.

In 2018, Meghan's leadership abilities shone brightly as she was elected Chair of the Livingston County Republican Party (LCRP). Under her guidance, the LCRP experienced substantial growth in membership and engagement, and fundraising. Meghan's remarkable success led to her unanimous re-election as Party Chair in 2020. Meghan's influence also extended to the state level, as she previously served on the District Committee, the MI Republican Party's State Committee for two cycles and chaired the County Chair Advisory Committee from 2020 to 2022.

Meghan is a graduate of the Michigan Excellence in Public Service Series (MEPSS) and is a current fellow in the Michigan Political Leadership Program (MPLPP) at Michigan State University.

With over 25 years of hands-on experience in political campaigns, Meghan's expertise has been pivotal in training candidates and county parties. Recognizing the critical need for comprehensive training and support across Michigan, she founded the Michigan Republican Training Network in 2023, an organization devoted to equipping candidates, county parties, grassroots activists, and conservative organizations with the knowledge and resources needed to win elections.

Please see the video for the presentation.

Other Business

- a. Next Meeting
 - i. Gary Ell Vice Chair stated that at our next meeting, Mark Piotrowski will be sharing what a commissioner does.
- b. Kevin Daly will be speaking in November.
- c. Vice Chair Gary Ell shared some brief information on the 8th District update on the resolution.
 - i. We have a formal resolution that is going out to Anne DeLisle due to her lack of communication with our Saginaw County Chair.
 - ii. He has not received meeting notices and has been shown total disregard for representation for Saginaw County.
 - iii. We have had 3 members at the 8th District withdraw their positions and the Saginaw positions were filled with other county members.
 - iv. A letter was sent to her and was returned unopened.
 - v. Matters will be escalated to MIGOP and sent to other District chairs.

Adjournment

- a. Gary Ell Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.