

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 13 October 2009

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Twenty members attended, as well as several guests, including Massachusetts Democratic Committee member Sue Kennedy, Yong Li of Sudbury, and contingents representing senatorial candidates Martha Coakley and Mike Capuano. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our meeting of 17 September, which had been vetted by email and distributed at this evening's meeting, were approved.

Finances: There was no Treasurer's report.

Comments by Sue Kennedy: Sue reminded us that Mass. Senator Jamie Eldridge was seriously injured in a recent fall and has undergone surgery. Messages regarding his health and progress are best sent to his home in Acton: 85 Stow Street, Acton 01720.

Memorial in behalf of George McQueen: The meeting among Bunny McQueen, Maxine Yarbrough, and Pam Hollocher finally took place recently and the question of a memorial in memory of George McQueen was discussed. Pam said that Bunny is of the opinion that George would have preferred the idea of a monetary stipend to a high school student who performs grass roots work for a Democratic candidate seeking elected office.

Holiday party 2009: The holiday party is definitely set for 6 December at 7 pm in the Hosmer house.

Martha Coakley for US Senator: Jonathan Sclarsic (her campaign manager), Roddy McKelvie, and Sheila Caulkins presented arguments favoring Coakley's candidacy. In summary, although Coakley has not had legislative experience, she espouses a broad variety of progressive Democratic causes and has always worked in support of the Democratic Party. Her elected offices have been centered on criminal prosecution.

Mike Capuano for US Senator: Jess Torres from the Capuano campaign, Carl Offner, Carmine Gentile, Henry Sorett, and others presented arguments favoring Mike Capuano's candidacy. Capuano has had both executive experience as a former mayor of Somerville and legislative experience as congressman from the 8th District for 11 years. During these years of service, he has supported many progressive causes and has opposed the Iraq War since its inception.

Endorsement of Mike Capuano by the SDTC: A lengthy discussion was held over the proposal, supported by Gentile, Offner, Sorett, Hollocher, and others, to commit the SDTC to an endorsement of Mike Capuano. There is little precedence for endorsement of a Democratic candidate during a primary election campaign, and, indeed, older members could recollect only one other Committee endorsement of that kind. Some worried that endorsement might be divisive within the Committee. Others argued that the choice was clear and obvious, based on the record and achievements of the several Democratic candidates. Offner argued that the abbreviated length of this primary campaign necessitated our selecting a candidate to support now and not after the primary election. The motion to endorse Capuano was approved by a vote of 15 yeas and 4 nays.

Jonathan Sclarsic: Sclarsic confirmed his intention to run for Tom Conroy's position as Massachusetts Representative for Sudbury, Lincoln, and Wayland, if Conroy decides to run for state Treasurer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

The final meeting for 2009 is scheduled for Wednesday 18 November at 7:15 pm 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, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury.

Thomas Hollocher, Secretary, 20 October 2009.