

## ACRP MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Monday, May 21, 2018 **Place:** Forest Home Twp Hall

At 7:32pm Chairman Randy Bishop opened the meeting and led the pledge followed by the invocation given by Christian Marcus. Big attendance including one guest, Joshua Watrous. All board present.

Josh introduced himself as running for County Commissioner in District 2, challenging Melissa Zelenak. Josh is fourth generation, raised here, a marine with two overseas tours, owns a construction company, and believes in limited but effective government for the people.

Treasurer Report: Gregg Valerio, motion to approve Kim McMaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Bradford, all approved.  
Secretary Report: Cherie Hogan, motion to approve Gregg Valerio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rob Bargy, all approved.

Chairman's Report: Randy attended the Benzie County Lincoln Day Event and put out flyers for our event on every table and only picked up three after the event. Stan Grott and Mary Treder Lang both showed up for the event as did several others running for state offices. Reminder that our event is Thursday, July 12 with the VIP reception starting at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, and dinner served at 6:30pm and start time for the debate at 7pm. Each candidate will be allowed a two minute open, two minutes to respond to each question, and a two minute close. There was much discussion on the debate format, sequestering candidates so they couldn't hear each other's answers which was decided against, how to handle rebuttals which we decided to allow two rebuttals per candidate and give them two red flags each to throw and limit rebuttal time to 30 seconds. Number of questions are between 6 and 10.

Randy asked about the state's burgeoning budget and former State Rep. Greg McMaster explained how the federal government allots so much money to each program per state and if that state eliminates that program or doesn't take the money another state will which explains why there is ZERO incentive for budget cutting within any branch of the government. Randy mentioned that getting members for our party was difficult due to the unabated spending and resultant higher taxes for Michiganders and that he believes Michigan will go blue due to the Republicans careless spending and disregard for taxpayers.

Regarding the July event it was decided that ACRP would pay for ten students to attend the debate and that \$800 would be allotted in advertising dollars promoting the event. Jim Gurr made the motion, Greg McMaster 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed after a short discussion. Members are encouraged to bring friends, sign up through Eventbrite, which allows purchase of a table that seats ten. Three governor candidates will attend the debate with Bill Schuette as the only hold-out. The audience agreed that they would be influenced by any candidate who did not attend as many have not made up their mind yet who to vote for with the exception of two. A straw poll will be taken immediately after the debate and results will be announced to attendees posted on facebook and in the media. ACRP bylaws does not allow for early endorsements of any candidate. June 28 is the absolute last date to purchase tickets. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Contact Randy for advertising in the booklet for the event.

Motion by Kim McMaster, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doc Hoadley to adjourn at 9:02pm.

Next meeting is June 18th.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cherie Hogan, secretary