

Minutes of Indian Hill Tea Party
Regular meeting
February 7, 2011
Indian Hill Primary Shool

Welcome

Eppa Rixey called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Overview of IHTP

Gary Steier led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance and then provided an overview of the IHTP's principles, which are posted on the Web site at www.IndianHillTeaParty.org.

Reports

- Organizational structure – Eppa Rixey introduced the Executive Committee:
 - Mary Siegel – Member communications (including the Grapevine)
 - Susan Wisner – External relations
 - Marcie Longenecker – Get out the vote
 - Susan Holzapfel – Administration
 - Kellie Peters – Education
 - Bill Moore – Policy change
 - Open position – Political change
 - Eppa Rixey

The political change is currently open. This position will be responsible for recruiting and training local candidates; candidate questionnaires; financial support for candidates; campaign support for candidates; and helping elect people to State party central committees.

Eppa Rixey, Gary Steier, and Brenda Benzar will be meeting leaders.

The IHTP's organizational chart (with contact information) is now posted on the Web site under the Organization tab on the left-hand side.

Jack Painter is stepping down as President as of March 1, and a Steering Committee has been appointed (Susan Holzapfel, Marcie Longenecker, Mary Siegel, and Eppa Rixey) to help with the transition to a new President to be announced soon.

- Fundraising – The budget for 2011 is currently \$7,500, and the IHTP has \$3,500 on hand.

- Ohio Liberty Council – Jack Painter now serves on the Board of Directors of the Ohio Liberty Council and reported on the activities of the OLC.
 - The OLC is comprised of 65 liberty-minded groups like the IHTP
 - Key projects include:
 - Liberty lobby – liaison/lobbying of state and federal elected officials
 - Neighborhood organizing
 - Technology resources, including Ohio voter profile database and Web-based communications tools
 - Voter fraud investigation and challenge
 - Best practices resources center for local groups
 - Fundraising

- Cincinnati Tea Party – Jack Painter reported a meeting of the Cincinnati Tea Party local groups in late January.
 - About 12 groups attended
 - Key projects include:
 - Organizing liaisons to politicians
 - Recruiting and training candidates
 - Reducing voter fraud, including recruiting inside poll workers
 - Using Sunshine laws to monitor local government meetings

- Making of America seminar – Mary Siegel and Kellie Peters discussed the Making of America Seminar sponsored by a 9/12 organization. Mary, Eppa, and other IHTP members attended and thought it was great. There will be future seminars in June, July and October. The IHTP can sponsor one, but it needs at least 50 people to attend.

Old Business

- Report on survey results – Mary Siegel and Kevin Connor reported on the results of the IHTP planning committee effort.
- The final objectives are attached to these minutes and will be distributed to members and posted on the Web site.
- Executive Committee members will head up objectives that fit their area of responsibility.
- They will follow up with people who have volunteered and others. The key to success is having everyone help out.
- If one of your favorite objectives isn't on the list, you are welcome to pursue it. Contact Mary Siegel for information on which Executive Committee member to contact.

New Business

- Kellie Peters introduced Alex Triantafilou (Chairman of the Hamilton County Republican Party) and Mike Wilson (President of the Cincinnati Tea Party). They spoke for ten minutes each and answered questions. Their talk was very informative.
- Alex's remarks: Among other things, he thanked the Tea Party for its efforts in November and indicated we made a significant difference. He also gave an update on the Hunter/Williams race. He said we can do two key things to make a difference in the future. First, help rebuild the get out the vote effort. Second, make our views known to elected officials and give them the "backbone" to implement our ideas of limited government.
- Mike's remarks: Among other things, he thanked the IHTP for its help on his campaign. He then identified four things he would do differently.
- Questions from the audience included questions about: the trolley car and how a cut off of state funding might stop it; what differences and conflicts exist between the Tea Party movement and the Republican Party and how those might play out; voter fraud and how inside poll workers can help reduce that.
- Marcie Longenecker thanked Alex Triantafilou for supporting and encouraging Tea Party members who are part of the Hamilton County Central Committee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, March 14, 2011 at 7:30 pm at the Indian Hill Primary School. Guest speakers will be Shannon Jones (our State Senator) and Ron Maag (our State Representative)

Planning Committee
Summary of final IHTP objectives
February 5, 2011

Political Change:

Main Focus: Defeat President Obama and Sherrod Brown in 2012

Action items:

1. Expand the Indian Hill Tea Party – advertise and recruit in Indian Hill and surrounding areas (particularly Mariemont and Terrace Park)
2. Build IHTP precinct teams for 2012 door-to-door effort; provide precinct organizing resources to other local Tea Party groups so they can benefit from our knowledge and experience
3. Encourage IHTP members to work as inside poll workers in Democrat-dominated precincts in Hamilton County

Policy Change:

Main focus: Reduce the size and intrusiveness of government; support reform of government

Action items:

1. Publicly support policy change through letters to the editor, editorials, communications with elected officials, etc., with a focus on the following:
 - Eliminate public unions in Ohio
 - Reform public worker pensions
 - Repeal Obamacare
 - Reform entitlements
 - Cut government spending at the state and federal level
2. Get involved in Hamilton County and City of Cincinnati issues
3. Attend Village of Indian Hill City Council and Indian Hill School Board meetings

Education

Main focus: Educate IHTP members and the public on Tea Party principles and public policy issues

Action item:

1. Support and organize educational events
2. Recruit high school and college students to participate in educational events