

Google Groups

GROUNDSWELL MTG NOTES: March 7, 2013

conservativenetworking

Mar 14, 2013 10:14 AM

Posted in group: **Groundswell**

GROUNDSWELL: This meeting is about message synchronization, coalitional efforts and a 30 front war seeking to fundamentally transform the nation...

[NOTES from March 13, 2013 Gathering](#)

HASHTAGS AND MESSAGING:

#PoliticsOverPublicSafety

#DoItTheRightWay [for immigration]

#SequesterLies

#GreatDivider, #ImperialPresident [for President]

ACTION ITEMS:

- Obamacare: Contact Senators for full repeal [List: Max]
- Perez Nomination [Tom, Danielle for Q on EEOC enforcement, reach out to Christian Adams]
- Benghazi-Gate Meeting – Press Call next week with family members
- Sequester Lies theme – WH Tour office and blaming of Secret Service, release of detainees, and looking for more that fit theme
- Immigration: Need increased contact to legislators, attend town hall meetings
- EPA Nominee Gina McCarthy
- Obama’s upcoming Israel Trip – March 20
- GUN ISSUES: Michael James Barton to start weekly conf calls with his working group on both state and federal gun issues/concerns.
- Explore an immigration virtual town hall by someone in group to alert grassroots to emerging legislation; refine messaging; identify stories and personal faces to drive messages.

CONFERENCE CALLS:

1. BLOGGER COALITION: Meeting weekly (Anita)

INFORMATION

IMMIGRATION: Media reports indicate that immigration legislation will be submitted after the Easter recess to avoid public attention to specifics. It is anticipated Sen. Leahy will immediately put it on the mark up agenda. [<http://hotair.com/archives/2013/03/12/senate-dems-preparing-to-ram-immigration-bill-through-after-easter-recess/>]

There has been one hearing on comprehensive immigration reform in the Senate Judiciary Committee. There is a hearing scheduled for Monday; the focus of that hearing is how reform will impact women and families. Core issues related to reform will not be discussed. Debate is being stifled in the House by the leadership. Elected officials need to hear from constituents over the recess regarding amnesty.

The decision to wait for after the Easter recess to deal with the immigration issue was deliberate. It has been reported by media outlets that Cong. Lindsey Graham, for one, did not want a bill “[hanging out for two weeks to get shot up](#).” The House cannot be depended upon to stop the legislation.

Potential opportunities lie with the tension that exists between business and labor over the concept of a “work visa” status. The status appears to some R’s as a compromise. It appeals to business and employers as well, while labor opposes it.

Legalizing workers creates indentured low-skill laborers with no path to citizenship. This concept or practice is un-American and will have great potential to backfire on R’s.

An open letter to the Congressional Black Caucus on behalf of Black Americans is being composed by conservative Black American radio host, [Charles Butler](#), to address the issue. Thirty- fifty signatures will be obtained from Black leaders across the nation. While it will not change the votes it is hoped the letter will add to the public dialogue.

R's are seen as racist; they are intimidated.

BENGHAZI GATE: Cong. Frank Wolf is focused on uncovering more facts about Benghazi. In a recent FOX interview [[article and video here](#)] the Congressman called for a select committee, a bi-partisan bicameral investigation. He is determined to get answers especially as to why there was no military response. The letter sent to Speaker Boehner has been effective. [**Thanks to Frank Gaffney for his leadership in handling the letter.**]

A team of people is reaching out to family members of Benghazi victims. The response has been positive. A press call next week where the family members participate was discussed. [likely next Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday]. Congressional staff reported that Members are NOT talking about Benghazi; they seem to have moved on. Thus, we need to remind them to focus!

According to a reliable source there is substantial evidence 30 people were wounded, at least 7 seriously, in the attack. This information suggests, again, there is a cover-up of some kind.

Hillary Clinton is reported as saying, “the U.S. government would “make sure that the person who made that film is arrested and prosecuted.”[[article](#)]

EPA: The nomination of Gina McCarthy to run the EPA is a career administrator and hard-core environmentalist. She is also implicated in the “Richard Windsor” emails. [[Click here to read more](#) and [still more](#)] Under the FOIA a request for the emails was sent and six of the thousands of emails were received, however, they were heavily blacked out. A letter was sent to McCarthy by Senators Vitter, Grassley and Rep. Lamar Smith asking for additional information regarding the reasoning behind regulations. [[read more here](#)]

KEYSTONE PIPELINE: The pipeline has public support but the President is under pressure from environmentalists. It is anticipated the President will approve the pipeline while promoting a big climate initiative. Still energy prices will increase; ethanol is contributing factor to the increase.

CARBON TAX: While extremely unpopular to the public, the carbon tax is very attractive to representatives because it generates a huge amount of money. In a closed committee meeting of Ways and Means, the carbon tax is “magnetic.” Those opposed to the carbon tax are trying to

make it toxic. A press conference is scheduled for 3:30 pm today to lay public predicate against carbon tax near Capitol [per Paul Teller].

