



Republican Women of Madison: General Meeting February 19, 2020, Best Western Plus, Madison

Attendees: Approximately 62 attendees total. Diners, campaign workers, and a woman from NPR, recording the session.

- Sheila Banister, president, called the meeting to order at 11:30. Beth Nemati gave the prayer; Ann O'Bryant led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Sheila encouraged attendees to read the newsletter and minutes, either the copy at their table or when emailed. The minutes from the last meeting were approved. Newsletter sponsors were noted and additional sponsors solicited.
- Sheila asked guests to stand and for all elected office holders to stand and introduce themselves.

Old Business:

- Membership drive continues through March 1. \$40 annual for members; \$15 associate members. The board has approved monies to educate voters on Amendment 1, through radio spots, advertisements on social media, and window clings were available to take.
- Members have volunteered to help on the board. Beth Nemati, chaplain; Debbie Hitchcock, social media; and Bijan Nemati, website. We still need a parliamentarian, assistant secretary, and special events chairman.

New Business:

- Red Bowls on tables are for donations to the Christian Women's Job Corp, which we are sponsoring this year.
- Announcement made to vote in our straw poll. March 3 is the primary election.
- We had short 3-minute updates from candidates who were running for offices as shown:
- Drew McKay, Madison County Tax Collector; Valerie Miles, Madison County Tax Collector; Steve Turner, Limestone Co., District 2, County Commissioner; Danny Barksdale, Limestone Co., District 2, County Commissioner; Will Smith, Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals; Phillip Bahakel, Alabama Court of Civil Appeals; and Melvin Hasting.

Speaker:

- Representative Bradley Byrne, US Senate Candidate was our program speaker. He spoke of being Christian, Conservative, and a fighter who is pro-Trump. He currently serves on the Armed Services Committee and Education Labor Committee, where there are many Democrats. He said there are many in Washington who think our country is evil, and that we need to fight back. He stated that not just any conservative can defeat Doug Jones as he has \$5 million in funds. He said we want a senator who knows Alabama, and who will work with this state, on national issues, party issues, and for Trump.



- Sheila closed the meeting with the reminder of the impact of the number of one—and what each of us can contribute individually and together, in a landmark election year.
- Our next luncheon meeting is March 18; George Berry, speaker.

Carol Wissmann, secretary.