

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 16 March 2005

The meeting was convened at 7:15 pm in the Unitarian Church by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Twelve persons, all members of the SDTC, were in attendance as indicated by the attached sign-in sheet.

The minutes of the previous February meeting, that had been vetted by email, were approved without change, and paper copies of those minutes were distributed at today's meeting.

Helga Andrews, Treasurer, reported that the SDTC now has about \$1700 free and unencumbered. The \$500 check sent to the committee to elect Howard Dean as Chairman of the DNC was in fact cashed.

Carl Offner reported on the activities of the subcommittee on Social Security (SS). Through the efforts of Jerry Glass, copies of a brochure containing important SS information were obtained from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), with the intention of distributing them to people attending town meeting in April. The idea of our participating in a Minuteman Forum on Social Security does not now seem feasible and has been dropped. An alternative possibility being considered is to prepare a video show or program to be broadcast over the local cable channel. This might take the form of a talk, discussion group, skit, or a combination of these. Offner also reported that an op-ed article is in preparation and may soon be distributed by email to committee members for vetting. This article will contain mention of Democratic social "values" as well as afford factual information about SS.

Henry Noer is in process of setting up a SDTC web site and has incurred some expense in registering names for the site. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to reimburse him for these expenses.

Jonathan Sclarsic has been considering how best to organize an outreach program, the intention of which is to maintain contact with the roughly 3000 registered Democrats in Sudbury, expand the lists of potential political volunteers for future elections, and build a data base of general information on these Democrats. Sclarsic distributed a two-page document (now part of the record) containing his recommendations for a telephone bank program to contact all Democratic households in Sudbury over the next 10 months. The next steps are to prepare a script for the calls, devise a means to record responses and incorporate them into a data base, and acquire a user's license for appropriate data base software. Noer suggested that the cost of a license for commercial software might run about \$300. At the suggestion of Guild, the meeting offered a unanimous consensus to form an exploratory outreach subcommittee under Sclarsic's leadership. A call for volunteers for this subcommittee is to be sent by group email to the Committee as a whole.

After confirming **the next meeting for Thursday 28 April at the First Parish of Sudbury**, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Announcements

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2005 dues of \$25 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury. Dues were expected on or about 1 January 2005.

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, 21 March 2005