SENATE REPORT:

OBAMACARE: Senators Cruz, Lee, Inhofe and Rand Paul held a press conference today to highlight urging support for his Restore Growth First Amendment (delay funding Obamacare) in the continuing resolution. The amendment was sponsored by 15 R's [[Press Conference](#)] The amendment was defeated by a vote of 45-52 with all R's voting in favor of the amendment. [[The Hill article](#), [Breitbart Article](#)] despite support from a number of allied outside grassroots organizations which included: Club for Growth, Heritage Action, National Taxpayers Union, Family Research Council, FreedomWorks, Tea Party Patriots, Americans for Prosperity, National Right to Life, Concerned Women for America, Citizens Against Government Waste, Eagle Forum, Americans for Tax Reform, Independent Women's Voice, American Commitment, Madison Project, Senate Conservatives Fund, Campaign for Liberty, Virginians for Quality Healthcare. It is important to keep the wave of public opinion growing. Congress needs to be reminded that Obamacare is still an important issue to the public even if they are not inclined to fight about it.

Cruz has introduced another bill, S.177 -- Obamacare Repeal Act that will completely repeal Obamacare. Not all of the GOP has signed on to this bill. [32 Senators have cosigned]. Bachmann has a repeal bill in the House as well.

[Shout out to Cong. Jim Bridenstine [R-OK] for his initial work to repeal Obamacare on the CR that Senator Cruz picked up next.]

CR: Senator Rand Paul will offer an amendment to the CR is to stop foreign aide to Egypt and other countries.

BUDGET: The House and Senate will be engaging in many votes over the next 2 weeks on budget related issues that could have value in showing citizens where their Members and Senators stand on important issues. A number of budgets will be introduced. Sen. Paul will introduce a budget that will balance in 5 years. It includes regulatory, energy, and tax reform, as well as entitlement reforms. At this time there is not a Senate sponsor for the Ryan budget. The 2014 appropriation bills will be taken up later in the year.

The D's will submit their budget today. It includes increases in taxes and growth in welfare/entitlement spending. [[Read details here.](#)]

GUNS:

SECOND AMENDMENT MESSAGING: For the House, it is not about guns, but the mentally ill possessing them. Speaker Boehner has said gun legislation going through the House will focus on mental health issues.

- Weapons Assault Ban: This bill is being held in the Senate Judiciary Committee, until tomorrow.
- Leahy Amendment: Passed in the Judiciary Committee
- Schumer's Bill: The "universal background checks" passed out of the Judiciary Committee.

It is anticipated these bills will go to the floor sometime in April.

TARGETING OF RED STATE SENATORS OR INCUMBENTS: Signs of success. Some Red State senators are not actively supporting gun bans or restrictions. They seem to have decided it is not beneficial to be highly visible on a bill that is not going to get any traction, i.e. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, D of Wisconsin is as left as you can get on the gun issue. One would expect her to be in the media campaigning, but she is not.

Currently there is no mental health legislation. Right now, the laws are not being followed. The VA Tech student should have been blocked from purchasing a gun, but the state of VA did not put his name in the system. This is a point to incorporate in messaging – The D's maintain that the mentally ill cannot be held against their will. It is a civil liberties issue. Therefore, the mentally ill wander the streets, hurt people, get access to guns and even shoot up schools.

D's should be made to defend this foolish policy of emptying out mental institutions. There should be a mental health bill to address this issue of policy over public safety.

SHADOW GOVERNMENT:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE:

Tom Perez is currently the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice. He is a hard core radical from Maryland. He sits on the board of CASA de Maryland. CASA fronts as a Hispanics civil rights organization but it actually a Communist group. He has now been tapped to serve as Secretary of Labor.

Perez was involved in the Black Panther voter intimidation lawsuit. He testified that no federal appointees were involved in the decision to refuse the case. However, he lied. Additionally, Perez is extremely antagonistic toward whites.

A [250-page report](#) released by the Department of Justice Inspector General described a racially hostile environment within the Civil Rights Division led by Perez. The report also confirmed that Eric Holder had approved the decision to drop the Black Panther case. The report went on to say there was discrimination towards conservatives as well. [Note: there was no evidence against the Bush administration]

Tom Perez is also sympathetic to Islamist outreach, illegal aliens and sharia or Islamic law. [[Obama to Nominate Sharia Supporter, Illegal Immigrant Advocate as Labor Secretary](#)]

These issues point to why Tom Perez should not be confirmed as the Secretary of the Department of Labor. [Politics Over Public Safety]

NOTE: The Washington Post article that ran today pointed a finger at the Bush administration without saying anything about Perez. [[Link to article](#)]

HOUSE SPENDING STRATEGIES:

The Ryan budget will be on the floor of the House next week. An alternative more conservative RSC budget is being developed. After a review of the Ryan budget the alternative will offer accomplishing balance sooner, better and faster. Changes in Medicare and Social Security will be introduced. Regulatory and budget process reforms will be included. [[Redstate article](#)] It will repeal Obamacare and fiscal cliff tax but allow the level of revenue to continue, however, getting it from another source.

