

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 30 June 2009

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Nineteen members were in attendance, as well as two guests, Bob Savoy of Sudbury and State Committee member Kate Donaghue. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our meeting of 14 May, which had been vetted by email and distributed at this evening's meeting, were approved as submitted.

Finances: The Treasurer, Helga Andrews, reported that the current account balance is \$735.

Report by Kate Donaghue: The Party encourages each town committee to hold a fundraiser for the benefit of the Massachusetts Democratic Party in July or August. This suggestion is partly in response to new rules that diminish the maximum yearly contribution that one can make to the Party to \$500, thus resulting in a likely need for additional sources of revenue. There seemed to be little enthusiasm, after Kate's presentation, for the SDTC to sponsor such an event.

The party has initiated a new project for purposes of publicity and information, the Massachusetts Democrats Television Project. Under the project, TV programs will be produced, probably in Somerville, and aired by local public access TV stations around the state. The programs will be available in electronic form from a distribution network server that can be accessed by local stations. Each town ought to have an assigned liaison whose function would be to notify the local station whenever a new program becomes available from the server and to notify the state Party as to the time of the local broadcast. John Riordan tentatively agreed to assume this liaison function.

Kate solicited comments from the meeting on the recent Party Convention in Springfield. A lengthy discussion ensued, with opinion generally favorable on atmosphere and zeitgeist but unfavorable on the Party Platform presented for approval by the Party leadership. It was held to be too general and omitted mention of vital current issues, such as single-payer health care.

Funding the printing of our health care paper: Carl Offner reported that sufficient contributions have been received to cover the cost of the printing.

Involvement in the 4th of July celebration: The remainder of the meeting was devoted to planning for and discussion of the 4th of July parade. Don Chauls will provide a truck that is to be decorated with placards and carry those unable to march. Others will march carrying the banner and signs supporting single-payer health care. Some may wish to march with U.S. Representative Niki Tsongas, who will be elsewhere in the line-of-march. All are to assemble near the end of Union Ave. near the pet store at 12-12:30 pm. Shuttle buses will connect the town hall parking lot and the bottom of Union from 11:30 am on.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7:15 pm, Wednesday 12 August in the First Parish.

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.

Maurice Fitzgerald announced that Progressive Catholics have a website, popeandpresiden.org, and he urged members to visit that site.

Beverly Guild asked, in behalf of Amnesty International, that members contact Congress and the Obama Administration to recommend the prosecution of those responsible for the U.S. policy of torture implemented by the previous administration.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 2 July 2009.