

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 19 May 2004

The meeting was convened at 7:30 pm in the Unitarian Church by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Only 19 persons were in attendance, as documented by the attached attendance record, of which 14 were SDTC members.

The minutes of the previous meeting of 22 April, that had been vetted by email and also available in printed form at the meeting, were approved without change.

Helga Andrews, Treasurer, reported assets of \$745 in the SDTC account.

Two workers for the John Kerry campaign, Devin Schwartz and Emily Berman, addressed the meeting on opportunities for volunteers to assist in the campaign. Of particular interest currently is the need for people to work in New Hampshire, to submit letters to the editors of local newspapers in support of Kerry, and to organize fund-raising house parties. An informational house party kit is available from Kerry headquarters through Ms. Jakoby. Distribution of a Kerry flier at the LSHS graduation might be a useful means to register young voters and attract volunteers. It was noted that the League of Women Voters is already enrolling voters at the high school. In response to the remarks of Schwartz and Berman, opinion was expressed that the Kerry campaign must do something to change the growing impression that Senator Kerry is vacillating and indecisive on some important issues, including Iraq, abortion rights, homosexual marriage, possibility of John McCain as a running mate, and energy policy. The two ladies indicated a willingness to convey these views to Kerry headquarters.

Claire Schlosser next delivered a detailed summary of efforts of the Fundraising and Election/Political subcommittees to organize a fund raising party alone or in cooperation with other persons or organizations. Her presentation included documents that are placed in the record. A SDTC function is targeted for July or September and might include a known speaker and an information/registration booth, as well as refreshments and festivities. Volunteers are currently needed to help organize the event. The next meeting of the organizing committees is scheduled for 8 June, the day of the solar transit of Venus. Ideas are welcome.

Elizabeth and Eric Shienbrood announced that they intend to host a fund raising party at their house probably on 26 June, with musical band and catered refreshments. The size of the expected monetary donation was discussed briefly, and \$100 was considered a possibility.

Subsequent to this discussion, Elizabeth and Eric Shienbrood (eshienbrood@comcast.net) were nominated for membership in the SDTC. The motion received a second and a unanimous vote of approval.

Katy Quinn, campaign manager for Mass. Senator Pam Resor, spoke about the current state of Resor's campaign, and in particular, for the need of volunteer workers and funding. People with time to spare were urged to contact campaign headquarters at 26 Main St., Hudson.

Following Ms. Quinn's address, Beverly Guild moved that the SDTC donate \$100 each to the campaigns of Mass. Senators Pam Resor, and Susan Fargo and US Senator John Kerry. The motion received a second and was approved unanimously.

Henry Noer reported on opposition to provisions of the USA-Patriot Act. At present, forty-three towns and cities in Massachusetts and 319 across the US have passed resolutions opposing the Act. A resolution is before the Mass. legislature, but a hearing date has not yet been set. The ACLU task force is developing a plan to capture public attention regarding the Act by placing resolutions by petition on the November ballot in each of the US congressional districts.

Four of the group (Henry Noer, Maxine Yarbrough, Dean Yarbrough, and Carrie Pollack) recapitulated their experiences at the Mass. Democratic Convention on 8 May. Overall, their

comments were favorable, with various sessions being described as interesting, informative or innovative.

It was confirmed that we shall participate in the July 4th parade and Sudbury Day on 18 September.

After setting **the next meeting for 7:15 pm on Thursday 17 June**, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Announcements

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2004 dues of \$25 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury. Dues were expected on or about 1 January 2004.

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. This is the only way to assure that an accurate summary is entered into the minutes.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 23 May 2004.