

Minutes of the Indian Hill Tea Party meeting  
May 10, 2010  
Little Red School House  
8100 Given Road, Indian Hill, Ohio

**Welcome**

Jack Painter called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Diane Benson sang a beautiful rendition of “God Bless America.”

Jack reviewed the Indian Hill Tea Party key principles (fiscal responsibility, limited government, and free markets) and reiterated that we are a non-partisan group not affiliated with any political party. Our goal is to get politicians to adhere to our principles, not merely follow them in whatever direction they are going.

Our key strategy is to focus on the November elections. We will do this by working at the precinct level to get out the vote.

He directed members to our website ([www.indianhillteaparty.org](http://www.indianhillteaparty.org)) for more information on what we stand for and what we are trying to accomplish.

Jack acknowledged officials / candidates in attendance:

- John Williams – Juvenile Court
- Dusty Rhodes – Hamilton County Auditor
- Steve Chabot – 1<sup>st</sup>. Congressional District
- Mary Ann Christie – State Central Committee

**Updates**

The Tax Day Rally at UC attracted some 10,000 people and featured Jack as one of the speakers.

Tea Party members were elected at Precinct Executives in all 6 Indian Hill precincts. You can find their names on the website. Having these people in place is critical to our efforts. Supporting these people is a great way for all of us to get involved and it's important to note you do not have to live in a precinct to help out.

Some 15 – 20 local Tea Party leaders in Hamilton, Clermont and Butler counties are coordinating efforts to get out the vote through Project Vote. Jack shared a personal example of his work in Precinct D where he recruited 5 people to call on 5 houses each.

Several IHTP members will sponsor a fundraiser for Steve Chabot. The event will take place Thursday, May 13, 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Kenwood Country Club. Suggested contributions are \$75 per person or \$125 per couple at the door. Mr. Chabot took the floor for some remarks. Highlights:

- Don't be discouraged by events in Washington. If we are successful in November we can repeal the Health Care bill, or at least not fund implementation.
- Tea Party activities in the form of town hall meetings, rallies and calls to Congress helped stop bad legislation from happening. The movement helped push back the Administration's calendar on issues like Immigration Reform, Card Check and Cap & Trade.
- In 1994 Republicans regained 53 seats in the House. This year we need 40 to regain the majority. The momentum for change is huge.
- One key to Obama's victory in '08 is that voter turnout was 30% higher than normal in Democratic districts and 10% lower than normal in Republican districts.
- This year Independents are leaning 65 – 35 Republican.

Jack encouraged all members to get involved with the petition drives for the Health Care Freedom Amendment and the Ohio Estate Tax. The website's Bulletin Board has instructions and forms. The goal of the HC Freedom Amendment is to negate the mandate that all citizens must buy health insurance. We need to collect 402,000 signatures by June 30 to get the issue on the ballot.

Barb Howadel said we have collected 12,000 signatures in southwest Ohio for the Estate Tax petition. The original goal of 40,000 signatures by May 31 has been revised to 35,000 by July 15. We need coordinators to collect signatures at venues like Findlay Market, Fountain Square, church festivals, Traders World and Taste of Cincinnati. We are joining forces with the Farm Bureau, the Board of Realtors, the Manufacturers Association and the Small Business Association.

Contact Marcie Garrison Longenecker, Mary Siegel or Sandra Musekamp if you are willing to help collect signatures.

Jack encouraged contributions to the Estate Tax effort which to date has been funded by the people who started the movement. He also shared a personal example of how he has worked with one of his clients to hold an all-employee meeting to make them aware of both petition drives and urge them to collect signatures. We should also consider having forms available for tradesmen in our homes and others we meet in the course of our daily lives.

Susan Holzapfel reported on IHTP plans for the Fourth of July parade. We will decorate Brenda Benzar's antique fire truck with our principles and other patriotic signs. Sign suggestions should be submitted to Jack so he can coordinate. Please keep them apolitical, enthusiastic and pro-American. The Parade Committee has asked us not to set up a booth, but we will be able to circulate petitions. Anyone interested in marching in the parade should meet at Country Day School at 10:00 am, dressed in Tea Party garb.

### **Passion in Action**

Mia Rhodebaugh described the satisfaction she derived from a variety of efforts she made in the last election – distributing door hangers for Mike Wilson, walking neighborhoods to help Marcie Garrison Longenecker get elected Precinct Executive, and handing out voter guides on election day. She was inspired by the wonderful people she met and encouraged us all to do something that fits us.

Jack echoed that thought by urging members to get involved in whatever way they want. Try something. You will see your efforts can make a difference and that can bring a huge sense of satisfaction. You will also enjoy the camaraderie and the chance to meet a lot of nice people.

The business portion of the meeting was followed by an opportunity for socializing with wine and desserts.

Our next meeting will be June 7 at 7:30 p.m. (Location to be determined).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by Jim Troppmann