

Official Minutes for November 2001 Meeting of the Aiken County Republican Party

by Vicki L. Simons

The regular monthly meeting of the Aiken County Republican Party was held on Thursday, November 8, 2001, at the Aiken County Council Chambers. The regular Chairman, David Nix, and Secretary, Lois Christensen, were present. The reading of the minutes from the October 2001 meeting was dispensed with. The invocation was given by and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman David Nix.

Chairman David Nix:

- Reported that the Treasurer's report shows a balance ending October 31, 2001, of \$3,782.67
- Reported that fees for the Aiken County Republican Convention were \$935.
- Said that he was glad we are through the election cycle.
- Opened the floor for nominations for County Party Secretary and Treasurer.
 - Ben Christensen nominated Jan Carpenter for Treasurer, who was voted in by acclamation.
 - Chairman Nix stated that 26 or 27 Executive Committeemen had signed in, and therefore 20 made a quorum.
 - Mac McClearen nominated Lois Christensen for Secretary.
 - Ed Moore nominated Vicki Simons for Secretary.
 - Charles Duke wished to make a comment, but Chairman Nix said that is not appropriate according to Robert's Rules of Order.
 - Lois received 10 votes. Vicki received 15 votes. Vicki was named Secretary.

Our guest speaker, Larry Richter, who is a candidate for Attorney General, spoke about his background and qualifications for the job and had materials available for all who wanted them.

Chairman Nix introduced the subject of the formation of a Republican Club, saying that the reason why it needed to be discussed was because the Party has a franchise on the name "Aiken County Republican" but that the club is not an extension of the Party. He said that the club could be a vehicle for discussion, meals and a less formal atmosphere for getting people involved in politics. He indicated that the best days on which to have club meetings would be Mondays because legislators are in session Tuesday through Friday. He introduced Arthur Andersen, who has experience in the Hilton Head Republican Club. Arthur said that although meetings on Mondays might compete with meetings from other clubs, he thinks the club will provide a forum and support system that will be a very handy device and outlet. Chairman Nix asked Arthur to head an ad hoc committee to discuss the formation of such a club. The County Executive Committee must vote on the formation of the club, whose finances will be kept completely separate from those of the Party.

Arthur Shealy expressed concern that the formation of a club would drain from the Party. Jodie Galloway said he thought it would encourage people to participate. It was said that although attending day-time meetings might be tough on working people, they would not be excluded. Many folks who would like an outlet won't come out at 6:30 at night. The Republican Club would appeal to a different demographic than attends Party meetings now. The Republican Women's Club is completely separate.

Jim Sutherland asked Chairman Nix for an explanation for the difference between the mock ballot and the actual ballot used at the County Convention. Chairman David Nix said that he put the ballot together. Citing experience as former Vice Chairman of the Richland County Party, he said their Party put together a "preferred slate" of delegates, but understands how Jim would "take umbrage" at the design on the actual ballot. Jim cited State Party Rule 2(b) regarding State Election Code. Jim made a motion that for all future elections, ballots be designed in alphabetical order. Ben Christensen asked about nominations from the floor. The response was that names added would be put at the bottom of the ballot. Mark Humphreville asked to amend Jim's motion such that all names on the ballot be written using the same lettering, with no preference being given to some delegates. Jim agreed. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to approve the amended motion.

Chairman Nix asked for a motion to adjourn, which was provided, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by: _____

on: _____

Chairman: _____

Secretary: _____