

**Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2004**

The meeting was convened at 7:15 pm in the Unitarian Church by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Twenty-four persons were in attendance (22 documented by the attached attendance record) of which 20 were SDTC members or associate members. A newcomer to the list was Doug Barth. The additional two attendees not on the list were Stas Gayshan and John Thomas, candidates for our state representative in the Democratic primary election, who briefly present their respective positions.

The minutes of the previous meeting of 21 July, 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 about \$1600 before the expenses that will be paid in connection with the fund raising affair featuring Robert Drinan, on 19 September. Much of this amount was generated by 20 checks received in advance for the affair.

Claire Schlosser led a detailed review and discussion of the final plans for the SDTC fundraiser on 19 September. Two substantive issues, for which she wished the input and agreement of the meeting, concerned an honorarium for Drinan and decisions on who may be admitted free of a donation. It was decided to offer an honorarium of \$250. It was also agreed that Claire or her appointee ought to decide the question of free admission at the door on a case-by-case basis. It was understood that political VIPs will be admitted free and introduced to the guests. Also there was some possibility that college students might be admitted with a reduced contribution. Many thought that a celebration at some local venue after the fundraiser would be a good idea, and plans were set in motion.

Beverly Guild raised the issue of how the proceeds from the fundraiser might best be spent. According to legal advice received from Carmine Gentile, the maximum contribution to state candidates is \$1000, but money for the direct purchase of specific items is unlimited. For national candidates, the limit to the national committee is also \$1000, but it was unclear whether this amount pertained to the national senate and house committees as well. If so, the limit might be \$3000 altogether. Gerry Glass argued for support of the national senate committee, because of the possibility that the Democrats might win the senate and thereby block the legislative program of Bush, were he reelected. Rather than have a meeting of the SDTC to decide on disbursement of funds raised, it was agreed that a subcommittee of Gentile, Guild, Andrews, and Glass would prepare a proposal to be vetted by email.

After setting **the next meeting for 7:15 pm on Thursday 7 October at the Unitarian Church of Sudbury**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Announcements

Henry Noer, who is organizing Sudbury Day on 18 September, appealed for workers to staff the SDTC table from 11:30 am until 5 pm.

Volunteers are needed to hold signs for Democratic candidates on the Sudbury Common on Saturdays (contact Guild) and to canvas one hour per week by telephone in New Hampshire and Maine from the Kerry-Edwards headquarters in Waltham (contact Pat Deal at the headquarters or Guild).

Kate Donaghue is organizing volunteers to travel on weekends to New Hampshire and Maine for canvassing and registration.

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, 9 September 2004.