

Republican Women of Madison: General Meeting  
July 22, 2020, 11:30 am  
Best Western Plus, Madison

Sheila Banister, President, called the meeting to order at 11:30. Beth Nemati read the prayer and Deborah Hitchcock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheila announced that the club's web site contains the minutes, newsletters, etc. Full members can access the website but Associate members have to request access. She said she needed approval of the Minutes from the June meeting. A motion and a second were made to approve the Minutes and they were accepted.

Sheila then asked all elected office holders to stand and introduce themselves. There were several present. She then asked for all those who were not members of the club to stand and introduce themselves. Again there were several non-members present.

Regarding Old Business, Sheila said that if you have gmail, and weren't getting the club's Newsletter, to check your Spam folder. The July Newsletter has a workaround if you aren't getting the Newsletter. Kay VanSant suggested checking all three club addresses: [rsvp@rwmadison.org](mailto:rsvp@rwmadison.org), [info@rwmadison.org](mailto:info@rwmadison.org), and [Pres@rwmadison.org](mailto:Pres@rwmadison.org).

As for new Business, Sheila said that the red bowls on the tables were for donations to the Christian Women's Job Corps, our 50-50% charity. She pointed out the display in the back of the room which described the charity and that she would try to get their representative back to speak to the group in the near future.

She also mentioned that the Republican Hqs at the Parkway Place Mall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor next to Dillard's still needs help to man the Hqs. They are open Tue – Sat from 11 am – 2 pm and from 2 pm to 5 pm. Please Contact Donna Hagemaker if you can help. Sheila has her phone number. There are Trump promotional items and Tuberville signs for sale at the Hqs.

As for the Madison City Elections, the August Newsletter will have a voter's guide. Sheila is planning a virtual forum for the candidates and will televise it by Zoom. She proposed a budget of \$600 to hold the forum. The proposed budget was moved, seconded and passed. She also sadly announced that a Past President of RWM, Susan Newman, recently lost her son to cancer, and that RWM had sent condolence flowers to the family.

Lunch Program – Mr. Edward Hill was the guest speaker for the day. He has 32 years of government service, is an IRA Instructor, and a security expert for churches. He said since the Police are currently under attack, we have to make a stand! We have to make a statement! The NRA is the oldest civil rights organization! We have a right to bear arms in this country – most countries do not! But we have to know the laws of the state and county. Need to know how to safely carry firearms.

Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction; don't point it at a person unless you intend to shoot! Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. Keep the gun unloaded until ready to use it, unless you are concealed carry.

For concealed carry, you need to know what to buy! Find someone to help you pick out a gun for concealed carry. If you carry, you have to have knowledge about how to use it. See [www.nrainstructors.com](http://www.nrainstructors.com) for classes on how to use your firearm.

In Alabama, you have to have a reasonable belief that your life is in danger before you can shoot someone! If you point your weapon, you need to be justified in doing so. You can't shoot someone for stealing, but you can for someone breaking in and menacing or threatening you.

He suggested a Smith & Wesson EZ pistol. A 380 or 9 mm is an effective self-defense tool!

He did say that we have Antifa members in the community!!

As for Announcements, Sheila said that on Thursday, July 23, the Athens-Limestone Club will have a kick-off meeting at Canebrake. She also said that the next RWM meeting will be August 19, but because of the Covid restrictions, it has been difficult to schedule a speaker.

Kay VanSant announced that Alabama could lose 2 seats in Congress if enough people don't fill out the Census form! If you haven't filled it out yet, please do so!!

It was also pointed out that you should call or write your representatives and demand that they have hearings and sort through the facts of science prior to making laws and regulations. People should tell the Government what to do, not vice versa!!

Meeting Adjourned. Minutes by Glenda Neill, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.