

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2006

The meeting was convened at 2:15 pm immediately following the 2006 Democratic Caucus in the Senior Center of Sudbury by Chairperson Beverly Guild. Twenty two persons (eighteen members) were in attendance, the names of whom are listed on the attached sign-in sheet. The guests were Bob Savoy, Estrella Chauls, Bob Huey, and Carla Huey (bob.huey@gmail.com).

The minutes of the previous meeting of 16 November, which had been vetted by email, were approved without change. Paper copies of the minutes were distributed at the start of today's meeting.

There was no report from the Treasurer.

Beverly Guild announced that the 3rdMAD group has planned an event in which outstanding contributions by area Democratic town committee members would be recognized. The date for the event is 25 March, but the place was not stipulated. It is expected that Sheriff DiPaola would be honored at the event for his work in New Orleans immediately following the devastating hurricane of 2005. In accordance with information received, Guild opened nominations for Sudbury members who have contributed to the work of the SDTC in major ways and received five nominees: Henry Noer for his efforts to enact resolutions opposing elements of the USA-Patriot Act in Sudbury and at the state level; Carl Offner for leading our opposition to the proposal to privatize Social Security and for overseeing the Mass Dems email chat group; Susan Thel and Carrie Pollack, co-chairs of the Peace subcommittee, for organizing our on-going peace vigils; and Thomas Hollocher for doing a lot of scribbling on a variety of subjects. The meeting unanimously accepted these nominees to represent Sudbury at the 3rdMAD event.

Henry Noer asked permission to write a letter, to be vetted by email, to our US Senators to thank them for their vigorous stand against the confirmation of Judge Samuel Alito to the Supreme Court. Henry Sorett suggested that the letter also ought to emphasize the extreme importance of the next Supreme Court nomination, which might be named by President Bush. In addition, the letter should be sent as a policy statement to the Sudbury Town Crier and the Boston Globe. The proposal and suggestions were unanimously accepted. Noer also urged everyone to call the office of House Speaker DiMasi to ask him to release H.B.1881, the resolution opposing elements of the USA-Patriot Act, from committee so that it can be finally enacted for Massachusetts. In a related matter, Noer mentioned that the ACLU has filed suite against the Administration over its violations of the Federal Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Susan Thel reported that the peace vigils on Saturdays, 12-12:30 pm, will continue and that an effort is under way to encourage the Democratic town committees of surrounding towns to mount their own peace vigils.

Maxine Yarbrough, following the smashing victory of Deval Patrick at the caucus, reminded Patrick delegates that they are expected to collect Sudbury signatures on Patrick's nomination papers. Persons registered as Democrats and independents can sign, but Republicans cannot.

Tom Hollocher asked permission to write a letter, to be vetted by email, to our US Congressional delegation to oppose impending appropriation bills totaling some \$120 billion to fund war in Iraq and Afghanistan from the end of fiscal 2006 through the beginning of 2007. In discussion, it was suggested that the letter ought to mention alternative uses for such funds, particularly health care, and the fact that domestic programs have recently been cut drastically. The proposal and suggestions were unanimously accepted.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7:15 pm, Tuesday 14 March 2006, in the First Parish of Sudbury.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 pm.

Announcements

There will be a showing of the Walmart movie at 11:30 am, Sunday 12 February, in the First Parish of Sudbury..

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2006 dues of \$35 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury. Dues were expected on or about 1 January.

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 February 2006.