

Minutes
Carlisle Democratic Town Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 15, 2023, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Attendance: Simon Cataldo, Maureen Cosgrove-Deery, Kenneth Deitch, David Erickson, Bridget Ferrari, Tom Hedden, Bonnie Miskolczy, Rebecca Morris, Carrie Patel, Kate Reid, Frank Rigg, Dan Scholten, Launa Zimmaro,

1. Minutes of 5/18/2023

Ferrari moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2023; Patel seconded the motion which was then approved unanimously.

2. Picnic update

Ferrari thinks that we are all set for Saturday, August 5th, 2023. Sharmili and Bridget will MC the picnic. It will be low key without hamburgers, hot dogs, etc. Bridget will coordinate with Bob Logan of 3rd MAD.

3. Caucus

The zoom link has been sent out, it will be Saturday, June 17, 2023, and the convention is Saturday, September 23, 2023.

4. LGBTQ+

There was some discussion of the Middle School LGBTQ+ Pride Parade held on June 5, 2023. The Parade went off well but was marred by protesters (organized by "Moms for Liberty"?) carrying offensive signs; fortunately, that seemed to have minimal impact on the parade but the idea of adults attempting to intimidate children is certainly disturbing.

5. Simon Cataldo

Simon Cataldo said that as our representative he has been appointed to 4 committees: House Committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight, Joint Committee on Financial Services, Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, Joint Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use and Recovery. He has gone through the budget process and has secured funds for lights at the school auditorium as well as a \$200,000 grant for the Gleason Library as well as some statewide items.

He said he spoke with Republican representatives from Carlisle, Concord, Acton, and Chelmsford. He thought the tenor of that meeting was consistent with what Bridget saw at the LGBTQ+ parade. The had strong opinions on climate change and trans issues but nothing on fiscal responsibility or business policies, or serious policies in general. Instead, they fixate on trans children and banning "offensive" library books. Simon worked in public integrity and his previous bosses are running the Jack Smith investigation. Jack Smith's influence was still felt even though he was no longer there when Cataldo was there. Jack is someone you send in to go for prosecution--the person he expects to be lead attorney tried Manafort. Simon does think the venue and judge are consequential, especially in a case where attorney client privilege will be prominent. Simon also thinks we will see an indictment in DC as well as an indictment on the fake elector scheme. Frank Rigg asked about Bedminster and Simon does not expect to see anything there. Simon does not expect the Justice Department to go for Cannon's recusal.

Launa Zimmaro said that it is important to recognize that Republicans are not conservative, we should not sugar coat what we are seeing. Launa asked about Hanscom expansion and Governor Healey's creation of the Massachusetts Community Climate Bank. The LWV is supporting the legislation creating the climate bank and Launa thinks the decision to focus on affordable housing is very important but it leaves us wondering about how we deal with other issues. Simon replied that there is a lot there. He is excited to see a focus on residential energy-, he thinks this is the low hanging fruit and while it does not cost more to make new housing electric, rehabbing existing buildings will cost more than \$50million. He says we do not need any money for green affordable housing, green is practically free, but we do need money to fix old housing. There is an effort to fund that; the house wants to use \$100million on green school buildings.

Simon says that what Hanscom and Massport are selling is that the 27 hangars for private jets is only for existing customers and will not lead to an increase in jet travel That seems unlikely and private jet travel is the worst thing one can do by several orders of magnitude. Massport says it will not matter but Simon does not believe them. They want hangars because you need a hangar in order to leave a plane there. If there are more hangars, there will be more planes. The delegation is paying a lot of attention to this but they have not been able to figure out anything the legislature can do because of Federal FAA nondiscrimination rules--you cannot make laws that benefit one type of plane over another. Possibly Healey could deal with the issue by

appointing the right people. Healy said she will be looking at emissions--3 times more hangars mean more jets which means more emissions. There is an effort to fund an independent analysis. That should happen because Simon thinks Massport is wrong, but if they are right, that needs to be shown. Launa was going to ask the Select Board to write a letter to the governor. Simon suggested both writing and pushing for an independent analysis.

6. RFK Jr.

Tom Hedden was present at Kennedy's announcement and said there was incredible energy (unfortunately, something that could also be said of Trump rallies). Tom thinks that RFK Jr. is in favor of freedom and that his antivax stance is not as extreme as people think. Tom feels people should read his statements and make up their own minds. Frank Rigg said he had interactions with RFK Jr. and that he is actually pretty nasty. Erickson brought up Kennedy's opposition to Cape Wind and felt that alone was ground to disqualify him for the presidency.

7. Bridget moved to adjourn, Ken seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 20:29.