

Minutes
Indian Hill Tea Party
Monday, January 10, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Indian Hill Primary School Auditorium

- ❑ Jack Painter called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

- ❑ Jack introduced Eppa Rixey for some introductory remarks about who we are and what we stand for. We are a group of 450 concerned citizens who believe strongly in the principles of fiscal responsibility, limited government and free markets. Our members include Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, and Independents who live in Indian Hill and surrounding communities. While our principles are non-partisan, we take sides in elections and support policies that are consistent with our principles. Our long-term goal is to defeat the professional political class and restore constitutional government. Eppa encouraged people to learn more about us at our website – www.IndianHillTeaParty.org.

- ❑ Jack reviewed activities and events of interest.
 - He started with a review of our organization chart and new responsibilities being assumed by various members. (The list below doesn't include all responsibilities, only recent changes.)
 - Fundraising – Gary Hartman
 - Accounting – Ann Troppmann
 - Meeting leaders – Eppa Rixey, Gary Steier, and Brenda Benzar
 - Legal – Mark Longenecker
 - Member communications – Mary Siegel
 - Advertising and public relations – Susan Wisner
 - External group relations – Sandra Musekamp and Jim LaBarbara
 - Liaisons to elected officials – Jack Painter (Jean Schmidt), Susan Holzapfel (Shannon Jones), Bill Moore (Ron Maag), and Susan Wisner (Chris Monzel)
 - Meeting arrangements – Susan Holzapfel
 - Inside poll workers – Marsha Haberer
 - Research and analysis – Bill Moore and Ruth Hubbard
 - Election results
 - Jack reported that 65 IHTP members went door-to-door to get out the vote during September and October 2010. Fifty members worked the three polling stations on Election Day.
 - The Portage County Tea Party in Ohio visited 45,000 homes
 - The Ohio Liberty Council phone banks made personal calls to 40,000 in seven Congressional Districts in Ohio
 - Nationally, Tea Party supporters accounted for 40% of all voters and supplied two out of three Republican votes.
 - Ohio Liberty Council
 - The OLC is a coalition of 70 freedom-loving groups throughout Ohio. Jack has been elected to the Board of Directors. Jack

reported on the results of recent planning meetings held by the OLC.

- Meeting with Jean Schmidt
 - Eighteen local Tea Party groups located in Jean Schmidt's Second Congressional District have formed a group to monitor and communicate with her. On December 31, 2010, fourteen people from the group (including Jack) met with Congresswoman Schmidt for two hours. They acknowledged that she has voted the right way on many issues, particularly recently, but urged her to be visible in support of ideas (such as Paul Ryan's Roadmap for America) that will fix structural problems like entitlements. It was a very frank discussion. The group asked Jack and Ray Warrick, the head of the Mason Tea Party, to act as the liaison to Jean Schmidt in the future. Jack and Ray are hoping to meet with Congresswoman Schmidt quarterly.
- Elective office opportunities in Hamilton County
 - We are eager to identify Tea Party members who are able and willing to run for local offices. Craig Eyrich of the IHTP just announced he will be running for City Council in Deer Park.
- Healthcare Freedom amendment / Ohio estate tax petition
 - The Ohio Estate Tax Repeal petition has secured approximately 83,000 out of the approximately 100,000 signatures required to force consideration of this issue by the Ohio legislature. The additional signatures may not be required because it appears a Republican representative intends to introduce a bill to repeal the estate tax. The Healthcare Freedom Amendment petition has secured approximately 277,000 signatures out of the approximately 400,000 required to put it on the ballot in November 2011. On January 11, Tea Party leaders are meeting with elected representatives in Columbus to see if they will act to put it on the ballot and avoid the need to gather the additional signatures.
- Board of Elections activities relating to John Williams race
 - The Ohio Supreme Court ruled on Friday, January 7 that votes cast in the right polling location but wrong precinct cannot be counted, and an hour later Secretary of State Brunner issued a directive that appears to violate that ruling. It appears that John Husted, who took office on January 10, will rescind Brunner's order. That should stop an effort by the Democrats to change the rules after the election to help their candidate overcome a 23 vote deficit.

□ New business

- Planning committee mission and background
 - Kevin Connor discussed the work of the Planning Committee and explained the background of the development of the list of possible objectives.
- Discussion of list of potential objectives
 - Kevin solicited additional objectives from the meeting attendees.
- Next steps – IHTP member survey; planning committee report
 - Mary Siegel explained that the Planning Committee will add the input gathered tonight to its list of possible objectives. That list

will be sent to IHTP members to ask for their input. Members will be asked to rank their top five choices and to think about which activities they want to become involved with.

Final remarks

- Jack announced his intention to step down as President of the IHTP on March 1. Jack indicated it is time to broaden the leadership base of the IHTP, and he is confident this will strengthen the organization in the long-run. The IHTP has formed a Steering Committee to manage and lead the organization. Susan Holzapfel and Marcie Longenecker are members of the Steering Committee, and two other IHTP leaders are considering joining the Steering Committee. Jack intends to devote more time to the Ohio Liberty Council but will stay involved with the IHTP, particularly in the area of external relations (including speeches and articles).
- Jack was thanked for his visionary leadership over the last 18 months. His ability to strategize and execute has helped build a very effective organization.

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. (In time for the 8:30 football game, as promised!!)

Next meeting: February 7, 2011, 7:30 pm at Indian Hill Primary School.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Troppmann