

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the Meeting of 11 June 2014

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. in the Sudbury Grange Hall. Seventeen members were in attendance. Guests in attendance were Ms. Susan Kennedy, Massachusetts State Democratic Committee member from Acton; Ms. Abigail Silverman representing the Don Berwick campaign for Governor; Mr. Tony Badman, member of the Marlborough Democratic Town Committee; Ms. Ros Nasdor representing the Maura Healey campaign for Attorney General; and Mr. Martin Quinn representing the Ed Markey campaign for U.S. Senate. The attendance sign-in sheet is included with the permanent records of the SDTC.

1. Minutes of the meeting of 14 May 2014: The minutes were approved as submitted.
2. Treasurer's report: To the nearest dollar, we now have \$868 total, with \$855 uncommitted and \$13 in the candidates' fund.
3. Comments by Ms. Abigail Silverman, guest attendee: Representing the Berwick for Governor campaign, Ms. Silverman reported that Don Berwick was sure to win more than the 15% of votes at the impending State Democratic Convention in Worcester, based on the latest poll of delegates. She also reported that fundraising was successful with more than \$200,000 raised in May. Upon a request, she introduced herself and said that she works for Berwick because she was inspired by his value-based campaign.
4. Voting of membership: Mr. Henry Noer moved that the Committee accept Abigail Silverman into the Committee as an Associate Member. This was seconded by Mr. Tom Hollocher and approved unanimously.
5. Clark Moeller on repeal of the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution defining gun ownership: Mr. Moeller submitted a 48 page document he prepared with title, "The Second Amendment Is the Problem", which defines the problems associated in the U.S. with gun ownership and their history. It develops arguments for repeal of the Second Amendment as the only plausible route out of the dilemma of gun violence. Mr. Moeller asked the Committee to take up this issue and work toward repeal, using his document as a source of information and a basis of discussion and thought about the subject. Mr. Offner moved that we accept the idea of repeal of the Second Amendment, accept Clark's document as a seminal one, and place it on our website. This was seconded, but before much discussion could occur, Mr. Chauls proposed a friendly amendment asking that discussion of repeal and acceptance of the document be deferred until our next meeting to allow everyone to read its text and become informed on the subject. This amendment was accepted and the amended motion was approved unanimously.
6. Martin Quinn, guest attendee: Mr. Quinn spoke briefly on the importance of the campaign of Ed Markey to be re-elected to the U.S. Senate and the need for volunteers and contributions.
7. Ros Nasdor, guest attendee: Ms. Nasdor spoke in support of Maura Healey, particularly her work as head of the Public Protection and Advocacy Bureau and the Business and Labor Bureau of the Attorney General's office and previously as chief of the Civil Rights Division of that office. Carl Offner asked what specifically are Ms. Healey's views on civil liberties. Ms. Nasdor responded with uncertainty and a promise to forward such information to the Committee.

8. Plans for the 4th of July parade: Mr. Henry Noer, who is organizing the Committee's participation in the parade, indicated that some aspects of the event remain unsettled, such as whether to construct a float, whether and how many elected officials and candidates for office might march with us, and how many Committee members plan and are physically able to walk the distance. A show of hands of committed participants identified only 2 or 3. Should candidates with primary election opponents march with us, or would that be a display of favoritism? Mr. Noer moved to appropriate \$100 for candy. The motion was amended to \$75 and the amended motion was passed.

9. Inaccuracies in newspaper reporting: Mr. Carl Offner remarked that important events are often factually and substantially misrepresented by newspapers. Often misrepresentations are perverse to favor one or another political agenda or popular opinion. He cited coverage of the recent meeting of Massachusetts public school teachers at which a new president and vice-president were elected. The significance of this important election was largely omitted as covered in the Boston Globe. Mr. Offner hoped to say more on this topic in future.

10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Future Meetings: The next 2014 SDTC meeting is scheduled for 13 August. Thereafter, on 10 September, 8 October, and 12 November.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas Hollocher, acting secretary, 21 June 2014.