

**MINUTES OF DANVERS DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, January 25, 2024

**Present:** Lou Bernazzani, Liz Brennan, Beatrice Clark, Gerald Clark, Julie Curtis, Karen Desmond, Marilyn Hazel, Elaine Hegan, Jan Hegan, Vincent Malgeri, Carol McLaughlin, Tom Meaghe

**Guests:** \_Danielle Allen,\_Senator Joan Lovely. Linda Stark

Before the general meeting began, Chairperson Marilyn Hazel introduced guest Danielle Allen. Danielle is the founder of Partners in Democracy who is trying to increase voter turnout and reversing the trend of voters not enrolling in a specific political party. At the end of Ms. Allen’s presentation, a motion was made and seconded for the Danvers Democratic Town Committee to send notice to the Massachusetts Democratic Party that at a January 25, 2024 business meeting, they had endorsed Danielle Allen’s resolution to the Massachusetts Democratic Commission for Health and Democracy. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Karen Desmond gave the following treasurer report:

CASH BALANCE AT 01/01/23		3,483.69
INCOME:		
Octoberfest	2,155.00	
Total Income	<hr/>	2,155.00
EXPENSES:		
Scholarship	500.00	
Octoberfest	1,123.67	
Website hosting	139.87	
Zoom	106.69	
Mailing expense – Meet the Reps	175.30	
Flowers/Gifts	25.00	
Act Blue Fees	118.58	
Deluxe Checks	24.20	
Total Expenses	<hr/>	2,212.31
CASH BALANCE at 12/21/23		<u>3,426.38</u>
Octoberfest net	912.75	

At the end of her treasurer’s report, treasurer Karen Desmond reported presently dues were \$15.00 annually and voluntary. Desmond made a motion to raise the dues to \$20.00 annually and Jan Hegan seconded the motion. After discussion with some members speaking against raising the dues, it was decided to remind the committee that dues were due, Desmond withdrew the motion. Desmond agreed to get the link to members so they could pay the dues through ACTBLUE.

**New Business:** Chair Marilyn Hazel reminded committee that our caucus to elect delegates to attend the June 1, 2024 state nominating convention in Worcester was Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> in the Gordon Room of the Peabody Institute Library in Danvers. Doors will open at 6:45 pm and people must be in the room by 7:00 pm. There will be a general membership meeting after the caucus.

Hazel quickly talked about caucusing to elect delegates to the Democratic National Convention. Caucuses are held in Congressional Districts.

**Old Business:**

Scholarship Committee – Chair Julie Curtis reported applicants would be forwarded to Committee Chair Marilyn Hazel in March. Curtis will call a meeting as soon as applications are received. If anyone is interested on being on the committee, please reach out to her.

Chairperson Hazel reported this year’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service where we collected items for the Danvers People to People food pantry was a big success.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the January 25, 2024 Danvers Democratic Town Committee meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis  
Recording Secretary