

Sudbury Democratic Town Committee (SDTC)
Minutes of the Meeting of 12 November 2014

Chairperson Beverly Guild convened the meeting promptly at 7:15 p.m. at the Sudbury Grange Hall. Sixteen members were in attendance. Fellow Democrat Dhruva Sen from neighboring Framingham was a guest in attendance. The attendance sign-in sheet is included with the permanent records of the Committee.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 8, 2014 meeting were approved with a couple of typos noted for correction in the permanent record.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Moeller gave the Treasurer's report. The committee has total funds on hand of \$81.22. The Treasurer filed the OCPF Report electronically on October 27, 2014.

Use of Senior Center: Ms. Guild and Mr. Gentile have arranged for use of the Senior Center on Fairbank Road for future meetings on January 13, February 11 and March 12, 2015.

Election Wrap Up: Mr. Noer led a thoughtful discussion centered around a political article by Charles Krauthammer on the Republican agenda. The fact that many Democrats are running for office today bereft of Democratic values was decried by several commenters. Mr. Chauls noted the long-term impact Republican controlled redistricting will have for Democratic prospects. Mr. Offner cited a piece by George Lakoff on the importance of ideas. He plans a lengthier written piece in the near term. Also noted was the pernicious and continuing problem of racism in American society. Discussed as well was the great American tradition of loathing taxation; most do not see taxes as a means to public good. Apparently generational responsibility for the common weal is an antiquated notion.

Congresswoman Clark in Wayland: It was noted that Rep. Katherine Clark of the 5th District (our Congresswoman) will be holding office hours in Wayland at the Library on Saturday, Nov. 15 at 10 a.m.

Rep.-Elect Carmine Gentile: His swearing in will be on January 7, 2015. He noted the legislation filing deadline of January 16, 2015. Mr. Noer recommended that Mr. Gentile look at the growing problem of one-sided mandatory arbitration provisions affecting consumers, the terms of which look remarkably like contracts of adhesion, which are offensive to public policy. Mr. Riordan endorsed Mr. Noer's concerns.

December 7th Holiday Party: Ms. Guild distributed a sign-up sheet for contributions to the party, to be held at Ms. Thorner's home.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: On a sad note Mr. Offner informed the committee of the illness of his wife Sue who has been such a stalwart contributor to Democratic efforts over the years. He will be dialing it back a bit while he tends to her care. All wished her the very best in terms of a speedy and full recovery. Mr. Noer pointed out that our website is badly out of date and needs attention.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, John Riordan, Secretary, January 13, 2015