

**Republican Club of Southwest Florida**  
**May 6, 2021, Meeting Minutes**  
**First Presbyterian Church, 9751 Bonita Beach Road, Bonita Springs, FL**

**Officers Present:** President Bill Ribble, Vice President Fred Forbes, Treasurer Michael Danieli, Secretary Bill Lonhart, and Directors Carolyn Forbes and Joanne Ribble

**Meeting Called to Order:** President Bill Ribble called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Community Room of the First Presbyterian Church.

**Invocation:** Vice President Fred Forbes introduced Pastor Doug Pratt who gave the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** President Ribble asked our club attendees to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Recognition of Sponsor:** Engel & Volkers – Ellen and Jim Hollars

**Recognition of Elected Officials:** Elected Officials recognized in attendance were, State Senator Ray Rodrigues, Lee County School Board Member Christine Patricca, Bonita Springs Council Members Fred Forbes, Councilwoman Amy Quaremba, and Estero Councilwoman Joanne Ribble.

**Approval of April 1st, 2021, Minutes:** Motion for approval by Treasurer Michael Danieli, seconded by Vice President Fred Forbes. Motion unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Michael Danielli reported the following:

**Marketing Viewpoint:**

**Since our Strategic Planning sessions, we continue to meet and exceed our goals.**

Cash from April was \$382.00, plus \$1,000 in restricted funds with \$2,000 from in kind contributions. We recently received our annual sponsorship payment from Engel & Volkers for \$4,500.

**Motion for approval of Treasurer's Report:** Motion for approval made by Councilwoman Amy Quaremba, seconded by Bill Lonhart. Motion unanimously approved.

**Old Business:** None

**Featured Speaker: Congressman Byron Donalds**

**Congressman Donalds made us aware of the following:**

His top priorities are Water Quality, Tax Policy, and Immigration.

Raising money for the Republican Party and Campaigns is demanding for Washington, DC elected officials. Funding is needed to offset other political parties. Biggest difference from being in Washington vs Tallahassee is that Washington has no deadlines on getting things done. For example, the budget. Tallahassee has a deadline each year to have a balanced budget in place. The Congressman noted that there are no term limits in Washington. You can run for office as much as you choose. Only 11,000 elected officials have served in the House of Representatives since day one. It is an honor to serve. The office calls for being elected every two years. There is a need to stay "Campaign Ready" at all times. His office has a staff of 13 to support the office. They have a budget of 1.4 million for expenses and salaries. Anything over that budgeted 1.4 million must be paid for by the elected official. Attended the Lincoln Day Dinner at Mar-a-Largo on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>. When Donald Trump entered the room, he received a standing ovation from the attendees. The Congressman was honored to get President Trumps support and recognition in front of the attendees. President Trump sat with our Governor Ron Desantis and was incredibly supportive of him as well. (It should be noted that Congressman Donalds stayed for personal pictures after the meeting adjourned with each attendee that wanted one.)

**New Business: We will not have a monthly meeting in June or July.** Our next meeting is August 5, 2021, with speakers and location to be announced.

**Motion to Adjourn:** A motion was made and properly seconded passing without opposition. Meeting adjourned.