**Washington County Republican Women**

Monday, January 2, 2023 at 11:30am – 1:15pm

Members in Attendance: 24 (with 6 new members present)

* Ann Brunn, the new president opened the meeting and introduced herself. Stating the priorities this year are to focus on Washington County and keeping it red, as well as on being more active as a political action committee and *acting* on Republican priorities. A big focus of this year will be on fundraising efforts to be able to assist with election needs for 2024.
* Vice President, Elizabeth Eickhoff will oversee membership with a focus on increasing membership prior to the March 1st deadline. Asking we get the word out to family and friends to join as associate members.
* Yvonne Steinbach introduced herself and will be acting as secretary.
* Lessie Koester introduced herself and will be acting as treasurer.
* Debbie Peppers introduced herself as the legislative chair and is passionate about using the “24 Points to Save America,” to inform the club of pressing issues legislatively.
* Nita Hyatt will be taking over as Parliamentarian and working with Theresa on bylaws.
* Rockie Rexroad, the founder of the club, will be staying involved as Campaign Chair and will oversee organizing the upcoming legislative days Feb. 2nd and Feb. 3rd in Austin, Texas. Request that everyone wears red shirts with red jackets. The first day we will meet at the Capitol from 10-12:30 and the second day is a full convention center day.
* The pledge was led by Elizabeth Eickhoff and the Devotion was led by Nita Hyatt.
* Ann continued the meeting highlighting the need to increase membership, sign up for TFRW emails, and the call to action regarding preventing Democrats from obtaining chairmanships in the Texas House. She requested that club members call the Speaker’s office and forward more information via email. She also passed out forms to get to know what members would be interested in and where they may be able to help.
* Sandi Kindt gave a report on Blackrock and the World Economic Forum specifically about ESG scores that involve Environmental Social Governance and their “woke” agenda. She asked that everyone begin researching ESG and that the club contacts Kyle Kacal. According to club records, he can be reached at 979-776-1476 or by email at [kyle@tonkaway.com](mailto:kyle@tonkaway.com).
* The second piece of her report was regarding the school board election coming up. A member Colleen stated that there is a group Mama Bears Rising out of Montgomery County that is (according to their website [www.mamabearsrising.com](http://www.mamabearsrising.com)) working on issues of education, medical freedom, protection of children and parental rights. They work with Representative Toth. She will be contacting them to see if they would be willing to come speak to our group. Follow up with her will be needed. Sandi concluded by mentioning the next school board meeting will be the 17th and that pastors in our community are involved in the vetting process of school board members. Information about this group of pastors can be found at [www.texaschurchleaders.com](http://www.texaschurchleaders.com). The school board election is in May and the deadline to file is February 17th. Another member mentioned the Texas Leadership Summit is coming to the Barnhill Center January 21st.
* Yvonne Steinbach will be working on getting a booth for the Farmer’s Market First Fridays in order to increase our outreach to the community members. She is awaiting a return email from the Visit Brenham Economic Development Department, but we will be shooting for a booth in February.
* Ann stated we have 6 new members and greeted them. Suggestions were made to try and start a Young Republican Club in Washington County. Follow-up will be needed on this topic.
* Debbie Peppers gave a presentation on reliable v. unreliable sources for news and reminded everyone to verify all information. She has asked everyone to help with the letter writing campaign for the SC case Brunson v. Adams which will take place January 6th.
* Ann closed the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm.

Meeting Follow-Up

1. Fundraising Efforts: What fundraisers do we want to do? Ideas and Point Person for this needed?
2. Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter as well as local news sites. Brit needs to be caught up on the meeting information.
3. Parliamentarian needs help with Bylaws
4. Call to Action on No Democratic Chairs: Email going out with exactly what we are asking or forwarding of the party email along with the Texas Tribune Article to catch members up?
5. Kyle Kacal: BlackRock, ESG issue asking him to not support this via email or call.
6. Mama Bear Rising: Contact as a possible speaker for the group
7. Legislative Days Feb 2nd and 3rd: Coordination by Rockie to increase turnout this year.
8. School Board Meetings attending to at least listen to what is being said and get that information to the group.
9. Farmer’s Market Booth- getting one for each month and coordinating volunteers to sit at the booth each month. (Yvonne)
10. Group ME utilized to pass information around efficiently to increase communication between members.