

**Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)**  
**Minutes of the meeting of 15 July 2008**

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Twelve members were in attendance, as well as five guests: Greg Agnew from the Ed O'Reilly for U.S. senator campaign; Tom Walsh, candidate for the Governor's Council, 3rd District; Tim Miley from the Susan Fargo for state senator campaign; and Yong Li and Bob Savoy of Sudbury. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Contact information: Agnew, 866-716-2008, [agnew.j.g@comcast.net](mailto:agnew.j.g@comcast.net); Miley, 781-893-3707, [timothy.miley@gmail.com](mailto:timothy.miley@gmail.com); Walsh, [tlwalsh2006@yahoo.com](mailto:tlwalsh2006@yahoo.com). Walsh's homepage is [www.twalsh.org](http://www.twalsh.org).

**Minutes:** The minutes of our meeting of 19 June 2008, which had been vetted by email and distributed at this evening's meeting, were approved as submitted with the following addition:

Representative Tom Conroy arrived late in the meeting and contributed to the discussion of his campaign and legislative activities.

**Finances:** The Treasurer reported that our account balance is now \$645.

**Guests and Candidates:**

Tim Miley, representing Citizens for Susan Fargo, presented information on the campaign to reelect Fargo to the state senate. He hoped for support from the SDTC, notwithstanding the fact that only two Sudbury precincts lie in her district.

Tom Walsh attended our meeting for a second time and set forth at some length his qualifications and intentions regarding his run for the 3rd District seat on the Governor's Council. He is opposed by Marilyn Devaney, incumbent, and John Doyle. His positions on political issues are uniformly progressive and in accord with the general views of the SDTC. Perhaps the most important work of the Council is the approval of state judges nominated by the Governor and vetted by the Massachusetts Bar Association and public hearings. If elected, Walsh would work diligently to approve judges who are competent, well trained, and intent on serving the public interest.

Agnew argued the importance of Ed O'Reilly's campaign and volunteered to supply bumper stickers and lawn signs. John Kerry has enjoyed a long tenure in the U. S. Senate without serious opposition or challenge to his record and service. It is the purpose of the O'Reilly campaign to challenge Kerry on today's vital issues, particularly those concerning war, budget, and social justice.

Yong Li was introduced as a Chinese immigrant who is strongly motivated to support progressive issues and who is working as a volunteer for Tom Conroy's campaign. Although she cannot be elected to membership in the SDTC, she was nevertheless warmly welcomed to attend meetings and participate in its activities.

**4th of July Event:** There was considerable discussion of the recent 4th of July parade. Our manned truck was deemed a useful innovation. Less than satisfactory was the small number of members who participated. Only a few Sudbury people were available to march with the groups supporting Conroy and Tsongas. We ought to be mindful that Susan Pope marched with a large entourage. It was moved and approved to reimburse Henry Noer for expenses incurred in the rental of the truck used in the parade.

**General Discussion:** The possibility was discussed of mounting a general Democratic fund raising event after Labor Day. Perhaps a breakfast or lunch (brunch?) event would suffice, with featured speaker(s).

Sudbury Day will not be held this autumn, but there are plans to hold the event in the spring of 2009.

There is a remote possibility that there will be a local ballot question on single payer health care. If so, Judy Deutsch will need help in supporting the question. She will notify the Committee if the question reaches the ballot. [Subsequently, Judy informed us that the signature petition failed to get the requisite 200 votes.]

The National Popular Vote bill, that is intended to set aside the Electoral College in presidential elections, recently passed the Massachusetts House and is now being considered by the Senate. Urge Susan Fargo and Pam Resor to support this bill.

Carl Offner suggested that we ought to make a mailing along the lines of the 4th of July handout to sort out the various Democratic candidates and the offices to which they aspire.

An inquiry was made regarding the response of James Roosevelt of the State Committee following our letter of inquiry about the political activities of election workers in Sudbury in light of the conflict of interest law. Tom Hollocher responded that our letter was slow to be forwarded to Roosevelt from the State Committee office, and that he suggested in early July that (a) we take up the matter with attorney Michelle Tassinari at the Election Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, or (b) attempt to reach an understanding through a meeting among the Selectmen, Town Clerk, and the Sudbury Registrars. These possibilities are now under consideration by Gary Bean and Jeanne Maloney, our Democratic Registrars.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**The next meeting is scheduled for 7:15 pm, Wednesday 13 August 2008 in the First Parish of Sudbury. Subsequent meetings in 2008 are scheduled for Thursday 18 September, Tuesday 14 October, and Wednesday 12 November. Please put these dates on your calendars.**

#### **Announcements**

The picnic of the 3rd Middlesex Area Democrats is scheduled for the afternoon of 27 July at the home of Tom Larkin, 246 Carlisle Road, Bedford. [tomlarkin@verizon.net](mailto:tomlarkin@verizon.net).

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2008 contribution of \$35 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury.