

MINUTES OF DANVERS DEMOCRATIC ITOWN COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – In person and via Zoom

Present: Phil Bolduc, Liz Brennan, Beatrice Clark, Beatrice Clark, Julie Curtis, Karen Desmond, Jillian Durand, Marilyn Hazel, Elaine Hegan, Jan Hegan, Charlotte Jordan, Beth Kontos,, Carol McLaughlin, Carla Meagher, Tom Meagher

Guests: Christopher Holmes, Elina Kutrubes, Jeff Lathrop, Lucy Vartani

Candidate Guests: Tom Driscoll, Clerk of Courts and Joan Lovely, State Senator

Before the meeting was called to order, Clerk of Courts Tom Driscoll stopped by to thank the Danvers Democratic Town Committee for their support of his successful candidacy. State Senator Joan Lovely gave an update on senate business over the last legislative session. And Beth Kontos spoke on Ballot Question 2 – Elimination of MCAS as high school requirement and why the voters should vote in favor of it. Beatrice Clark pointed out that in the Massachusetts Information for Voters guide 2024 Ballot Questions, the majority of the Special Joint Committee on Initiative Petitions recommended that this petition ought not to be enacted by the legislature at this time.

Call to Order: The September 17, 2024 meeting of the Danvers Democratic Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Tom Meagher at 7:45 pm.

Secretary Minutes: A motion was made by Phil Bolduc and seconded by Liz Brennan to accept the secretary minutes of the August 15, 2024 as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Karen Desmond reported the following: The Committee had \$3,283.17 in our checking account including \$400 from Act Blue. A motion was made by Beatrice Clark and seconded by Beth Kontos to accept the treasurer report as presented.

Desmond then spoke about what the Executive Board was recommending as candidate donations. The vote on amounts donations was done electronically. There was a short discussion on whether or not it was good to vote electronically. The following was reported: Full amount not to exceed \$500.00

Kamala Harris/Tim Walz Presidential	\$100.00
Elizabeth Warren United States Senate	50.00
*Seth Moulton Campaign (Campaign asked that donations be made to Serve America)	50.00
Joan Lovely, State Senate	75.00
*Sally Kerans, State Representative	75.00
Eunice Zeigler, Governors Council	50.00
*signifies candidate unopposed	

Elected Candidates after the Primary election	
Eileen Duff/Joseph Gentleman, Register of Deeds	50,00
Thomas Driscoll/James Doherty, Clerk of Courts	50.00

A discussion was held regarding accepting the donation amounts as proposed by the Executive Board. A motion was made by Beatrice Clark and seconded by Beth Kontos to accept the proposed donation recommendations of the Executive Board. A friendly amendment was offered by Elaine Hegan to not donate to Serve America and to take the \$50.00 and add to amount donated to Eunice Zeigler. Beatrice Clark agreed to this friendly amendment. Then Jillian Durand made a second friendly amendment to donate the \$50.00 originally recommended to Serve America as follows add \$25.00 to Joan Lovely and

\$25.00 to Eunice Zeigler instead of the \$50.00 to Zeigler. This made the two donation totals as follows. \$100.00 to Joan Lovely and \$75.00 to Eunice Zeigler, This would make the total of all donations to the \$500.00 as agreed upon. Beatrice Clark agreed to this second friendly amendment and this motion passed unanimously.

State Committee Report: State Committee Members Marilyn Hazel and Julie Curtis reported that the State Committee was recruiting Massachusetts Democrats to travel to New Hampshire and Maine to canvass for Harris/Walz and the rest of Democratic candidates on the ballot. Curtis said the next State Committee meeting would be held on November 14th at a destination tba and Hazel added at this meeting the committee would be voting for a Chairperson.

Old Business:

Vice Chair Marilyn Hazel reminded us that our Freedom Fest date was September 28th at the Polish Club. She said we could enter for set up at 5:00 pm. Hazel was asking committee to notify her what food they would be bringing. She also said that Louis George and Ellen Dempsey had agreed to cover the kitchen. Hazel reminded us to wear our favorite political t-shirts and we would be holding a diaper/wipes drive as part of our event.

New Business:

Phil Bolduc gave an update on local issues. He reviewed that there were several volunteer opportunities for current Committees and Councils. He asked who on our committee was presently serving on a Town Committee or Council and what individual member interests were. He also had a list of Board and Committee Volunteer opportunities and offered the list could be found on the town website mygovernment/vacancies. Bolduc offered there was a potential of two Selectboard vacancies next May. By recruiting our members to run for town office, we could be a possible lead to plans to steer local policy in the future. Bolduc also spoke about the Danvers Open Space and Recreation Plan and finished with we should discuss the departure of Town Manager Steve Bartha.

Marilyn Hazel will be holding a post card party at her home on September 30th starting at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment: Where there was no other business to attend to, a motion was made by Phil Bolduc and seconded by Beth Kontos to adjourn the September 7, 2024 Danvers Democratic Town Committee meeting at 8:25 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis
Recording Secretary