

Lexington Democratic Town Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2018; 7:00 pm
Lexington Community Center, Dining Room

Present: M. Amar, R. Avallone, I. Dondley, M. Gentleman, B. Hatfield, M. Heitz, E. Kloss, M. Olson, J. Pato, A. Silver, M. Storch, M. Walker, L. West, R. Zalisk, R. Peters, E. Zalisk, D. Kaufman. Associate Members: L. Angelo, T. Burger, I. Goldman, N. Hackel, M. Hutton. Guests: M. Cohen, D. Burger. Voting Members: 17

The meeting was called to order by Robert D. Peters, Recording Secretary, at 7:05 pm due to the absences of Co-chairs Coppe and Saint Louis.

Irene Dondley gave the Treasurer's Report, and reported that the committee had approximately \$7,000 on hand.

Bob Peters reported that there were three vacancies among the 35 slots on the committee roster. He reported that two of these vacancies had occurred due to long-time committee members Bob Kearney and Jim Shaw had achieved 20 year member status, and would no longer need to run on the committee slate, and would retain voting membership on the committee as long as they remained registered to vote as Lexington Democrats. Congratulations to Jim and Bob!

Mr. Peters further reported that the Executive Committee was recommending Associate Members Todd Burger, Ira Goldman and Mary Hutton for election to membership on the Town Committee, and asked each of them to make a statement to the committee. Following the statements, Mr. Peters asked if there were any other nominations from the floor.

Motion to close nominations:

Moved: D. Kaufman

Second: E. Zalisk

Vote: Approved unanimously

Motion to elect Todd Burger, Ira Goldman and Mary Hutton

Moved: R. Avallone

Second: D. Kaufman

Vote: Approved unanimously

Mr. Peters asked Michelle Olson to give an update on the work that she's been doing with Minuteman Indivisible and other groups focusing on helping to elect a Democratic Congress. She mentioned that there were a lot of competitive races that, with some help, could change the number of seats needed to change the congressional majority.

Mr. Peters then asked Eileen Zalisk to give an update on the Massachusetts Coordinated Campaign, and the work for our ticket in the region. She mentioned how important it was to do the direct voter contact, and that there were regular phone banks and

canvasses in Lexington. This work is for the Democratic ticket including Gonzalez/Palfrey for Governor/Lt. Governor, Senator Elizabeth Warren and Attorney General Maura Healey. She mentioned that the committee was renting space as needed, but on a regular basis for this work.

Mr. Peters then reported that the Executive Committee was recommending that the Committee support the 2018 campaigns with the commitment of funds as well as direct voter contact field work. He reported the recommendation that the committee make donations of \$1000 to the Jay Gonzalez Campaign, \$1000 to Congresswoman's Katherine Clark's Red-to-Blue initiative, and an amount not-to-exceed \$2500 to the Massachusetts Democratic Party to specifically reimburse the state party for its expenses on behalf of the Coordinated Campaign locally.

Motion to contribute \$1000 to Jay Gonzalez Campaign, \$1000 to Katherine Clark/Red-to-Blue, and up to \$2500 to the Massachusetts Democratic Party.

Moved: J. Pato

Second: R. Avallone

Vote: Approved unanimously

Next Betsy Hatfield reported on the work she's been doing with the Grandmothers project. They are supporting Senate candidates in Nevada, Arizona and Missouri and have been sending personalized post cards to older voters since the 2008 election.

Mr. Peters then reported on upcoming events. The Committee will be co-sponsoring a forum on the 2018 ballot questions along with the Arlington Democrats on October 2. He reminded the committee that the deadline for voter registration was October 17, and that the early voting period would run from October 22 through November 2. Evening early voting will be on Wednesday October 24 until 8:00 pm. Saturday early voting will be October 27, 9 am - 3 pm. All of Lexington early voting will be at Cary Hall.

Mr. Peters then reported that the committee planned to collaborate with others in a celebration of Representative Jay Kaufman's 24 years representing the town in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. This would likely take place in January 2019.

He reported the next meeting of the committee would be on November 29, and that it would include a presentation on Ranked Choice Voting.

Ms Amar then rose in support of a Yes vote on Ballot Question 1. She presented her rationale for support. Discussion ensued.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Peters
Recording Clerk