

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 23 Jan. 2003

The meeting was convened at 7:30 pm in the Unitarian Church by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Twenty-three were in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of 12 Dec. 2002 were accepted as revised.

Judy Deutsch reported on the possibility and means through which the SDTC might initiate programming on local cable TV. The chief of local cable TV, Rick Dorman, is willing to come to video an event. He is also engaged in training people to use the recording equipment themselves, and a group session is scheduled on Monday, 27 Jan. at 7-9 pm. For training, contact Mr. Dorman at 978-443-9507 or rick_dorman@cable.comcast.net.

Discussion followed Judy's report and it was agreed to hold a televised forum with an anti-war theme. Henry Noer volunteered to arrange for a speaker and other details. It was agreed to invite Representative Martin Meehan to the forum.

A resolution, opposing a possible preemptive attack against Iraq by the US and supplying instructions to our political representatives, was introduced by Carl Offner. This resolution was adopted in modified form by an overwhelming show of hands:

"The Sudbury Democratic Town Committee believes that it is essential that the United Nations inspectors in Iraq be given the time to do their job. We are not apologists for Saddam Hussein, but we see no evidence that would justify an invasion of Iraq. We reject the Bush Administration's drive to war.

We urge all Democratic office-holders and candidates to speak out publicly, forthrightly, repeatedly, and emphatically against an invasion of Iraq."

Nicholas Palermo called for reconsideration, but his recommended changes were not adopted.* Accordingly, the resolution was posted by or before 26 Jan. 2003 to our congressional delegation, our two state senators, and to the several Democrats who have declared an interest in running for President in 2004.

Jonathan Scarsic reported by proxy that a comprehensive voter list for Sudbury can be obtained from the Massachusetts Democratic Party for \$100-200. This list would include a ballot history in primary elections as well as a voter history in general elections. Action on this matter was deferred until Jonathan recovers from an illness.

Thomas Hollocher reported that the subcommittee charged with generating newspaper articles from the SDTC has started work. He asked that the articles not be vetted at the monthly meeting; instead, the text of an article would be sent out by email and comments would be weighed by the subcommittee and appropriate changes made. If much opposition were to develop against an article on general grounds, the article, if forwarded to a paper, would carry the author's name only and would not be represented as coming from the SDTC. There seemed to be general approval of this plan, so the subcommittee will proceed tentatively in this manner.

There was brief discussion of a Charter for the SDTC. One draft by Henry Noer was presented, and another by Eileen Glovsky was alluded to but not introduced. There was some opposition based on the question of need for a Charter. Is not the wording of our Bylaws sufficient? This matter will be continued at a later meeting.

A request was made for Beverly to email the agenda of future meetings to the Committee a day or two before the event.

Announcements

Caucus for the Issues Convention of 7 June convenes at 2 pm on 8 Feb. in the Senior Center.

Remember to pay your yearly dues of \$25 minimum c/o SDTC to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury.

The next meeting of the SDTC is scheduled for 7:30 pm Thurs. 27 Feb. 2003 in the Unitarian Church. Please submit the text or at least an outline of all verbal reports made at meetings to the Secretary.

Procedure

*Rules of Order indicate that Reconsideration can be accepted only from one who had voted in the affirmative on the question.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary SDTC, 26 Jan. 2003