

This is a “How We Did It” guide about the development process of the Martin County REC Platform 2011. It is written informally and hopefully will lend insight into how we achieved our goal of developing a grassroots party platform.

MCREC Party Platform 2011

And How We Did It

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Martin County

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Introduction

This document is not meant to serve as a guide, but an introspective into the process of creating a Party Platform from scratch. We all understand what a Party Platform is. What we may not know is how many layers there are in the development of one.

As Chairman of the Martin County Platform Committee I can tell you first hand that there is more than meets the eye when it comes to getting the job done.

There are certain elements of fear, confusion and misunderstanding that confronted us. However, in the end it was the enthusiasm and leadership of many Party Members that produced a comprehensive document known as the Martin County Republican Party 2011 Platform.

From acceptance of the concept to completion of the process, we spent a solid year of work to get from idea to product. It is my sincere hope that this document will help other Florida REC's develop and draft their own Platform in less time and with less headache and confusion. To coin a phrase, "there is no sense in reinventing the wheel".

Why do we need a platform?

Let's start at the beginning. Why do we need a platform? I will let Cathie Adams answer that question for us.

Cathie Adams has been involved in the Republican Party in many ways: as an election judge, a member of the district, state and national resolutions/platform committees; a Delegate to every senatorial and state convention since 1988; and a Delegate to the 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008 Republican National Conventions.



At the 2008 State Convention, Cathie was elected as the Republican National Committeewoman for Texas. Cathie was elected Chairman of the RPT in October 2009 by members of the State Executive Committee.

She served as a member of the National Platform Committee in 2000, 2004 and 2008 where she led on issues such as the Right to Life, Border Security, Tort Reform, Limited Government/lower taxes, Sanctity of Marriage, Photo ID to Vote, U.S. Sovereignty and many others.

She serves on the Advisory Board for the Young Conservatives of Texas, an independent, non-partisan, youth organization dedicated to the preservation of individual liberties and freedoms through limited government. Cathie is also a strong supporter and donor for Texans for Lawsuit Reform, Texans Alliance for Life and National Rifle Association.

She joined the board of the Dallas Eagle Forum in the mid-1980s, and then served as president for 5 years until being appointed president of the Texas Eagle Forum (www.texaseagle.org) in 1993 by the national affiliate's leader Phyllis Schlafly. Cathie also serves on the board of the National Eagle Forum.

Her credentials continue. Cathie is a very well respected political member of the Republican Party.

The following are comments on her blog as it relates to Florida and political platforms.

The Rest of America Needs to Hear from Florida

By Cathie Adams, former Chairman of the Republican Party of Texas

Party Platforms are at the heart of what makes America unique. We are a Republic that depends on informed voters. A democracy, on the other hand, was called by our Founders, “mob-ocracy” because it encourages mob rule of the uninformed, rather than an informed electorate that is essential to keeping America strong.

Party Platforms are simple statements of principle that serve as a rallying point for voters and candidates. While it is not necessary that everyone agrees with every platform plank, it is important for voters to see clear distinctions between Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians and other political parties.

Candidates, voters and the nation benefit from state Party Platforms. Candidates at every level of office identify with party platforms, which motivates voter turnout and helps the electorate choose wisely among the candidates. In turn, platforms provide opportunities to educate voters and candidates on critical issues facing their community, state and nation. Each state’s platform enables other states to understand its uniqueness, thereby uniting them in order to keep America the strongest nation on earth.

In Texas, Platforms are built from the bottom-up beginning at precinct conventions at your primary election polling place after the polls close. Those who voted in the primary election are eligible to attend the precinct convention and to submit resolutions for consideration by others who meet the same simple qualification of being a voter. During the precinct convention, the precinct chairman asks for proposed resolutions. A simple majority vote is required in order to pass them along to the next level. A state platform is a compilation of those resolutions, in addition to new resolutions that may be submitted at district and state conventions.

In order to understand the significance of the process of building from the grassroots to the national level, I will share my own experiences serving on three Republican National Platform Committees. During negotiations of the 2000 Republican National Platform, I spoke for sea-based missile defense systems, which were unanimously adopted. In 2004, I successfully urged fellow platform committee members to retain the GOP’s strong family statements and to oppose global taxation. And in 2008, I was privileged to help draft the national Republican Party’s statements on environmental issues. Each of these planks started at the grassroots level and worked their way into the national platform.

