

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 24 April 2003

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

The minutes of the previous meeting of 20 March 2003 were approved without further revision.

One of the current Registrars of Voters, Jean Maloney, was nominated by acclamation to continue in that position for another term.

Esther Mann, Claire Schlosser, and Thomas Hollocher agreed to serve as Election Officials, and the names of these persons are to be forwarded to the Town Clerk by Beverly Guild.

There was a discussion on the continuation of the weekly Peace vigil now that the Iraq War is essentially over. It was agreed to call off the Peace vigil, but possibly to reinstate it as a Civil Rights vigil at some later date, depending on the outcome of our Public Forum on the USA-PATRIOT Act on 8 May, among other things.

Henry Noer summarized plans for the Public Forum on 8 May in opposition to the USA-PATRIOT Act and related acts and orders, and led a general discussion on this topic. In addition to speakers and video coverage, the non-compliance resolution will be introduced at the Forum, and there will be petitions available to sign by way of support. The resolution will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen in due course for consideration, and, we hope, approval. The Forum is scheduled for 7 pm on 8 May in the Sudbury Town Hall. Mr. Noer indicated that a draft of the resolution will be circulated within the Committee in the near future by email. Mr. Noer's press release on the Forum was approved by the Committee.

Due to a shortage of funds available to the Massachusetts State Committee, the SDTC voted to send \$200 to the State Committee. Note that the web site of the State Committee is www.massdem.org.

There was a discussion of impression left by US Rep. Martin Meehan upon the occasion of his private meeting with the SDTC on the evening of 23 April in the Goodnow Library. Several persons expressed disappointment with Mr. Meehan's reluctance to use the power of his seniority and committee assignments to advance liberal causes. He seemed to some to be greatly frustrated by the power and organization of Republican forces in Congress and the lack of good organization and national leadership among Democrats. He also seemed politically adrift and more interested in avoiding political fights and controversy than in serving as an aggressive advocate of Democratic positions.

Announcements

Remember to pay our 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 Thursday 22 May in the Unitarian Church.

Please remember to submit to the Secretary a copy of text or outline of verbal reports made at meetings, particularly if the report is long or complex.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 19 May 2003.