On the House floor today: A bill to put back the work requirements in TANIF

The budget is not binding unless stipulated in the bill. They are messaging bills and opportunities. Both chambers pass their version of the budget and then it must be reconciled.

D's will submit their budget as well.[new opportunity!]

SUGGESTION: Find ways to make the budget a binding instrument and hold people accountable.

URGENT AND IMPORTANT ITEMS:

SENATE VOTE-O-RAMA: Critical to watch conservative amendments because these are messaging opportunities. The amendments reveal legislative agendas.

NOTE: Next week is the last working week for Congress before Easter recess.

PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST/ISRAEL: [March 20] Repeat of Munich. (*Suggested Theme: "Munich 2.0"*) It is anticipated that peace efforts will be made at the expense of the rest of the world.

MESSAGING:

POLITICS OVER PUBLIC SERVICE

In an interview with Stephanopoulos, President Obama, pinned the decision to stop White House tours on the Secret Service. If this is truly the case, then why hasn't the Secret Service told the President to dispense with his Martha's Vineyard vacation that will cost three times as much? The President is not telling the truth. This is a messaging opportunity. [[Ex-Secret Service Agent: Obama 'Absolutely Not Telling The Truth' On White House Tours](#)]

SUGGESTION: Find allies on the Hill who are talking about the White House Tour Office and the Secret Service argument. [i.e. Louie Gohmert has an amendment to stop public funding of White House golf trips until funds are available to conduct tours.]

- SEQUESTER LIES
- IE: VACCINE PROGRAM - [Video: Congressman Confronts CDC Chief Over Misleading White House Statement On Sequester Cuts To Vaccine Program](#)]
- RELEASE OF ILLEGAL ALIENS: Criminal illegals when released will return to their home communities *presenting a danger* to their own neighborhoods. Hurts legal immigrants most of all.
- ICE SUED: ICE has been providing abortions and sex change drugs to detained illegal aliens.
- PEREZ STRATEGY: Reports have emerged regarding EEOC guidance pressure for small business to hire minority felons. DANGER for American small businesses. i.e. – would you want a felon working next to your wife or child in your small business?

IMMIGRATION MESSAGING IDEA: “DO IT THE RIGHT WAY” - IMMIGRATION: People who have immigrated to this country following the laws of the land. They have encountered many obstacles and are proud to be citizens. The system does need to be reformed. R’s should be seen as fighting for those who do follow process and the law.

SUGGESTION: Contact CIS and volunteer to speak at citizenship swearing in ceremonies.

IMMIGRATION: FEDERATION OF AMERICAN IMMIGRATION REFORM [FAIR]: Will be having their conference in mid-April. Talk radio will be reporting live from the conference. This is an opportunity for messaging.

BLOGGER COALITION: Meeting weekly of about 30 top bloggers to work with Groundswell as colleagues. Anita is lead contact and officiator of these calls.

OTHER

LARS HEDEGAARD: Head of the Danish Free Press Society, a writer and critic of Islam survived an assassination attempt will be in the US, March 19. He will be given 10 minutes at next week’s Groundswell meeting to talk about the importance of free speech!

MIKE KELLY’S GUN PURCHASE: Gabby Gifford’s husband purchased an AR-15 the day

before his testimony at the Colorado legislature on tighter gun control. [[Article](#)]

DOMESTIC DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM DUPLICATION: Legislation was introduced in past two sessions to establish a review of non-defense programs for duplication. The bill was re-introduced this session. [*Teller to send bill number out; Cruz looking for the House bill too to help in the Senate!*]-

SOCIAL CONSERVATIVES: Our core issues are social. We are also in agreement on fiscal issues. There is a movement within the R's towards a more libertarian viewpoint on traditional marriage. It is important to protect our coalition and traditionalism. Capitalism without values is greed. We were also reminded to not forget national security conservatism.

LINKS

- FORBES: EPA NOMINEE GINA MCCARTHY HAS A HISTORY OF MISLEADING CONGRESS

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2013/03/12/epa-nominee-gina-mccarthy-has-a-history-of-misleading-congress/>

- JUDICIAL WATCH: POLITICAL APPOINTEE INVOLVED IN OBAMA JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DECISIONS TO DROP BLACK PANTHER CASE ACCORDING TO DOCUMENTS

<http://www.judicialwatch.org/press-room/press-releases/political-appointee-involved-obama-justice-department-decision-drop-black-panther-case/>

- GAFFNEY: UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT BENGHAZI

[http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/mar/12/unanswered-questions-about-benghazi/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Commentary-TheWashingtonTimesAmericasNewspaper+\(Commentary+-+The+Washington+Times\)](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2013/mar/12/unanswered-questions-about-benghazi/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Commentary-TheWashingtonTimesAmericasNewspaper+(Commentary+-+The+Washington+Times))

Regards,
Stephanie Arje
402-881-5942

CONFIDENTIALITY: This e-mail (including any attachments) may contain confidential, proprietary and privileged information, and unauthorized disclosure or use is prohibited. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify me and delete this e-mail from your system. Thank you.