

# REDDING REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

September 12, 2011

## Attendance

A quorum was present:

Paul Degener	Randi Hutton
Tom Derderian	Natalie Ketcham
Frank DeSalvo	David Lewson
Joan DeSalvo	Ward Mazzucco
Richard Emerson	Gary Miyashiro
Urs Furrer	Jerry Sarnelli
Burdin Hickok	John Shaban
Chris Hocker	Don Takacs
Mike Hoffman	Frank Taylor

Guests: Alex Karsinidi, Kim Ajavananda, Kerry Haughan, David Scott Orner

Ward Mazzucco (“WM”) called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

## Minutes of June Meeting

A motion was made to approve the June Minutes, which was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## Minutes of July Meetings

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the July RTC meeting and the July Republican Caucus. It was noted that the list of endorsed candidates in both sets of minutes contained errors: That the Board of Education candidates were Kimberly Ajavananda and Frank Taylor rather than Frederick Miller, and that the Regional Board of Education candidate, Christopher Hocker, should have been included. The minutes of both meetings were approved unanimously as corrected.

## Treasurer’s Report

Gary Miyashiro presented the Treasurer’s Report and noted a balance of \$3,505.96, as of September 12, 2011. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report, which was seconded.. Motion passed unanimously.

## General Matters

### *State Central Committee Report*

Alex Karsanidi reminded the group of the upcoming “meet and greet” event for the new State Chair in Ridgefield on September 14, and also announced that the SCC had recommended a

change in the by-laws to allow the selection of delegates on a proportional basis rather than winner-take-all.

WM noted that an e-mail ballot to approve \$100 for the meet-and-greet had been approved by the RTC.

WM also noted an upcoming dinner event in Monroe in honor of former State Rep. John Stripp, who had represented Redding in the General Assembly for many years.

### ***Events Committee***

Randi Hutton reported on the upcoming annual Pig Roast on September 25. Since the response to the Pig Roast e-mail invitation had been very sparse to date, there was discussion of improving ways to encourage responses to invitations to events of this kind, while taking into account the legal requirements for submitting contribution forms. WM noted that the Greenwich RTC had reportedly developed a successful approach. Tom Derderian volunteered to contact the Greenwich RTC and work to develop an improved response mechanism.

### ***Candidate Presentation***

David Scott Orner of Darien was invited to make a presentation to the RTC regarding his candidacy for the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District nomination in 2012. Mr. Orner spoke about his background and philosophy and answered questions.

### ***Vacancy Committee***

Vacancy Committee Chair, David Lewson, reported that a number of appointments and recommendations to Town boards and commissions needed to be revised due to unexpected circumstances. The recommended revisions are:

- Michael Thompson to continue on ZBA rather than serving on the Zoning Commission
- Ted Ogonek to serve as a full member of Zoning
- Mike Hoffman to serve as a Zoning Alternate
- R. Bruce Given to serve as ZBA Alternate
- Frederick (Rick) Miller to fill current vacancy on Board of Assessment Appeals
- Matt Letcher to serve as BAA Alternate

These recommendations were moved and seconded and approved unanimously.

In addition, Mr. Lewson reported that Lori Walker was being recommended as an Associate Member of the RTC, or as a full member should there be an RTC vacancy.

WM reported that current RTC Vice Chair Lewis Brey had indicated the likelihood of stepping down, and so encouraged volunteers for this position. WM also reported that Lewis Brey had stepped down as chair of the Campaign Committee, replaced by Jerry Sarnelli.

### ***Campaign Committee***

Jerry Sarnelli presented and led a discussion of a plan for the upcoming campaign in which two Republican candidates are running in a contested race for Board of Education.

### ***Report of First Selectman***

Natalie Ketcham updated the group on developments related to the Highway Department and response to Tropical Storm Irene.

### ***Other Announcements***

- John Shaban announced upcoming Assembly hearings on the response of CL&P and UI to Irene, and the Governor's special session on Jobs.
- Paul Degener requested the group to complete and return surveys on the usage of Topstone Park

### ***Motion to Adjourn***

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, which was approved unanimously at 9:15 pm.