Each of these issues represents principles that are commonly called the Reagan coalitions economic, social and national defense issues that have consistently proven to be winning principles for our candidates and our party. ***I sincerely hope that Florida will join this principled discussion by establishing its own platform built by “We the people.”***

What you can do

The first thing you can do is make the choice that your REC will draft a document of ideas, a platform. This idea sounds pretty simple on the surface and there are several ways to do this. You need to decide for your REC which of the ways to achieve this is the best.

It may be that you want a very informal document that is nothing more than bullet points of key Republican Core Values. I am willing to bet though that you will probably end up in the same place we did, wanting a comprehensive document that expresses our beliefs.

So How Do You Get There?

Once you have decided that you want a Platform of ideas, you will need to begin the process of development. The way we achieved this in Martin County utilized the existing structure of the REC Bylaws, Constitution and Roberts Rules of Order.

Using this method made sense in that any document representing the REC should be developed in accordance with our existing rules. That way we could govern the process as we would any other initiative.

Step One - Gain Consensus

The most vocal are usually those in opposition to an idea. After all, how often do you see protests in support of an idea? Believe me when I tell you that once you ask the question it will send fear and panic through a select few people who will run for the door and grab the fire alarm on the way out. So don't test the waters on their reaction alone.

There was a lot of one on one discussion leading up to the formal proposal of the platform. A formal motion was finally offered from the Floor during an REC meeting. The motion was for the MCREC to develop a grassroots platform.

When the discussion was raised from the floor of our local REC, it created a lot of questions. Things like, who will write the platform? How can we be sure it represents us? What will you do with it? Do we need one?

It was like watching a focus group that was given a great idea and they all started thinking at a million miles an hour and thinking out loud at the same time. Because the meetings are run in a controlled way by using Roberts Rules of Order and our Bylaws, we were able to keep the discussion moving to a conclusion. In the end a compromise was made. It was decided that we would form an exploratory Committee and report back to the REC with our findings. The Motion passed but it was conditional on the outcome of the Exploratory Committees recommendations. So, if after deliberation and discussion the Committee decided it was a bad idea then we would not do it. If however, the Committee decided that there was merit in developing the document, we would.

We were also charged with looking at the thirty thousand foot view of how the document might be created.

So off we went into committee meetings. Our Committee existed of 10 people or roughly 15% of our total REC. Once we started discussion it was fair to say that there were those that were not yet convinced we needed a platform. By the end of the meetings though we all agreed that at some level we needed a platform.

What remained was a list of questions like what would the document look like and how would it be created? We needed to reassure the REC that the document would be a positive tool and not a divisive thorn. So we did what any good political ad hoc Committee does. We produced a report. Here is that report.

MCREC Platform Committee Report

Recommendations

Committees Mission

- To research and propose the adoption of a Martin County Republican Platform The mission was defined by a motion that was made by Ms. Mona Leonard Precinct 15 Committeewoman and unanimously approved by the REC

Committee Findings

- There are Pro's and Con's to developing a platform
- Two approaches to development -bottom up platform and a top down platform
- Procedural outline of both types of platforms

Con's

- May discourage voters that are less than 80% in agreement with us
- Could weaken support for candidates that fail to embrace platform
- Will mean work for REC members

Pro's

- Establishes a framework of principles for elected officials
- Makes a statement about our values
- Involves Republicans – gives them ownership and a voice
- Could weaken support for RINO candidates
- Creates awareness

Bottom up or Top Down

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of either approach to constructing a county based Party Platform?
- A top-down approach may be characterized as a process whereby the committee takes existing platform documents from other States and customizes the content to suit our perceived needs in Martin County.

Bottom Up Approach

- A bottom-up approach may be characterized as seeking and processing input from Party rank-and file to present a grass-roots document for Party adoption

Development of a Bottom-Up Platform

- Let people know
- Gather their ideas
- Share the ideas with the committee
- Talk about the ideas and decide which ideas we like
- Compile the ideas in a document
- Share the document with everyone

Development of a Top-Down Platform

- Form Committee
- Define Planks
- Develop Platform
- Present Platform to REC for review
- Vote Platform up or down
- Share the document with everyone

Top Down Approach ADVANTAGES DISADVANTAGES

Top-down

Pro Saves time: No need for protracted periods waiting for public responses.

