**Franklin County Republican Party**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**November 9, 2023**

Chairman Ed Strickland called the meeting to order. There were 34 members in attendance. A light meal of hotdogs, chips, cream puffs, barbeque and soft drinks was provided by members of the party.

Reverend Harry Upchurch gave the invocation and 1st Vice Chair Howard Lasher lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary, Opie Pearce gave an abbreviated version of the October 12th meeting minutes. Motion was made to accept as read, motion carried.

Treasurer Sidney Reynolds gave the Secretary’s report. We have a balance of $8048.80 in our operations account and $66.93 in our Petty Cash account. Motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report as read, motion carried.

Web Master, John Edwards reported that on October 12th we had 204,450 website visits. This month as of November 9th we had 205,340 website visits. This was an increase of 890 hits on our website.

**Elected Officials:**

County Commissioner Roxanne Bragg was present at the meeting. She had no comments at this time but will be available after the meeting for comments.

**Candidates:**

Josh McConkey for Congress spoke on his campaign. John is from Nebraska and is a Emergency Doctor. He hates opioids. Josh stands for Security-Safety-Service. Also believes in border security.

Matt Shoemaker for Congress spoke on his campaign. Matt is a former intelligence officer, a navy officer. He will work with Wash. DC. He is working for a new generation. Matt stands for Patriotism/Peace/Prosperity. Matt wants to control inflation.

Devan Barbour is also running for Congress. He brought barbeque for members to enjoy. Devann is from Benson, NC in Johnston County. He has been in public service since 1926 on his family farm. He is a true grass roots representative candidate. His motto is “Its not what you make but what you spend.” Devann is a “rock solid” conservative. He wants to secure the border and stands for sanctity of life.

Fred VonCanon for Congress spoke on his campaign. Fred is the founder of the gun club in Youngsville. Fred said we have the wrong people in Washington, DC. He didn’t have much growing up. Fred served in Ronald Reagan’s Army. He will work on inflation. He believes in taking American values to DC. Fredvoncannon.com

Kenny Shu for Congress spoke on his campaign. Kenny said there is lots of dysfunction in our country. He will be working on this. He is concerned about education and led the charge against Harvard Univ. He will prevent discrimination in the college/univ system – against illegal immigrants that need to be deported and not jumping in front of legals. He will fight left wing government.

**General Business:**

Sidney Reynolds reported we have 422 followers on our Face Book Site.

Rose Holmes and Ginger Pugh reported on the Republican Ladies Club: They had 46 attendees at their October 24th meeting. Teri Sparrow gave comments on NCEIT. They have a national working group. “Easy to Vote and Hard to Cheat”. Paula Walters spoke on election integrity. The Ladies held a Prayer Night walk. They had a few participants. The next prayer walk will be December 4th. There biggest need is to focus on Precinct Chairmen. They are still working on the Republican Headquarters. Ginger gave out several new member handbooks. Rose reported they have 285 members on their FB Page. They will celebrate Christmas with the GOP Republican Party Christmas Dinner.

**Chairman’s Comments:**

Chairman Strickland announced the GOP Christmas Dinner Party will be December 7th at 6:30, dinner at 7:00 at the Youngsville Community Center. Please contact Secretary, Opie Pearce, to sign up for a covered dish. The Republican Ladies Club will help set up and decorate prior to the dinner. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Chairman Strickland reported a recount will be held on the 3 vote-difference race. Chairman Strickland said we are still looking for a Franklinton school board candidate.

Chairman Strickland announced the 13st Cong. District convention will be November 28th at 7:00 pm at the Johnston County Court House. You must pre-register by November 26th to attend.

Reverend Harry Upchurch brought books on Hyperinflation. He reported Gadi Adelman spoke at his church on Patriotism on November 8th. This was filmed and will be on their FB website for two weeks.

Our next meeting will be November 9th at the Youngsville Community Center at 7:00 pm. January 2023’s meeting will be held at George’s Gun Shop in Louisburg.

Respectfully Submitted,

Opie Pearce, Secretary