

**Lexington Democratic Town Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2016, 7:00 pm.
Lexington Community Center**

Present: Marc St. Louis, Betsy Hatfield, Bob Avallone, Justine Federici, Eileen Zalisk, Bob Zalisk, Robert D. Peters, Lorraine West, Margaret Heitz, Mary Beth Gentleman, David Kaufman, Mabel Amar, Bonnie Brodner, Margaret Coppe, Bob Kearney, Elizabeth Kloss, Alan Silver, Jay Kaufman. Guests: (8)

The meeting was called to order by Margaret Coppe, Co-chair, and began with a moment of silence in remembrance of 20 year member Edith Sandy and Dottie Shaw, who both passed in the previous week.

In the absence of the Treasurer, Irene Dondley, Margaret Coppe reported that after the final bills for the Fall 2016 campaign office are received, there were about \$3600 remaining in the Committee's account.

Margaret Coppe reported on the usage and effectiveness of the 2016 office. It was agreed that the space in Arlington Heights was very useful, especially as a phone bank site. It was especially nice to share the space with the Belmont Democrats, since the costs were otherwise a bit higher with this location.

Taylor Singh and Eileen Zalisk reported on the various groups looking to organize buses to Washington for the Million Women's March on January 21. It's planned that there will also be a demonstration in Boston on January 21.

The 3rd Middlesex Area Democrats requested a donation of \$150 from the Lexington Democrats. Approved unanimously.

The 3rd Middlesex Annual Breakfast will take place on May 13, 2017, in Waltham. It was agreed that Lexington would arrange to host an upcoming 3rd MAD meeting.

The 2017 Democratic State Convention will take place June 3, in Lowell. This will be the platform convention. It was agreed that Lexington would ask to host a platform hearing in the Spring.

The Democratic Town Committee caucus will take place on March 2, 2017, at Cary Library, Large Conference Room 7:00 pm.

Margaret Coppe reported that she, along with Bob Kearney and Margaret Heitz are working with some LHS students to try to set up a High School Democrats group in Lexington.

The next meeting of the Democratic Town Committee will take place on Monday January 23, 7:00 pm at the Lexington Community Center. Gus Bickford, new Massachusetts Democratic Party chair will attend. The meeting will be co-hosted with the Arlington Democrats.

Discussion: Jay Kaufman spoke about the meetings he attended in Washington with progressive state legislators from around the country. People were very interested in the important role that the state legislatures will have in building a new progressive agenda. Discussion ensued about the role of the states as the laboratories of democracy.

Margaret Coppe indicated that there were several vacancies in the membership of the Democratic Town Committee, and she suggested Mary Ann Stewart for membership. Mary Ann introduced herself, was nominated, and elected unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robert D. Peters,