

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the Meeting of July 30, 2013

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. at the Sudbury Grange Hall. Fourteen members were in attendance. There were four guests, Ms. Rebecca Deans-Rowe of Southborough, State Committeewoman Sue Kennedy of Acton, Rep. Carl Sciortino of Medford and Mr. Brian LeFort of Framingham. The attendance sign-in sheet is included with the permanent records of the Committee.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 20, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Moeller reported that with a lower average daily balance in the committee's account Sovereign Bank is now charging a monthly maintenance fee of \$7.50. The committee has total funds on hand of \$1,045.35, of which \$413.42 represents amounts raised for candidate support from committee fundraising, and \$631.93 represents unrestricted operating funds. There are 18 members of the committee who have paid their voluntary 2013 dues.

State Representative Carl Sciortino: Ms. Guild introduced State Representative Carl Sciortino of Medford. Mr. Sciortino is a Democratic primary candidate for the open 5th Congressional District seat vacated by the election of Senator Ed Markey. Mr. Sciortino informed the committee of his background, entry into politics and his substantial credits as a progressive in the Massachusetts legislature. He spoke to why Massachusetts needs to elect a progressive to Congress and connected his candidacy to a broad vision of progressive causes, including support for things like agriculture legislation where food stamp authorization is bundled. In response to questions he about what he identified as important issues he noted the Citizens United decision (he opposes), poverty and the shrinking American middle class, equality for women and gay citizens, and climate change.

Thank You: Ms. Guild made a point of expressing our gratitude to Mr. Offner and Mr. Nesky for their hard work on the successful Elizabeth Warren campaign. She also wanted the record to reflect the committee's appreciation for the hard work of Mr. and Mrs. Noer for their efforts organizing the committee for the Sudbury 4th of July parade. Mr. Noer gave a report on the parade and he was especially complimentary to Senator Ed Markey for marching with our contingent. Mr. Noer mentioned that next year will be Sudbury's 350th anniversary as a town and the 4th of July parade will be a very significant event in that celebration. He urged the committee to do advance planning so that we will have a visible and significant presence as part of the community in that historic event.

State Party Convention Report: Mr. Gentile provided an excellent summary of the convention. Mr. Hollocher was commended for catching a mathematical flaw in a platform amendment which was corrected and then passed. Ms. Deutsch moved that the permanent record of the minutes have annexed to it the resolution adopted at the convention restoring the federal Voting Rights Act. The motion was adopted. Mr. Noer observed that it was a good platform (if a little long) , which might be why there was little in the way of dissent at this convention.

2013 Holiday Party: On a motion by Mr. Hollocher and second by Ms. Deutsch the committee decided to accept Ms. Thorner's kind offer to use her lovely home for the committee's annual December holiday party. The date for the party was set for Saturday evening, December 7, 2013 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. It was believed this would not be on the same day as the annual Democratic hajj to Ms. Donaghue's holiday party.

State Party Developments: Ms. Kennedy provided a brief report on the many personnel changes in the State party apparatus.

State Senator Karen Spilka: Ms. Guild introduced State Senator Karen Spilka of Ashland who had arrived mid-meeting. Senator Spilka also is a candidate for the 5th Congressional District seat Democratic primary on October 15. Ms. Spilka spoke about her experience growing up in a dysfunctional family and her work experience which she believes will help her deal with a dysfunctional Congress. She stressed that she was an early advocate for addressing global climate change. She informed the committee that she has a proven track record of getting things done and the discipline to see things through to resolution, citing examples of public works benefits for MetroWest, and her tenacity in facing down insurance industry opposition to reforms she sought in dealing with

insurance claims denials. She discussed her ideas regarding improving the electric grid, support for renewable energy and her 2011 economic development bill. She mentioned in response to a question by Ms. Andrews that she would make education funding reform a priority if elected to Congress.

State Party Seat: Ms. Guild raised the issue of the seat on the State Committee becoming open now that Kate Donaghue has been “grandfathered” as a 20-year member of the State Committee. Congratulations to Kate on this milestone. At this meeting no one from the Middlesex & Worcester Senate District (Eldridge) precincts in Sudbury present at the meeting expressed an interest in putting their name forth as a candidate. Ms. Guild believes Sudbury should have a representative somewhere in the State Committee, and these opportunities do not come around that often. She asked qualified individuals to consider it.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none. The next meeting was announced for Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at the Grange Hall.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Appendix: Voting Rights Act Resolution adopted at the State Party Convention in July 2013.

Respectfully submitted, John Riordan, Secretary, September 17, 2013