

**Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)**  
**Minutes of the meeting of 24 May 2007**

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Twenty-eight persons were in attendance, comprising twenty-four members and associate members and four guests. The guests were Simon Ho and Bob Savoy of Sudbury; Eileen Donaghue, a candidate for the Massachusetts 5<sup>th</sup> congressional; and her husband. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Two events preceded the business meeting. The first was a farewell party in honor of the service and person of Jerry Glass who is soon to move out of town. Refreshments were offered, and a signature card was made available to record the names of attending members of the SDTC.

The second event was a campaign presentation by Eileen Donaghue of Lowell. She was born and raised in a family of modest means in Lowell and attended the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She then attended law school and set up a practice in Lowell, where, in due course, she was elected to the City Council, which, after two years, elected the second lady mayor of Lowell. She has served as mayor now for eight years and reckons she has served a total of 12 years in public office. A variety of issues were discussed: She is all for ending the Iraq War and establishing universal health care, but offered few ideas about how to accomplish either; federal mandates in education were criticized for not being funded; she defined herself as pro-choice and as a tax conservative. One specific measure that she would work toward in Congress, if elected, is an updated bill of rights for veterans.

The minutes of our meeting of 25 April 2007, which had been vetted by email and distributed at the beginning of the meeting, were approved as submitted.

**Reports:** The Treasurer reported that the current balance of the SDTC is \$1126. In this regard, it was moved and approved to allocate \$25 to support the candidates' forum in Hudson on Saturday 2 June.

Comments were solicited from delegates to the recent Mass. Democratic Convention, and Carl Offner, Henry Sorett, Henry Noer, and Tom Hollocher responded. Impressions were generally favorable in the sense that new things were learned and contacts made, particularly in the afternoon training sessions. There was, however, a lack of professionalism in things like the "Guide to Delegates", the wording and distribution of resolutions considered in the morning plenary session, the lack of area housing enforced by scheduling the Convention over commencement weekend, and a few other matters.

Those working on plans for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade continue to refine the style of our participation. One idea was to display multiple signs, each one illustrating a different Democratic principle or issue. This and other questions concerning the parade are expected to be settled at a meeting to be held at Susan Thel's house at 7 pm on Tuesday 12 June.

The Tom Conroy subcommittee was urged to impress on Conroy the importance of his attending various affairs and events in order to be seen and known more widely. Otherwise, give him what support you can and he is willing to accept. It was suggested that Conroy ought to be invited to our meetings a few times a year for general discussion. Most seemed agreeable to the idea.

The L-SHS award subcommittee learned that their initial inquiry to the high school's administration became misdirected because of the murder, but that it is receptive to the idea of an award for next year.

**Reconstitution of the SDTC:** Every four years corresponding to election of a President, the current members of the SDTC or others or both need to sign nomination papers and stand for election to reconstitute the Committee. The first step in this process is for the Chair to advise the

Secretary of State how many persons will be nominated up to a limit of 35. Accordingly, it was moved and unanimously approved to nominate 35 persons to stand for election.

**A new Presidential Directive:** Henry Noer alerted the Committee to the recent Presidential Directive /NSPD 51, /HSPD 20, which would give the President apparently dictatorial powers for an indefinite period in the event of a national "emergency" that he alone could define. Noer asked that we request our state congressional delegation to investigate the nature, limits, and legality of the Directive. This motion was approved unanimously.

**The next meeting is scheduled for 7:15 pm sharp, Tuesday 19 June 2007 in the First Parish of Sudbury.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

#### Announcements

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2007 contribution of \$35 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury.

Please 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.

Try to attend the Candidates' debate over health care from 10-12 am Saturday 2 June at the Portuguese Club in Hudson. Leave a little early for the peace vigil.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 29 May 2007.