

Open Letter from Mark Rauterkus

Mark Rauterkus
108 South 12th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203-1226

412 298 3432 = cell
Mark@Rauterkus.com

<http://Elect.Rauterkus.com>

Vice Chair of the Allegheny County
Libertarian Party & Designated to lead
candidate recruitment for 2007's local
elections.

To: Bob Hillen, David Adams, Pittsburgh's Republican Voters

Bob Hillen, Chairman of the City of Pittsburgh GOP
David Adams, Republican candidate in city council district 9

April 12, 2007

Dear Chairman Hillen, Mr. Adams, Neighbors and Friends within our shared political space:

Everyone's best interest can be served if we urgently explore the possibility of getting David Adams, a declared write-in candidate as a Republican for Pittsburgh's city council district 9, to switch his own party registration to either Libertarian or Independent. This switch needs to happen now. The logic of this request builds from teamwork and an understanding of our election process.

A reply to this letter and request is expected. My recent calls to the chair have gone unanswered.

Before we get into the specifics of David Adams, let me say it was good news for me to learned of the closure of the on-going spat with Mr. Glancey of the RCAC. I hope that mess becomes old history shortly. Furthermore, I noted a few harsh remarks from the mainstream media about the lack of opposition candidates. I've made multi-media messages to counter the remarks of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. Nobody should forget that the Tribune Review, when I was in a contested GOP Primary for mayor in 2001, never made an endorsement in our race. For some unknown reason, the Trib editors were AWOL (absent without leave) then and since then. We don't have citizen candidates for many reasons. One of the top reasons is the treatment candidates have come to expect from the Pittsburgh Tribune Review. I remember the past. I'm doing my best to stick up for honest coverage. I've come to the defense of the Pgh GOP recently and in an ongoing basis for years.

David Adams did not get enough signatures to get onto the ballot for the Republican primary in district 9. The three week deadline that concluded on March 6, coupled with the need to get 100 signatures from registered Rs in the district is difficult. I feel that it will be impossible for him to score more than 100 write in votes on the primary election day, May 15, 2007. To say the least, it is a 'long shot.'

On the other hand, rather than a long shot, I feel that it would be a slam dunk to get David Adams on the general election ballot on November 6, 2007, if we work together and he uses the political body "libertarian." I can't make a guarantee, but I can say with certainty that I'll work in a tireless way with David Adams to insure he gets onto the fall 2007 ballot for the city council race.

If his Republican registration is kept past April 14, 2007, and less than 100 write in votes materialize at the polls on May 15, then there is NO way he could get onto the ballot for the November 6, 2007, general election.

In the Candidate's Affidavit for third party candidates, it plainly says:

I do swear... that if I am a candidate for election at a general or municipal election I shall not be a registered and enrolled member of a political party [meaning D or R party only] at any time during the period of thirty (30) days prior to the primary up to and including the day following the general or municipal election...

So to run as a not-D-or-R, you must NOT be a D or R. That means a Green could run on the Libertarian line -- assuming the Libs would embrace a Green candidate -- and versa-vice.

Twanda Carlisle, city council incumbent, will get beat and will not advance to the general election. The news on her race is throughout the media. Sadly, the coverage does not include David's name. We can change that today with a party switch and gathered signatures.

Others in the race have 'issues' too. Frustration can easily be avoided, by acting now. We need to make sure that a great third party candidate is in the race. And that person has to be eligible to be in the race by not being a part of either the "D" nor "R" parties.

Even if the Adams Committee works very hard from now until the polls close on May 15, 2007, to secure as many write in votes among Republicans as possible – fine. This plan STILL gives a back-up with what I'm suggesting. He would loose one vote on May 15, 2007, – his own. That's the only downside.

David Adams can become a Libertarian or Independent this week and still win the write in vote among Republicans on May 15, 2007. If David wins that write-in vote with more than 100 votes, he still earned the Republican endorsement for the general election. David could switch back to being a Republican after he is a confirmed winner of the Republican write in. It will take a few weeks to count the write in votes, of course.

However, a spot could be guaranteed on the November 2007 general election if David Adams would join me and use our political body nomination papers and get more than 100 signatures. The paperwork for third party efforts is due August 1, 2007. David could get 100 signatures of voters in the district

from any party in a week's time.

Of course, we'll have challenges too if there is a close margin. It would be in everyone's best interest to get 300 or 500 or even 800 signatures on the nomination papers from any eligible voter that lives in city council district 9. That means Dems, Republicans, Indies, and Greens can sign the papers.

Furthermore, I will help. I will be seeking signatures in district 9 as well. I can have David's name on the papers I present to those voters. Then a signature would count for him and me.

The best time to announce this is up to you. However, the time to move on getting signatures is now. And, the time to switch parties from R to anything else, Independent even, is NOW.

We win by addition. I want to build a team. Even if the team is a loose association, fine. We need to get friends and we need to have the friends all pulling in the same directions.

Thanks for the consideration.

I hope to hear from you shortly.

Furthermore, I've got the voter database. So all the info on that is available at a moments notice. I don't think a candidate should have to wait for support to find out voter info.

Furthermore, just so you know, in city council district 3 and district 7, I've got candidates. Plus, I'll be running for mayor and controller. Some of my slots will be open as a place holder. So, this fall, I expect to have more than 11 running mates. We'll have a team with support.

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Includes:

Nomination Papers for Political Body – Libertarian – with sample with David's name.

Voter Registration Form to change political party.