Con Saves time: May be perceived as a rushed, inferior product.

Pro No need for mailing, advertising expense, public meetings, etc.

Pro Control of process: Avoids chaotic input.

Con Control of Process: Public perception that party members were not consulted.

Pro Allows for thorough examination of existing platforms and investigation of which elements have been successful.

Con Does not allow for discovery of new ideas.

Pro May be completed mostly by committee of 5 to 7 people.

Con May be overtaken by aggressive committee leader(s).

Bottom Up Approach ADVANTAGES DISADVANTAGES

Bottom-up

Pro May be employed as an outreach tool.

Con Risk of rejection by registered Republicans.

Pro May recruit new party members.

Con May be seen as an attempt to curry favor with special interest groups.

Pro Can provide mechanism to bring voters closer to their precinct committee persons.

Con Requires protracted periods for responses.

Pro Will require effort of all committee members.

Con Will require effort of all committee members.

Pro Exposure may bring positive public relations for Party.

Con Risk of receiving hostile public commentary.

Pro Process could become a tool for educating voters.

Con Requires extensive clerical efforts to sort through responses.

Pro May serve as an example of republican principles for other levels or the Party and for other counties.

Con High costs for advertising and mailings.

Pro Better chance of identifying State issues.

Con Difficulty getting public to focus on more than national issues.

First Steps

- A Standing Committee needs to be formed

- The formal process and rules need to be developed by the standing Committee

Recommendations

- It was the consensus of the Committee that a bottom-up approach be taken
- It was the consensus of the Committee that the process be moved forward quickly to help facilitate voter outreach.
- It was the consensus of the Committee that the development of a platform will be a positive event for the MCREC.

Explanation of Report

That is the report that was filed. Let me clarify a key point at this time. The terms Bottom Up and Top Down are used extensively in the report and were the basis for a great deal of discussion in our Committee meetings.

A Top down Platform it was decided is a platform developed in a way similar to the Republican Party of Illinois. They convene a meeting of several top level autocrats and politicians, go into a room and come out with what the Top of the Party thinks their Party members should think. This then constitutes the Platform for the State.

A Bottom up Platform was defined as a document created by allowing ALL registered Republicans have a voice in the creation of the document.

After a lot of discussion we agreed unanimously that Martin County should include the voice of ALL Republicans in our document and our ad hoc Committee recommended the creation of a bottom up platform.

We made a point of not only reporting out to our Executive Board, but we also reported our Committee findings to the entire REC. This served two purposes. One is transparency. The second was consensus building. We had just spent a couple of months as an ad hoc Committee debating the merits of the original motion. The Chairman was fair in his selection of members. He allowed for volunteers and also added some people that thought the platform was not a good idea. After all we are Republican.

When we were able to report back that we felt a Resolution was in order to form a new standing Committee called the Platform Committee we were encouraged to do so. So for the next several weeks we convened again as an Ad Hoc Committee and deliberated the language of the resolution.

Step Two: Form another Committee

Here is the final Resolution that passed and became part of our bylaws.

SUBJECT: Resolution to Revise The Martin County Republican Executive Committee By-Laws. Proposed by: ***the MC REC Platform Committee.***

Whereas, the Martin County Republican Executive Committee has unanimously voted to form a standing Platform Committee and,

Whereas, it is required that changes be made to the By-Laws of the Martin County Republican Executive Committee to accommodate this process and,

Whereas, the Platform Committee did meet and suggest language for those rules changes, therefore

Let it be resolved that the following language changes be made to the Martin County Republican Executive Committee By-Laws;

Article III Section 2. Establishment of Standing Committees

- 1) To be amended to include as **#9** the **Platform Committee**
- 2) Current Sections 11 through 13 to be **renumbered as Sections 12 to 14** to accommodate the insertion of **new section 11**.
- 3) **Section 11 is to be inserted and to read:**

SECTION 11: County Platform Committee

- A. The Platform Committee Members shall consist of all Past Chairman of the MC REC (if a MC REC member in good standing), the Vice- Chairman, the State Committeeman and State Committeewoman, the Secretary and Presidents of all RPOF Chartered organizations in Martin County.
- B. The Platform Committee will coordinate the development of a document that reflects the views and philosophy of the Martin County Republican Party, and will include a statement of principles and policy positions, that are consistent with grassroots contributions. The Platform Committee will review and amend the platform (as is necessary), at the beginning of each new Executive Committee's term, (every 4 years.) Amendments will be made in the form of resolutions, as per Article VI of the Martin County REC By-Laws, with the exception that the 2/3 vote of those present at the meeting shall also constitute at least a simple majority of the **Entire County Executive Committee**.

