

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 19 October 2005

The meeting was convened at 7:15 pm in the Unitarian Church by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Seventeen persons were in attendance, including 13 members, one associate member, a newcomer, Doris Gannon, and Democratic candidate for Lt. Gov., Sam Kelley, and his aide, Michael Lake. The names of those in attendance are on the attached sign-in sheet.

The minutes of the previous meeting of 21 September, which had been vetted by email, were approved without change. Paper copies of the minutes were distributed at this evening's meeting.

Helga Andrews, Treasurer, was absent, so there was no Treasurer's report.

Susan Thel reported for the Peace Subcommittee. Plans regarding Veteran's Day (11 November) remain uncertain. It may no longer be possible to join with a veteran's group(s) opposed the Iraq War for a march or joint demonstration in Boston. There seems to be difference of opinion as to whether a Veteran's Day parade will be held in Boston and whether a peace demonstration can be held on City Hall Plaza, which some claim is private property and therefore subject to the regulation of the owner. This claim seems unlikely. Nevertheless, efforts will continue to plan some event to involve the SDTC on Veteran's Day. The next meeting of the Subcommittee is scheduled for 7:30 pm on 24 October at the home of Carrie Pollock.

Beverly Guild reported in behalf of the 3rdMAD group that an Out-of-Iraq forum would be held on Sunday 20 November. Details will be forthcoming shortly.

Sam Kelley, Democratic candidate for Lt. Gov., distributed campaign literature and presented his views and positions on a number of topics, especially emphasizing health care, pre-school education, opposition to the Iraq War, and the need for more rational and coordinated approaches to security. He strongly supports a system of universal health insurance under a single payer. Kelley's professional background in psychiatric medicine would be expected to lend strength and authority to any effort to establish a single payer system. His formal presentation was followed by an extended and spirited discussion.

Maxine Yarbrough reported that Deval Patrick, candidate for Gov., will appear in Sudbury to present his political views on the evening of Thursday 1 December from 7-9 pm at the Goodnow Library. The publicity flier that would announce the event was reworded between our September and October meetings to remove any hint of preference or favoritism for Mr. Patrick on the part of the Sudbury and Wayland Democratic Town Committees. The flier now states that the event is the first in a series of candidate introductions and is organized (not sponsored) by the two Town Committees. The revised wording, which had been vetted previously by email, was read to the meeting and approved by unanimous vote. It is now entered in the record with these minutes. Maxine believed that the relatively minor expenses associated with the event ought to be shouldered privately by those most interested in the candidacy of Mr. Patrick and not provided by the two Town Committees. Carmin Gentile was of the opinion that this approach probably would not require any sort of reporting as campaign contributions. Maxine urged those planning to attend to bring refreshments.

Win Fitzgerald reported that our annual holiday party is scheduled for Sunday 4 December in the Hosmer house starting at 7:30 pm. It was approved unanimously to invite only political incumbents.

Henry Noer was optimistic that the state resolution opposing the USA-Patriot Act and related would soon be voted out of Committee so that it could then be considered by the legislature as a whole.

Tom Hollocher commented briefly on the ongoing Fair Districts signature campaign. From his experience, collecting signatures is made difficult because of the singular lack of publicity about the issue and the signature campaign. Virtually no one knows of the Fair Districts measure.

After confirming **the next meeting for Wednesday 16 November at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury**, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 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, 23 October 2005