

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 15 April 2009

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Thirteen members were in attendance, as well as three guests, John Riordan, Ramuel Raagas, and Bob Savoy, all of Sudbury. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our February and March meetings, which had been vetted by email and distributed at this evening's meeting, were approved as submitted.

Finances: The Chair reported, in the absence of the Treasurer, that the current account balance is \$775.

Vacated Office: The Chair reported that our newly elected Treasurer, Nathaniel Fridman, resigned from that office. After a brief discussion of the situation, it was agreed to ask our penultimate Treasurer, Helga Andrews, to fill in temporarily and ask Doris Gannon to stand in nomination as our new Treasurer.

Sudbury Day: Henry Noer reported on activities at and around the SDTC table during Sudbury Day on 4 April at the high school. Attendance was very good, and many who passed by our table accepted literature. Some paused to engage in conversation and a few expressed an interest in being added to the Yahoo email list of the SDTC. State Representative Tom Conroy visited the table and talked with many attendees. The staff comprised Henry Noer, Maxine Yarbrough, Yong Li, and Tom Hollocher.

Election to Membership: Hollocher placed the name of John Riordan in nomination for full membership in the SDTC. In making the nomination, he asked that the customary initial election to Associate Membership with its probationary period of one year be waived in view of the present small membership of the Committee and the distinguished history of Mr. Riordan in Democratic politics. In response to the nomination, he related some of this history. Mr. Riordan was elected to SDTC membership unanimously.

Discussion of the Afghanistan War: An extended discussion was held on the war and what realistic goals might be undertaken and completed before NATO troops withdraw and end the military occupation of that country. Is the military escalation of President Obama wise or necessary? Will the overall Obama policy toward Afghanistan, as presently understood, bring the war to a timely conclusion? The discussion revealed major differences in opinion on nearly all points, and doubt as to the wisdom of actions to date of the Obama administration on Afghanistan. There was also doubt that an Obama policy has been enunciated fully.

Award meetings: The award meeting of the 3rd MAD group is scheduled for 25 April at which time Democratic "workhorses" will be honored. George and Bunny McQueen are the honorees from Sudbury. Similarly, Doug Barth, who organized the Obama campaign in Sudbury last year, is the honoree at the awards meeting of the Middlesex and Worcester group on 26 April.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

The next meetings are scheduled for 7:15 pm, Thursday 14 May, Monday 15 June, and Tuesday 14 July. In this regard, Jeanne Maloney agreed to substitute for the Secretary during his absence on 14 May.

Announcements

The SDTC has acquired a postal mailbox: Mailbox 252, Sudbury MA 01776.

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2009 contribution of \$35 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Helga Andrews, Treasurer pro tempore, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 21 April 2009.