

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the Meeting of 14 May 2014

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. in the Sudbury Grange Hall. Twelve members were in attendance. Guests in attendance were Susan Kennedy, Massachusetts state Democratic Committee member from Acton; Max Close, whose affiliation or basis of interest escaped the substitute secretary (he left before addressing the meeting); Terra Friedrichs representing PassMassAmendment; and Sudbury registered Democrat Beverly O'Connor. The attendance sign-in sheet is included with the permanent records of the SDTC.

Minutes of the meeting of 7 April 2014: The minutes were approved subject to correction of two typographical errors: Shaw's Market is two words; and Betty needs a final y.

Treasurer's report: To the nearest dollar, we now have \$868 total, with \$855 uncommitted and \$13 in the candidates' fund.

Third MAD breakfast: This event was discussed with general agreement that it was well organized and administered, particularly on the point of placing strict limits on the length of speeches delivered by political candidates.

PassMassAmendment: Terra Friedrichs provided background on a developing effort to pass an amendment to the Massachusetts constitution stating that corporations are not people and money is not speech. A part of this program will be in the form of a resolution presented to the state Democratic convention in June. Volunteers are needed and welcome for success of the resolution. A state-wide ballot referendum will be the next step after the convention. The idea was expressed that Supreme Court decisions are advisory upon Massachusetts and not binding, but the legal theory behind this understanding was unclear. All interested in supporting this movement should contact Terra at terraf@compuserve.com.

General discussions: There followed a wide-ranging discussion on candidates, races, and the convention. Carmine Gentile, candidate for the Mass House (13th Middlesex district), is going door-to-door and seems to be well received. He still has no Republican opposition. Tom Hollocher announced a phone bank in support of Rep. Tom Conroy's run for Treasurer from 5-7 p.m. on Friday 16 May at his house; all are welcome with cell phones.

Membership: Beverly O'Connor described her interest in the SDTC briefly, whereupon she was nominated for Associate Membership by Beverly Guild and seconded by Henry Noer. She was elected unanimously.

New business: Henry Noer turned attention of the meeting to our participation in the 4th of July parade. He proposed the idea of a float in celebration of the 375th anniversary of the founding of Sudbury/Wayland. This would require a trailer and a truck to pull it; Peter Nesky might be able to supply the truck. Noer plans to find out whether political candidates wish individually to march with the SDTC or separately. Don Chauls conveyed a request from Dhruba Sen asking if members of his pro-gun-control group could march with the SDTC in the parade. A consensus emerged that this was acceptable, as long as their numbers were ten or fewer.

Meetings: The next regularly scheduled SDTC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 11 June at the Grange. Thereafter, 13 August, 10 September, 8 October, and 12 November.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Hollocher, acting secretary, 17 May 2014.