

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the meeting of 7 October 2010

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm in the First Parish of Sudbury. Twelve members attended and one guest: Sue Kennedy, member of the Massachusetts Democratic Committee. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our meeting of 1 September 2010 were approved as submitted.

Finances: The Chair reported that the present balance in account is \$2839, of which \$2500 is committed to pay for printing and mailing our letter of support for the candidacy Deval Patrick for Governor and Tim Murray for Lt. Governor. A vote of thanks was extended to Henry Sorett for his generous financial support of the SDTC fund raising event in September and the letter in October.

Letter for mass mailing: Tom Hollocher submitted the text of the letter intended for mass mailing and it was approved unanimously. He explained that it would be sent to about 3300 residences housing one or more Democrats who have voted regularly in recent elections or Unenrolled persons who have regularly drawn Democratic ballots in primary elections. The list was compiled through John Riordan and other staff of the Patrick campaign using the "Vote Builder" program to target those persons most likely to vote the Democratic ticket on 2 November.

Publicity: A motion was presented and seconded to issue a press statement from the SDTC supporting the several Democratic candidates for state office, including the Governor's Council. The motion was amended with general agreement to include our opposition to Ballot Questions 1, 2, and 3 and our approval of 4. The motion as amended was passed 11 yea and 1 nay. In regard to Question 4, single payer health insurance plan, Judy Deutsch distributed a flier in support of the Question and urged all to copy it and send to friends

Activities on election day: In absence of John Riordan, Hollocher summarized the opinion of the Patrick campaign that we ought to concentrate on getting out the vote on election day, and holding signs is a waste of manpower. We are advised to organize poll observers who then report to a telephone bank that will contact voters who have not yet voted. An informal poll was taken to see how many attending this meeting might be able to serve as poll observers or telephone callers on election day. Responding in the affirmative were Maxine Yarbrough, Don Chauls, Judy Deutsch, Carmine Gentile, Peg Espinola (after work), Betty Thorner, and Tom Hollocher.

Election tellers: Carmine Gentile, who is to serve as a teller at the election on 2 November, raised criticisms of the way in which the Town Clerk's office organizes elections. Chief among these is the way tellers are paired in each precinct. To minimize bias or fraud, each pair of tellers ought to be of different political parties, e.g., Democratic/Republican. Instead, this year, two Democrats are paired in each of precincts 1, and 3,4 combined, and two Republicans in precinct 5. Gentile intends to call this and other problems to the attention of the Clerk.

Future use of the First Parish for meetings: Henry Noer informed the meeting that the First Parish wishes to raise our room rental for meetings from \$50 to \$75 for a large room or \$60 for a smaller room. The meeting moved and approved unanimously to accept a rental of \$60 for a smaller room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

There will be no meeting of this Committee in November and December. The next meetings are scheduled for 18 January, 16 February, and 24 March in the First Parish of Sudbury.

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 should be made during January.

There will be a number of candidate debates and forums in Sudbury, Lincoln, Wayland, and Concord during the remainder of October, so watch for email announcements and check out Kate Donaghue's weekly DDemDispatch and the Community Calendar section of the Sudbury Town Crier. If you can attend debates or forums, try to arrive early enough to hold signs outside the venue for a half hour or so before the starting time.

On Sunday 24 October, a talk will be presented on the Massachusetts health insurance system at 2:30 pm in the Goodnow Library.

Thomas Hollocher, 22 October 2010, substituting for John Riordan, Secretary.