

Clinton County Tea Party Meeting Minutes

Meeting date: May 10, 2011

Location: Hampton Inn, Wilmington

- Pledge of Allegiance led by Vicki.
- Treasurer Report by Judy Stoughton - Thanks to the hard work of several members, the rummage sale held in April was a huge success, raising enough money for the group to finalize non-profit 501(c)(4) paperwork, with money left over.

Agenda topics led by Bryan Siebenaller

- Board Elections - (7) positions were open, with (7) people filling out applications. Bryan asked if anyone had comments or questions on the proposed candidates / positions, and clarified that the “At-Large” positions are also committee heads.
- Presentation of new board members - The vote was unanimous for the following positions:
 - President: Van Pratt
 - Vice-President: Joe Gigandet
 - Secretary: Shari Hufford
 - Treasurer: Judy Stoughton
 - At-Large #1: Mike Koch
 - At-Large #2: April Pratt
 - At-Large #3: Lloyd Caldwell
- Ohio Project Update – Clinton County signatures are now above 15% of registered voters thanks to dedicated volunteers. Approximately 50,000 are still needed statewide by June 30th to meet the first goal, though signatures will still be gathered in July and August to offset those thrown out by the Sec. of State. Several CCTP members have been going door-to-door. Anyone who would like to help can call Bryan at 419-618-1182 or visit www.theohioproject.com where lots of information (and a suggested script) is available.

According to Debbie, the Highland County Tea Party (HCTP) will be collecting signatures at the Festival of the Bells in Hillsboro (6/30-7/2). Also, the Ohio Liberty Council will be at the next HCTP meeting on June 6 at the license bureau in Hillsboro, and all CCTP members are invited to attend.

- The group discussed the possibility of having a booth at the Clinton County fair this year, or alternatively asking the local Republican group if we could gather signatures at their booth.

- SB5 Presentation and Discussion – Bryan reviewed a paper put out by The Buckeye Institute on May 5th, “An Analysis of Senate Bill 5: Restoring Taxpayer Rights in the Public Workplace as Local Governments Seek Higher Taxes”. To read the paper, go to:
<http://www.buckeyeinstitute.org/uploads/files/An%20Analysis%20of%20Senate%20Bill%205.pdf>
- County Sales Tax Update – The 0.5% sales tax in Clinton County is set to expire October 1st, unless the commissioners vote to renew it. It generates \$2 mil out of the \$12 mil budget. No vote has been scheduled at this time.
- State of the Tea Party – Bryan reviewed the progress of the local Tea Party since its inception last year. With upwards of 150 members now, we need to step up participation at the city, county, and township level – in person, in letters or email, or by phone.
- Open Forum – Bryan opened the discussion to matters of interest from group members:
 - Discussion on why elementary school kids do not seem to be taught current events.
 - Discussion on the likelihood that Little Miami schools may fail with the levy voted down, and how that would impact other area schools.
 - Bryan was recognized as the outgoing president and thanked profusely by the group for his hard work over the last year! He pointed out that the group will still need to hold his feet to the fire if he gets elected to city council.