

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 21 July 2010

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Twelve members attended and three guests: Bob Savoy of Sudbury, Sue Kennedy, member of the Massachusetts Democratic Committee, and Kelsey Smithwood, field director for the state senatorial campaign of Jamie Eldridge. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our meeting of 22 June, which had been vetted by email, were approved.

Finances: The Chair reported that the present balance in account is \$1349.62.

Campaign of Jamie Eldridge: Kelsey Smithwood stated that people are needed for evening telephone banks and canvassing. She also reminded the meeting of the great importance re-electing of Eldridge as one of the most progressive of state senators. He is deeply involved in many issues of concern to this committee: Ethics of elected officials, transparency of government, green jobs, expanding the bottle bill, single payer health insurance, and a graduated income tax for the state. He also stands opposed to legalized gambling. Smithwood made it clear that the campaign could also use money. Smithwood can be contacted via information at www.jamieeldridge.com.

Middlesex and Worcester news: Sue Kennedy reminded the meeting of the M&W picnic at the home of Tom Larkin on Sunday 25 July, 1-4 pm. There will also be a meeting of the M&W participants at the Hudson Portuguese Club on Sunday 25 July. Phone-a-friend is planned from 5-7 pm to support the campaigns of Deval Patrick and Tim Murray, and a business meeting will follow from 7-8 pm. That meeting will vote on the distribution of funds among the various campaigns for office. Kennedy contacts: 978-264-9165; sue_kennedy@comcast.net.

Patrick-Murray campaign in Sudbury: Carmine Gentile and Tom Hollocher discussed the recent organizational meeting and explained in some detail the grassroots nature of the campaign, which is to be based chiefly on a large number of organizers who then seek to acquire the pledges of 50 other voters to vote the Patrick-Murray ticket. Listing and contacting the persons who so pledge is assisted by a computer program called "apebble". At the meeting, it was decided to mail a letter of support to all registered Democrats and Independents in Sudbury, using funds solicited from individuals and the Patrick-Murray headquarters. In the near future, Hollocher will contact people to head up other activities of the campaign.

Single payer referendum on the primary ballot: Judy Deutsch reported that sufficient signatures have been collected to place the question on the primary ballot in Sudbury. Sue Offner, Don Chauls, and Marion Tratnyek, and Deutsch collected most of the signatures. Next comes the campaign for its passage. Then, should we Rep. Tom Conroy be instructed to work for a single payer system in Massachusetts?

Campaign of Niki Tsongas: Jeanne Maloney reported briefly that Tsongas now has five Republican candidates in opposition and that her fund raising program seems to be going well.

Support of campaigns by the SDTC: Carmine Gentile moved that the SDTC contribute \$250 each to the campaigns of U.S. Rep. Niki Tsongas, and Mass. Senators Susan Fargo, and Jamie Eldridge. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Fourth-of-July recap: A vote of special thanks was extended to Henry Noer and Don Chauls for their contributions to a good showing in the parade. A free ranging discussion followed in which it was generally agreed that the participation of the SDTC was well organized and well received.

Local issues: Henry Noer complained that a replacement street light near his home is much more dim than the former light. Is this intentional or inadvertent?

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

The date for the next meeting is Thursday 12 August 2010, 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 2010 contribution of \$35 minimum, c/o SDTC, to Jane Moeller, Treasurer, 30 Thoreau Way, Sudbury. Yearly contributions are expected to be made during January.

Thomas Hollocher, 27 July 2010.