Above approved by unanimous vote at the August 11th, 2010 REC meeting.

So there we have it. Just like that another Political Committee was born. We took great care in crafting our language and already we are finding that there is one area that may need to be revised. Instead of every four years for review we are already thinking we will need to reduce that to two years and have it correspond with our organizational meeting.

The reason being is that a lot can change in a short period of time in today's world and we want our platform to remain relevant and current.

We also felt that by naming the members of this Committee and making them persons that have served in upper leadership positions we would elevate the platform and make wanting to serve in a leadership position something others would want to do. It seemed like a reward almost. It also meant that in the first year of this process we had people that had committed themselves to leading. We knew we had a group of people that would understand the impact of the process and put forth a strong effort. This was perceived as critical to getting the first platform done and done well.

We brought the Resolution to the floor after proper notice of course and it was passed unanimously with no discussion. I was amazed. We had done our jobs. We gained consensus from the opinions of our peers and crafted a resolution that gave them confidence that we could do this. That's at least what I want to think. 😊

Step Three – Get it done

Our first meeting as the new Standing Platform Committee was a good one. We all understood that we had been charged with a very monumental task. Of course each of us had our own idea on how we should execute our new mission. We did a couple of things right in the drafting of the new Bylaw that served as a guideline for us. We made sure that the Committee was charged not with drafting the entire platform but was given the oversight of a platform that used grassroots input in the process.

So we eliminated the possibility of a Top Down style platform in Martin County. It meant we had to figure out how to start with thin air and end up with a platform of ideas while allowing any and all registered Martin County Republicans a voice in the process. After a lot of discussion it became clear that we needed a base document to start from. Other States and political organizations that have done a platform in the past have the ability to modify their existing platform year after year. We did not have that luxury. There was no preceding platform to work from. So, we set out to create one.

Our newly formed platform Committee used seven or eight existing State Platforms that were drafted in a bottom up manner. Some of the States included Texas, Oklahoma, Iowa, Spokane Washington, Maine, Grimes County Texas and others. Each Committee member was assigned a particular platform to study. We also created a skeletal outline of top level topics that would form the backbone of our platform. Headings like Federal, State, Education, Environment, etc.

At our next meeting each of us read the planks we had chosen from our assigned platform that related to a topic. For instance, if I was assigned the Grimes County Texas platform, I would find those items in the platform that related to say, education, that I thought were applicable to Florida and Martin County in particular. Each Committee member did the same.

Once we had all read the planks we voted on which plank had the best wording and was the most applicable to our draft document. In some instances we combined planks to create an entirely new one. Using this method we were able to produce a very thin platform that we could then use to build upon. We took great care in not filling in all the blanks. We wanted to make sure that the base document was not the end all but a place to allow the rest of the Republican Party of Martin County the ability to add what they felt was needed. We did this over the course of a couple of months at several meetings. After

each meeting we included those planks we agreed to in our document. Before we knew it we had a base platform to work from.

Once we had the base document we moved on to our next task which was how do we now go about soliciting input from Republicans at large. One of the big issues we saw was the potential for a deluge of information hitting us. How would we handle it if it came flooding in. And how would we deal with crack pot ideas? Who was going to screen the people to make sure they were registered Martin County Republicans? The more we discussed it the more it became clear that what we needed was man power.

The man power we needed was already there! Our REC was the answer. It was decided that when we received a plank or idea from the general public a couple things would happen. First, we required full contact information from them including their e-mail and phone number. This served two purposes. One was to have a way to contact them and the other was to have a way to verify their registration on the voter roles. A bonus was the ability to have the information to update or add to our contact database.

Once we verified their registration we determined their voting precinct. If we had a Committee person in that precinct we gave the responsibility of follow up with the person that submitted the idea to them. If not, we used a sub-committee of volunteers to do this. Our goal was to make sure we understood what the idea was. It also served as an excellent opportunity for outreach and dialogue with those people we may not otherwise have the opportunity to talk with.

