

Republican Precinct Committeemen 207

	Richard Meyer	Bev Twillmann
1. What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Richard Meyer, Re-election to the Republican Precinct # 207. I am a conservative Christian endorsed by the Kootenai County Republican Central Committee. I vote in the Central Committee to uphold conservative, Christian values. My opponent is a radical, RINO (Bev Twillman) who is very liberal and very abusive in meetings.	I'm Bev Twillmann and am running for Precinct #207 Representative. In the 24 years I have been living in North Idaho, I have appreciated the beauty and people of this area of our Country. Witnessing the excessive growth, I have dedicated myself to helping my rural community on the East Side of the Lake welcome responsible growth, but oppose irresponsible excessive growth. I started Neighbors for Responsible Growth and presently have an email list of over 200 persons wanting to be kept informed on issues. Our present Precinct Representative has not been involved in any community group issues, but follows along with the dysfunctional leadership of our Republican Central Committee; I want to continue to keep our community informed, but have more input in the direction it's going.
2. Do you believe that the central committee should endorse candidates in primaries and non-partisan elections? Why or why not?	Yes, the Kootenai County GOP Central Committee has a vetting process which identifies true conservative Republicans. They prevent the Republican party from being taken over liberal Democrats posing as Republicans. I am currently on the Kootenai #274 school board and on the Kootenai Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation Districts Board of Supervisors with the endorsement of the Kootenai County Republican Central Committee's endorsements. We have been successful in electing a Christian member school board which keeps liberal indoctrination out of the school and focuses on real learning.	No, I do not. I think they should make available to the voters the FACTS about the candidates, not opinions. Every candidate who applies to run for office should be allowed equally to inform the voters of who they are, what they stand for and what they can bring to the community to enhance it. The Central Committee should not have the authority to "pick and choose" who they please, as they are then catering to a small group of people, not all voters. Non-partisan positions should especially be left open for the voter to decide, not the biased Central Committee leadership, which has lately proven to be very radical. Many of their choices in their past decade have brought us very unqualified persons in positions of importance to the entire community.
3. How will you inform the people you represent about the goals and objectives of your central committee?	I send out flyers & knock on doors plus being on the various Boards, I have a platform to voice Christian values. On my last election, I sent out personal letters to all 300 registered voters with certain objectives. Being a PCO also gives me better access to our legislators. For example, I met with my district 2 legislators in February to let them know that schools are being financially penalized when students attend various school events (e.g. sports, FFA contests, career fairs). Attending those events is counted as an absence and the school doesn't receive funds for that student for that day. It costs our school 2% of our budget. On the Kootenai Shoshone Soil & Water Conservation District, we are drafting a plan to save farm land from being forced to sell by rising property taxes.	I will continue to make available (a choice by individuals) to receive information from my large private email list. This informs people in and outside of my immediate community of events, hearings, decisions, etc. that impact all of us. I also have written numerous letters to the local newspapers to reach even more people. I research issues and how to respond to them, sharing what I find with anyone who calls or emails me. I do not hesitate to call and communicate with officials on all levels of our state, especially the numerous agencies that impact everyone.

	Richard Meyer	Bev Twillmann
4. What do you consider the most important qualities in a candidate for local office?	Understand and implement Judeo-Christian values when deciding on an issue.	A good candidate takes into consideration the diversity of our County and the citizens who make up that community. Respect for everyone is a must. Truth, facts and transparency versus spin is the way to communicate with constituents, keeping the private agenda of those in charge distant from what is best for the citizens one represents. That is not always done today, to great distress for many in our County; NIC problems, Library Board controversy, the assessor's office, some school boards and Commissioners, etc. offer prime examples of under-qualified individuals serving to push a radical ideal and not what is best for the community as a whole.
5. Do you believe your values accurately reflect the values of Kootenai County residents? How will you work to incorporate those values into the central committee?	Yes, in my last election which included both Kootenai and Shoshone counties, I was elected with more than 45,000 votes which was about 80% to 90% over the next candidate. The Kootenai County Republican Central Committee is currently a conservative, Christian committee, but for the first time, has a vocal, abusive, liberal RINO fraction. There's a well-financed North Idaho Republican group trying to take over the KCRCC. My opponent is a member of this group.	I do believe my values very accurately reflect the values of Kootenai County, as my past 23 years of involvement in volunteering for different organizations shows. Groups such as my involvement with being a Court Appointed Special Advocate for children, East Side Fire District Auxillary, committees that past government officials have requested I serve on, speaking with State agencies to get questions asked by all answered, etc. show my beliefs and dedication to the people of my community. None of those were paid positions and I agreed to serve my neighbors for the betterment of all concerned. I still do this and will do it, regardless of whether I win an election or not. My faith and commitment to others shows in my past involvement.
6. Becoming a precinct committeeman is the most direct way to influence your local party, shape its priorities and fight for the principles that built this nation. Are you willing to vote for these principles even when they are not popular? Please explain your answer.	Absolutely. Our Republic is being attacked by liberal forces to abolish our Constitution and transform our country into a socialist oligarchy without Judeo-Christian values. We see this with the open borders and non-citizens voting. Those illegal migrants then immediately go on welfare driving us taxes and placing a burden on all resources (hospitals, schools, housing). We are a Republic and not a Democracy; Aristotle said that a Democracy always votes itself out of existence.	I have always been a firm believer in our Constitution and Declaration of Independence, which too often today is ignored. I have no radical agenda in my beliefs, but strive for fairness, honesty, and openness with individuals. The twisting of words to shape a group's thinking to accomplish what is not for the best result, is too often being used by much of our leadership to gain control. I have spoken against this in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. I believe in individual thoughts and have respect for those; they must be based on fact, not just opinion. All facts must be heard and weighed against the final positive goals for a community. I have spent my life standing up for the oppressed and quiet ones. I'm not afraid to speak out when the need arises.

	Richard Meyer	Bev Twillmann
7. Meaningful change begins in our local elections. As precinct committeemen you serve as a link between the voters and your parties' leadership. What are two or three top priorities that you want to bring to the central committee?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support candidates at all levels who reflect conservative Judeo-Christian values. They make policies and spend money on programs which reflect their values. 2. As an elected official, implement those Judeo-Christian values in initiating policies, programs and supporting issues that reflect conservative values. 3. Lobby on important issues to preserve our Republic. 	<p>Listening to the voters in one's precinct is the number one priority, then answering their questions or asking them why they believe a certain way is the next step --- but always listen to people. That does not appear to be happening with present leadership in the Central Committee. Leadership of the Central Committee should be open and reflect the opinions of every voter, not just a handful. Closing discussion or decision making to a handful of chosen individuals who are only following one line of thinking is a danger and detrimental to any organization, especially one shaping direction for what is to impact large numbers of individuals. I'd like to see more honesty and transparency with the Central Committee, and no small chosen breakoff groups making decisions.</p>
8. Are you willing to hold party leaders and candidates accountable to stay focused on principle over compromise? How will you do this?	<p>Yes, by supporting conservative opposition candidates. I contribute about \$5000 to conservative candidates and walk my precinct and handout their literature.</p>	<p>I would be unafraid to point out to party leaders and candidates that some of what they may say is not as factual as they might state or ask listeners to believe. I would ask that they base their comments on facts. I have done this numerous times in the past with some of the present leadership. But compromise is still important and should never be ignored as a way to accomodate differences if the principal is not buried. One's voice based on solid principals and truth is the key to good representation. Speaking out is the job for anyone who chooses to represent others.</p>