

Kootenai County Republican Central Committee Rating and Vetting Program

The KCRCC has developed a process of informing local voters about candidates running for both partisan and non-partisan offices. We have found that some candidates who subscribe to be Republicans do not necessarily hold strong Republican values. Furthermore, Precinct Committeemen are frequently asked for information about candidates and issues. The Precinct Committeemen's job is to know their constituents and to keep them informed about candidates and ballot measures.

For this reason, the KCRCC has implemented a Rating and Vetting Program whereby candidates are rated by the Precinct Committeemen.

FOR CANDIDATES:

Rating Criteria:

We will be searching for and rating men and women of good character, virtue, and integrity who hold constitutional and traditional values.

The KCRCC encourages candidates to participate in this process and other opportunities to present themselves to the voters, such as forums, town halls, social media, speaking before the KRCC, and "Meet and Greets."

Please tell us the following information about yourself:

Name: Daniel Finley

Position Running For: Hauser City Council

Website: None at the moment.

Tell us a little about yourself and your family, how long you have lived in the area, and your occupation.

I've lived in Northern Idaho for about 15 years, 5 years in Latah, and 10 years in Kootenai. My wife works at Classical Christian Academy, and I work as a freelance content marketing and business development professional for some Web3 companies. I have worked a lot of different jobs in the area before that.

I've lived in Hauser itself for 3 years and got appointed when a seat became vacant. I had been to some meetings already and had already been working with neighbors on ways to improve the city, something I'm continuing to do.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Do you have experience as an elected official, and if so, what was your position, and how would you describe your voting record?

My only experience as an elected official has been the time I've already served on the Hauser City Council (since March of 2023). Quite honestly, Hauser City Council members don't vote on much because, thankfully, this is a quiet little town. But I aspire and intend to vote for those things which is in the best interest of the community, that are fiscally responsible, and to preserve its current character.

2. Please tell us about your activity as a Republican. Have you previously voted for candidates of other parties? If yes, explain.

I've been active in the party for a long time. I have helped with poll watching, I helped Randy Westlund walk his precinct, and I went to the Republican state convention in 2022, fully prepared to stay long past the time they kicked us out. I was one of the founding members of [Kootenai Strong](#), and 501c(3) dedicated to conservative policies for our area.

3. What is the purpose of government?

The purpose of government is primarily to secure our God-given rights. It doesn't give us rights, but a good government recognizes them and is established to secure these rights. Different levels of government do this differently. Small jurisdictions exist, in my opinion, to provide the best possible environment for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Put another way, more plainly, the goal of government is to fulfill the Apostle Paul's prayer that we live "peaceful lives, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands as we instructed you so that you may walk properly before outsiders and be dependent on no one." (1 Thess. 4:11-12).

4. Describe why you are running for this particular office. What are your qualifications? What are your goals?

I didn't run for office, I fell into it. I had held meetings with some of my neighbors to discuss what should, or could, be done with a small plot of city land in our neighborhood that was being ignored and wasted. I had gone to a meeting to help my neighbor get his garage approved. I was already known to the member of the council stepping down, and she recommended me. I'm running now to finish out Tamara McGovern's term, having developed a good working relationship with my fellow council members.

Ultimately, it is simple. I live here and I want to make sure this continues to be a great place to live.

5. Describe experiences where you are or have been engaged such as non-profit organizations, clubs, churches, boards, commissions, etc., where you have been of service to others.

In the past, I have volunteered at the NuArt Theater in Moscow and also Celebrate Recovery.

Currently, I volunteer with LoveINC, a Christian charity in our area the focuses on redemptive compassion i.e. helping them get on their feet

instead of relying on government handouts. They are launching a Jobs for Life program, where we help people get jobs, which I am excited for.

I founded Kootenai Strong and also created the Hauser Daze Committee so that we can bring back Hauser Daze next year.