Of course no one knew if we would get hundreds of responses or no response at all. This seemed like the best way to go though.

The next step was to try and figure out how to get the ideas into a palatable form that we could easily digest and do something with. It was decided that the best way to oversee the debate of the ideas was to have the idea submitted by the Precinct Committee person as a resolution. That way we could hold a special meeting, as outlined in bylaw, and debate the properly noticed resolutions in the same way we would any other resolution. It also meant that in order for a plank to become part of the platform it would require a higher threshold of votes. This would help serve as a means of filtering the weaker and more fringe ideas. It also meant that the idea had a greater majority of approval and gave more value to the idea.

Before any of this could take place though we needed to educate our REC members on the process. After all they were the ones that would be doing the work. We went through each step and explained the whys and wherefores to the REC at a regular meeting. We answered questions and everyone had a real good idea of how the process was going to proceed. Here is the outline we used as a hand out.

1. Use existing County, State and the RNC Platforms as a basis for formulating the planks of our platform.
2. Create any additional planks deemed necessary, by the committee, to reflect the particular issues relevant to Martin County.

3. The Platform Committees recommended Platform would then be presented to the general membership of the MC REC for purpose of preparing additions / changes to the draft document in the form of resolutions. It may be presented in draft form electronically. It will also be posted on the MC REC Website for download. Members will be given sufficient notice of the contents of the draft and the date and time for final submission of resolutions.
4. MC REC will use our website, e-mail, press, clubs and organizations to bring awareness to the platform process and advise registered Republicans on how to participate.
5. It would then be the individual responsibility of Precinct Committee persons to interface with rank and file registered Republican voters in their Precincts that submit suggestions, prior to the special meeting, so that they can discuss, and propose changes and amendments reflecting the cumulative desires and opinions of grassroots contributors.
6. A special meeting of the REC will be held to hear submitted resolutions and vote them in or out of the platform.
7. The final document after being compiled will be brought to a regular meeting of the REC for final approval.
8. The final platform will be presented to all Republican Candidates and made available on the MC REC website for download. A copy will be e-mailed to our entire e-mail roster. A copy will be sent to all regional media. The platform will be used in future new member and candidate relations packets.

Everyone grabbed the concept and was for the most part receptive to the idea. Remember, by this point we were six plus months into the process maybe even eight. So we had already had a lot of discussion and buy in on the idea. It was no longer a question of if we were going to do it but how we would do it.

We then sent the draft platform document to the Executive Board for their approval. After they approved it we sent a copy to the REC members so they had time to review it prior to our opening the flood gates to the general Public.

It is important to note that many REC members immediately saw the lack of completion within the document and began to offer ideas. We told them to submit the idea in the form of a resolution just like they needed to on behalf of a rank and file Republican that submitted an idea.

Here is a sample of a fill in the blank resolution we supplied or REC members.

From: MC REC Pct. _____ Committeeman / Woman _____

To: MC REC Platform Committee

Subject: Resolution to revise the Draft of the MC REC Platform.

Whereas, the Martin County Republican Executive Committee is in the process of constructing a MC Republican Platform, and

Whereas, the undersigned has received pertinent information from the MC Registered Republican voters to participate in this process, and

Whereas, the MC Republican Platform Committee is dedicated to include grassroots ideas and opinions, then

Let it be resolved that, we suggest the following additions and / or changes be made to the Martin County Republican Platform Draft, in consideration for inclusion in the final MC Republican Platform.

