

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, and 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: Samantha Steigleder

Position Running For: Post Falls City Council

Website: I do not have a personal website at present

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

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?
 1. I have not ever held or run for an elected office.

2. Please tell us about your activity as a Republican. Have you previously voted for candidates of other parties? If yes, explain.
 1. My identification as Republican comes from a strong belief in small government, personal responsibility and individual freedom. I would say most of my activity up to this point in upholding those values has been with in my home, raising and educating 3 boys. Over the past 2yrs I have started regularly

attending Post Falls City Council meetings, testifying on various issues and cultivating open dialogue through many inquires with city staff.

3. What is the purpose of government?

1. I think that answer largely depends on what government we are discussing. I think the farther away from the individual you get, the less invasive that governing body should be. As it pertains to local government, I think real safety in the community is the number one purpose, ensuring that police and first responders are reasonably funded to take care of our community. After that I believe that mayor and council should really be the spokespeople for the desires of the community at large and work to make decisions for the growth and future of that locality that reflect what the residents want, not what the city/county/state want to implement.

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

1. After attending many many council meetings and engaging with both staff and council numerous times, I feel that there is more opportunity to gain additional transparency from city staff about many topics that are brought to council. It is my honest opinion that most of what the city does they do in good faith, truly thinking that they are benefiting the city, and in many ways they are, but I think that creating an standard where their proposals need to prove benefit to the community, not just show that it wouldn't harm the community is a better president to set.

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.

1. My husband and I are active members at Mountain View Bible Church, most recently I helped organize and run our women's retreat in 2022. At a previous church I served as a youth leader and mentor. Otherwise, I work as a nurse at Sacred Heart's Pediatric Emergency Department.

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

1. YES! I do not believe that there is "government money", that is all just our money. I think that all pieces of government should be held fiscally responsible. Not only does that include not

spending more money than budgeted, but also being able to prove that the money spent was done in the interest of the citizens.

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

1. I do, I think that schools should be for reading, writing and arithmetic; that families are tasked with raising their children in the religion of their choosing; and that I can have a good relationship with my neighbor as long as we are kind to each other, no matter what our personal beliefs are. I am violently opposed to demanding affirmation from others for one's personal choices; the indoctrination of children at the hands of public schools; and any policy that requires one group of people to be penalized in order to benefit another.

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.

1. I align most consistently with the Constitutional party at this time. I think that I may disagree with their general military sentiment in that I think having a strong military presence globally is important and worth the money, but I couldn't give you specific instances or situations to exemplify that idea.

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?

1. No, I do not.

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.

1. I have had the opportunity to speak with a few of our councilmen outside of meetings. These were arranged by me reaching out and requesting their time. I would like to have the same graciousness towards any citizen looking for additional time with council members. I would also like to encourage the city to create more opportunities for the public to speak openly, with more back and forth dialogue between city, council and public on specific issues. It doesn't scare me to stand in a place where the people around me don't agree with me or are frustrated by my lack of conformity. It is

the job of the councilman to push and question city government. Not with the intention of being difficult, but with the intention of protecting and advocating for the residents that voted them in. It is no new situation for me to be the odd one out, politically, religiously or socially. I have no issues voting in keeping with what is right and best for the residents of Post Falls.

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.