A friend of mine who founded a Christian school consultancy asked me to fill in as a Latin teacher for one of the schools they were helping with. This wasn't necessarily a volunteer position, as I was paid, but it was less than my going rate, and given the time constraints, it was a burden to take on. But what Concordis is doing is hugely important, and I was glad to help for a season.

6. Do you describe yourself as fiscally conservative? Please, elaborate.

Yes, definitely. The United States does NOT have a revenue problem, it has a spending problem. They could tax 100% of all the wealth of all our billionaires, and it wouldn't keep the lights on for more than 9 months. The huge spending in the last 8 years, especially in the CARES Act, is directly responsible for the inflation we are suffering today. When you print money out of thin air, you essentially steal money from the future to pay for the present. The regimes of the last few decades have spent all the capital of the past and future on themselves, and now, with the formation of BRICS and its allies, it is likely the dollar will not be the world reserve currency much longer. This spells financial disaster for many working families and will mean a much lower purchasing power than we have now.

Cities, like Hauser, can't just print money; they have to come by their money honestly. As such, they need to make sure the city is solvent, that it secures resources to support its necessary services, and be very careful to spend money only what will truly improve the community.

7. Do you consider yourself as socially conservative? Please elaborate.

Yes. I think Obergefell should be repealed. States and governments cannot define marriage without appropriating Christian culture because only God has the authority to define marriage. "Access to transgender care" is less a political topic and more a spiritual one, a direct assault of Satan on our children. Feminism has bankrupted the virtue and lives of 100s of millions of women around the globe, including conservative ones, and is one of the greatest forces of human suffering today. There is no right to abortion, and abortion i.e. the killing of a viable fetus, is simply murder. Beauty is essential to human thriving, and where we can insert it into our cities and architecture, we should.

8. Describe which party platform best aligns with your positions on public policy (Republican, Democrat, Libertarian or Constitutional Party) and where do you disagree with that platform.

It's difficult to answer this question without knowing your definition of Republican, Libertarian, or Constitutional public policy. On the Republican side alone, many policies contradict each other among various Republicans nationwide. Some people look at Constitutional and Libertarian public policy as basically identical. Opinions on public policy is are a factor of local history, personal experience, and theological understanding and are difficult to cross-compare.

Without knowing what you mean, it's difficult to evaluate myself using those terms. But, so you know where I stand on public policy, I believe that "Government governs best when government governs least," and that that is especially true for the Federal government; that local governments, by virtue of being closer to the people, should have more authority over our day to day lives than state or federal governments

(currently NOT the case); that the less moral people become, the more encroaching public policy will inevitably be (only a moral people can be free); that jurisdictions should take steps to be as self-sufficient as possible in this globalist age; that a balance of power between government of the people on one side and mega-corporations on the other is necessary for freedom.

9. Do you have any history of tax liens, criminal record, bankruptcy, or conflict of interest that may affect your future decisions or desirability to be voted into office?

No.

10. Describe how you will make yourself available to your constituents and vote as their representative with FORTITUDE, adhering to the values and answers you have stated above.

I check my email pretty regularly, and I believe I submitted my phone number as well on the public forum. I'm happy to meet with people one on one when possible. I'm open to suggestions that others may have on how to be accessible.

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The answers to these questions will be the basis of the ratings you will receive and the issues we would like addressed by you in other settings.

In previous elections there have been cases where two well-rated candidates running against a third poorly rated candidate will "split the vote" leaving the poorly rated candidate with the win. In such a case where two candidates may split the vote, the KCRCC Election Committee will encourage the candidate with the second highest rating to drop out and run again at a later time.

Those who fail to respond to this questionnaire will likely receive lower

ratings.

Please respond by the date requested of you, typically soon after the candidate-filing deadline.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN:

The Rating and Vetting Program is designed to assist the KCRCC in getting information to the voters in your precinct through walking, mail, social and other media, and passing out sample ballots. In order to identify the very best candidate for each race, your job as an elected Precinct Committeeman is to vet then rate using the criteria above stated AND by confidentially contacting each other for additional information. It is your obligation to submit final ratings at a time and place designated by the Election Committee.