

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)

Minutes of the Meeting of 23 June 2011

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 pm at the Sudbury Grange Hall. Thirteen members attended, as well as four guests including State Committeewoman Sue Kennedy. The attendance list is attached to these minutes in the permanent record.

Minutes: Minutes of our meeting of 25 May 2011, which had been vetted by e-mail and distributed at the meeting, were discussed. The minutes were adopted.

Finances: Jane Moeller, Treasurer, reported that the current balance in the Committee's bank account is \$1,344.48. At present the Committee is fully paid up on all outstanding obligations.

Future Meeting Date revisions: Mr. Riordan noted that due to Grange Hall conflicts the meeting for October 2011 will be held on Thursday, October 20, and the meeting for November 2011 will be held on Tuesday, November 15. Committee members were asked to note these changes in their calendars.

Address by Newton Mayor Setti Warren : U.S. Senate candidate and Newton Mayor Setti Warren addressed the Committee and guests. He spoke about the values he stands for and that Scott Brown rejects. He stressed that you cannot gut programs that create jobs and opportunities for working Americans and expect to spur growth in the economy. He noted that he would concentrate on three things as a U.S. Senator: (a) invest in renewable energy, life sciences and infrastructure improvements; (b) address growth in health care costs, especially Medicare; and (c) provide more intelligent and cost effective national defense that can be effective but less expensive. Mayor Warren noted that Scott Brown votes with Mitch McConnell and the right-wing Republican leadership eighty-seven percent of the time and this clearly put him out of synch with the values of interests of working Massachusetts families. Mayor Brown then spent an extended amount of time answering questions about single payer health care reform, the widening gap in income inequality in the U.S., tax cut extensions for the uber-wealthy, the Kerry infrastructure bill, allowing Medicare to negotiate bulk purchases of prescription drugs, and federal partnership in financing mass transit. Mayor Warren thanked the committee for the invitation to speak and indicated that he hoped to come again at a future date.

Fourth of July Parade: Mr. Chauls graciously offered the use of his truck for the Sudbury Democrats entry into the town Fourth of July parade. Mr. Noer provided information regarding the logistics for parade participants. Mr. Riordan made a motion to authorize up to \$50 in spending for penny candy for distribution to deserving children along the parade route. Ms. Maloney and Ms. Deutsch seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Deutsch invited all SDTC parade participants back to her Concord Road home for refreshments after the parade.

Upcoming events: Ms. Kennedy of the State Committee noted that there would be a meeting of the Middlesex & Worcester Democratic Coalition on Sunday July 17 at the Old Stow Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. The next Third MAD event is the Summer Picnic being hosted by the Carlisle DTC scheduled for Saturday, July 16 at 4:00 p.m. The next business meeting of the Third MAD is scheduled for Saturday, August 11 at the Bedford Town Center building at 8:30 a.m.

Endorsing Tom Conroy for Senate: Ms Guild raised for discussion (per a member request) the issue of the SDTC making a formal organizational endorsement of Rep. Conroy for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate in 2012. After discussion it was decided that it was a premature for the town committee at this early stage to endorse any candidate; indeed it was uncertain whether the organization would endorse any candidate in the primary phase of the campaign. Individual members, of course, are free to align themselves with any of the outstanding Democrats now in the race, or those who might later enter.

Old Business: Mr. Noer raised legislative developments in Massachusetts regarding tightening the laws involving human trafficking. The committee both acknowledged and applauded Mr. Noer's leadership and long-term efforts to advance this important reform. Mr. Dave Kartunen noted that Greater Boston (WGBH-TV) had a recent television program with Attorney General Coakley addressing this serious subject.

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New Business: A discussion ensued regarding efforts to fill out the allotted membership of the committee, and it was noted for the record that we had several vacancies and an additional number of current members (8) who were twenty-year members and thus do not count against the 35 person limit. It was noted the committee has an established practice of considering Sudbury Democrats who might be interested in joining the committee but only after they have attended at least two previous meetings. Satisfying this standard, Mr. Offner then nominated Ms. Kendall Hope Tucker for full membership. Her nomination was seconded by Ms. Maloney and Ms. Deutsch and approved by unanimous vote. The committee welcomes Ms. Tucker. The committee was also encouraged by the interest shown by Mr. Dave Kartunen and Mr. John McQueen, guests at the meeting, and would be pleased to consider membership requests at a future meeting.

The meeting was then adjourned at 9:10 pm.

The next meeting for 2011 is scheduled for Monday August 22, 2011 at 7:15 p.m. at the Sudbury Grange Hall, 326 Concord Road, Sudbury. Ample parking can be found behind the Grange Hall and Town Hall.

Announcements

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

If you have not already done so, please forward your 2011 dues contribution of \$35 minimum, made out to Sudbury Democratic Town Committee, c/o Ms. Jane Moeller, Treasurer, 30 Thoreau Way, Sudbury, MA.

John D. Riordan, Secretary, 18 August 2011.