1. Under the heading of _____

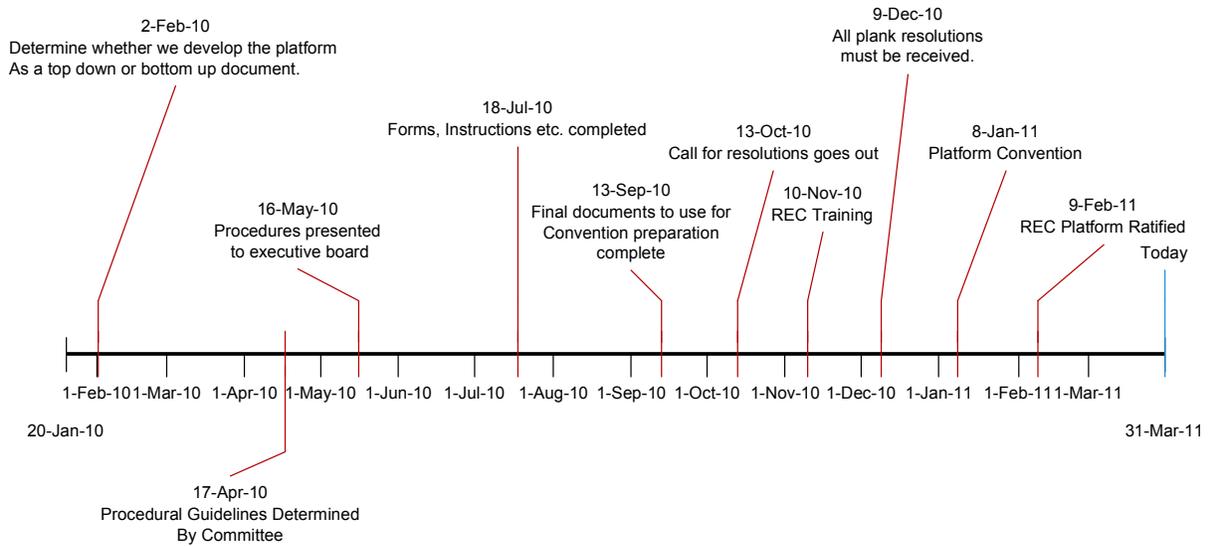
We recommend the following:

<< Add idea here >>

Staying On Track

Along the way we had developed a time line of events. The time line took shape early on and served as a way to see and mark milestones in the process.

Here is the one we used for the start to finish process



Platform Committee	
Draft Timeline for Platform development	
Confidential DRAFT	
Submitted for consideration by: Eric D. Miller	5/18/2011

Here is the detail outline after we had everything ready to go:

1. 9 March - Train REC Members
 - a. This will take place at tonight's REC Meeting
 - b. We will follow up with a training pack that will be e-mailed out to all REC members
2. 22 March – Get current list of Republicans from Vicki Davis so we can verify a person's voter registration before accepting their plank ideas.
3. 25 March – Have website ready to go prior to press releases
4. 28 March - Notice Public of intention to accept ideas / planks
 - a. Press releases
 - i. Guest Column
 - ii. PSA's

- iii. Standard Releases
 - b. Website
 - i. Information Package
 - ii. Base Platform
 - iii. Sample Platforms
 - iv. Submission page so a person can submit their plank
 - c. E-mail
 - i. REC
 - ii. Republican Club
 - iii. Council 100
- 5. 25 April – Deadline for submission of planks by general public
- 6. 2 May – Deadline of submission of resolutions by REC members to the platform committee
- 7. Compile resolutions that have been submitted
 - a. Prepare agenda for meeting
- 8. 4 May - Notice Resolutions
 - a. Send notices to REC members of resolutions to be heard per Bylaw
- 9. 14 May - Hold Special Meeting
 - a. Hear and vote on resolutions
- 10. Disseminate
 - a. Press
 - b. Website
 - c. E-Mail
- 11. Schedule meetings with elected officials
 - a. Discussion and Acceptance

After we had educated the REC and they understood how things would proceed we placed specific information on our website, sent out press releases and used our clubs, e-mail databases and word of mouth to solicit input from the general public. And we did receive input. All told we ended up with 35 resolutions for consideration.

We went as far as to create an REC member Handbook and a Registered Republican Handbook as well.

We gave proper notice of the Special Meeting as defined in bylaw and gave proper notice of all the resolutions as well. All we needed now was the Special Meeting, or Platform Convention. Well almost. After receiving all of the resolutions there was some obvious floor work to be done.

It was necessary to make sure that a resolution did not conflict with the RNC platform as this is strictly prohibited in our bylaws. We need to make sure the language did not already exist in the draft / base platform we had produced. We also had to make sure that two resolutions submitted did not overlap.

If a resolution that was submitted conflicted in any way with the RNC we asked the submitter to retract the resolution. If the resolution conflicted with existing text we asked the submitter to decide if the existing language was sufficient or if they were going to make a motion to remove the existing language to avoid conflict and accept their language in its stead. If two resolutions conflicted or overlapped we left it to the persons that submitted the resolutions to decide how they could best resolve the conflict, either through retraction of the resolution or friendly amendments to modify them and merge them into one.

