

The Wyoming County Republican Committee met April 18, 2023 at the Moose Lodge, Tunkhannock. The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by Davis Haire and Joe Peters led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was via sign-in showing 36 total present including members, guests, and friends. The March minutes were approved. Jeannette Kitlan read the Treasurer's report, submitted in Ashley Darby's absence, showing a main account balance of \$30,043.81 and debit card account balance of \$560.00.

#### Old Business

- Davis updated news of the April 26 Capitol Bus Trip. Deadline for participating was coming Friday, April 21. An itinerary was mailed to the committee. Davis complimented Senator Baker, Rep. Tina Pickett, Stacy Garrity, and Tim DeFoor and their staffs for making the trip possible. Ten seats still remain open.
- Founders Day is June 24. A new volunteer is still needed to take the leadership responsibility including correspondence, tent, tables, and workers. This is good, post-primary outreach.
- Three Meet-n-Greet events were scheduled and \$400 in newspaper advertising was approved. The dates are: 4/20 at Monroe Twp with Dale Butler moderating; 4/27 at Factoryville with Joy Yunko moderating, and 5/2 at Black Walnut with Chuck Sands moderating. All at 7-9pm.
- Rick Wilbur reminded everyone about the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce's Commissioners Candidates' debate on Monday, April 24.

#### New Business

- Davis again urged Committee members to embrace the notion of mail-in voting and early voting for themselves and fellow Republicans at the upcoming Primary Election on May 16. He emphasized the importance of the judicial elections this cycle. Davis also encouraged convenient in-person voting directly at the courthouse. Folks can vote anytime the courthouse is open.
- A discussion of mail-in voting followed with many members asking questions about poll watching during ballot opening at the courthouse, keeping voter rolls clean, and negative feelings about mail-in/early voting. Davis shared the history of Act 77 and corrected many misconceptions about why we have mail-in voting. Act 77 was signed in 2019—before Covid. It was a political compromise with Republicans seeking abolition of straight party voting—to give Republicans for down ballot offices, like state treasurer, a chance to win—and Dems who wanted mail-in voting.
- Christopher Ries, was invited to offer a series of mini seminars to overcome misinformation about climate change and global warming. He started off with a survey and an interesting conversation about what is climate and what is weather. More to follow from Chris.
- Donna DePue reminded the committee about the Republican Women's Council's Spring Luncheon on May 6 and reservation date. New this year is a Dessert Auction complete with a professional auctioneer.
- Randy Brigham of Laceyville Borough shared a recent experience with a young homeless man and drew our attention to the growing need in Wyoming County. DA Joe Peters, Commissioner Rick Wilbur, and Tunkhannock Mayor Stacy Huber all shared the status of homelessness in our towns. A suggestion was made to consider this as our outreach recipient for this year's Golf Tournament fundraising effort.

Many guest candidates seeking election were present. They were given opportunity to say a few words. Those present were: Dennis Montross - register/recorder, Bob Roberts - sheriff, Cindy Adams - prothonotary, Rick Wilbur and Lori Bennett - County Commissioners, and Bill Weidner and Kari Hilbert-Oshirak - School Board, and Jerry Nichols - Overfield Supervisor. Will Eggleston had statewide judge's yard signs available.

The next meeting will be May 23, 2023 at the Moose Lodge. Adjournment followed at 7:30pm.  
Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Kitlan (substituting for Patti Mead)