The process went extremely smooth. We had solid well written and well thought out resolutions ready to debate. This way made the most sense to us. We had a mechanism in place to deal with hearing resolutions. And a resolution required a stronger vote level than a standard motion and gave more relevance to the resolution. If the resolution passed our REC vote it became a plank.

The next to last step

The next to last step was to hold the special meeting. And we did just that. It was run like any other REC meeting with the exception of the business we were to conduct. We had a list of 35 resolutions to hear, debate and vote on. We chose a Saturday afternoon to do this.

Our Secretary kept dutiful notes and we achieved what many would say was a small miracle. There were no, zero, zilch zip, nada outbursts, arguments or breakdowns of decorum in the process. We had done what Republicans do well, we debated important issues like mature well educated adults and produced ideas that are worthy of being called Republican values.

The Last Step (for us)

The last step for us is to now compile the resolutions into the base document and then present it to the REC as a completed Document. The Platform will be presented under resolution to make sure a strong

majority vote is required. We will properly notice the document and debate it like any other resolution placed before our great Committee.

Conclusion

It was painful at times. It was frustrating at times and proved to be rewarding. We made history! We have developed the first standing grassroots platform in Martin County and I think it could be argued in the State of Florida.

It took faith, leadership and a great bunch of Republicans to achieve this monumental undertaking. Our hope is that the process we have just gone through is one your REC can use to establish your own County Platform.

On a personal note, if you decide you want to draft a platform, I will assist you the best I can. Consider me a resource to assist you to getting your platform completed.

Sample Documents

What follows are some general documents we used and notices that can be used as a template for you to use.

Platform Skeleton Outline

This document was used to record the State Platform a plank came from, the page it was on and any notes. This served as our way of tracking what planks we agreed should be under a particular heading. It also served as our skeleton outline for the platform.

Family	Platform PG number Paragraph used
Marriage	
Children	
Adoption	
Right to Life	
Medical Ethics	
Healthcare	
Elderly	
Religious Freedom	
General	
Education	

Philosophy	
Curriculum	
Administration & Management	
Higher Education	
General	
State	
Crime and Punishment	
Economic Development	
Environment, Water and Energy	
Immigration	
Insurance	
Transportation	
Taxation	
General	
Federal	
Defense	
Foreign Policy	
United Nations	
Constitutional Issues	
Social Security	
Agriculture	
Immigration	
Election Reform	
Energy	

Taxation	
General	

Notice of special meeting

Notice of Special Meeting of The Martin County Republican Executive Committee

13 April 2001

To all Committee Members:

In accordance with the Bylaws of this organization, a special meeting of the Martin County Republican Executive Committee will be held at the date, time and location shown below:

Date: 14 May 2011

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Martin County Republican Party Headquarters

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct the following business:

There will be reading and votes on pre-noticed resolutions for consideration as planks in the Martin County Republican Party Platform.

No member is able to vote by proxy on these matters and your attendance is encouraged.

Signed,

Mark Klingensmith
Chairman
Martin County Republican Executive Committee

Sample Press Release

Platform 2011

The Martin County Republican Party is proud to announce that it is developing a grassroots party platform. This historic and ground breaking event is being called "Platform 2011" and kicks off today March 28th. Any registered Martin County Republican has an opportunity to participate in the process.

Beginning today March 28th and ending April the 25th, any Martin County Republican that wishes to participate will be able to submit their planks for consideration. After all of the planks have been received a special meeting of the Martin County Republican Executive Committee will be held to debate and ratify the planks. The special meeting will be held May 14th, 2011.

Martin County will be the first Republican Executive Committee in the State of Florida to have a fully grassroots developed platform. While there is discussion and effort underway at a State Party level, to date the Republican Party of Florida does not have a grassroots platform.

The Martin County Republican Party felt that the need to define the Party on a local level was important. The document will be used for educating voters, training new Executive Committee members and providing guidance to elected Republicans.

If anyone requires more information they can visit MartinGOP.org and click the Platform 2011 button.

Contact:

Eric D. Miller
RPOF State Committeeman for Martin County

platform@martingop.org

561.262.1158