

Minutes
Carlisle Democratic Town Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 16, 2022, 7:00 PM via Zoom

Attendance: Dan Cook, Maureen Cosgrove-Deery, Sharmili Das, David Erickson, Bridget Ferrari, Anne Gibbs, Mahreen Hoda, Robert Kearney, Nancy Kronenberg, Bonnie Miskolczy, Rebecca Morris, Rick Oches, Carrie Patel, Kate Reid, Frank Rigg, Dan Scholten, Francis Tacardon, Bob Wallhagen, Bey Young, Launa Zimmaro

1. Introduction of prospective new members.

Three prospective new members introduced themselves. Mahreen Hoda is interested in civil rights advocacy, equity, and inclusion. She has been on committees at the school and volunteered for democratic candidates and a voter protection hotline. She is interested in seeing what can be done locally. She is a patent attorney with 10- and 15-year-old daughters.

Bridget Ferrari moved to Carlisle about 4 years ago. She has 4 children in the kids in the Carlisle school, with her 8th grader graduating tomorrow. She says things are not getting better so instead of complaining she wants to get involved, being too busy is not an excuse. She wants to continue to protect what we have and push back against those who want to threaten our progress.

Sharmili Das has lived in Carlisle since 2007 with her husband and daughter. She has volunteered for to work for political candidates and after her daughter was born, she became more active in the community doing phone banking, emailing, meet & greets, and rallies.

Bob Kearney welcomed them and expressed that we are happy they are all here.

2. Minutes for 5/19/2022

Maureen moved to approve the minutes for 5/19/2022, Francis Tacardon seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

3. Accept new members

Francis Tacardon moved to accept Sharmali Das, Bridget Ferrari, and Mahreen Hoda as new members. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

4. Election of officers

Chairman:

Bridget Ferrari and Robert Kearney were nominated for Chair.

Bridget said she has been involved in Carlisle in outreach and development, she was one of the founders of Rising to Action after Trump's election. She wants to do something about things rather than complaining. Previously she hasn't felt that she could get heavily involved with the CDTC because of Rising to Action but she now feels the times require more action. She is highly active in the community and feels that people will listen to her. She believes that she can motivate people to get involved. She recognizes that her demographic is not as active as it could be but by putting out a vision out backed up by action, she things there is an opportunity to get more community engagement. She is an optimist and feels that the times require involvement.

Bob Kearney thanked everyone for attending and providing him an opportunity to speak. He thinks he can lead the committee so that we can do many good things together and that we can help Democrats win all major statewide seats and most of the Massachusetts legislative seats. City & town committees are connected to and are part of the state committee. There is a clear path from Carlisle to the State and on to the National Level. We can drive a stake and say this is who we are. We will face strong headwinds in the coming days because the GOP wants to give power to the upper class and is not interested in democracy. If the GOP has its way the government will not serve the people. This is a slow and subtle change but it has been going on for some time. We must have the courage to change the pace and direction that the country is going, we have no other choice. That is the kind of leadership he has brought and the kind he will continue to bring.

Tacardon moved to close nominations, which was seconded and approved.

Bob Wallhagen asked Bridget about her background in the democratic party, in particular whether she has worked for any candidate or campaigned for any issues. She said that her primary focus is climate change and she was a director for Climate Change impact. Human rights are also important to her and is a focus of what she does and is in fact her area of expertise. She admits she has much to learn but she is a quick learner and would also lean on people who have more experience in specific areas.

Launa asked Bridget examples of positions on actions and Bob how he has actualized goals he has set during the past 2 years.

Bob Kearney said he would go through some of the things he has done in the last 2 year--Launa asked for examples that energized the base and resulted in a discernible outcome. Bob said that he would leave it to someone else to determine outcome but he continued that when he first started, he was given duties for publicizing meetings, setting the agenda, and starting the meeting and keeping it on track. He used google forms in 2020 to create a survey of members, which he sent out, collected, and tabulated to show the interests of members. He prepared a report on the survey and distributed to all officers and made available to members on request. It helped to get a handle on where the committee was at. In January 2021 on the National Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day he collected 4.5 baskets of food which he delivered to a food pantry. For the 2020 election he secured and distributed 25 Biden/Harris yard signs.

Bridget said she was a founding member of Carlisle Rising to Action which tried to mitigate the worst of Trump and GOP actions. She called for action and got people focused and aware of what is happening in the town. She also helped address the covid mental health impact to children.

Maureen moved to close discussion, the motions was seconded and passed:
the vote was as follows:

Maureen Deery	Ferrari
Dave Erickson	Kearney
Rebecca Morris	Ferrari
Boonnie Miskolczy	Ferrari
Kate Reid	Ferrari
Frank Rigg	Ferrari
Dan Scholten	Ferrari
Bob Wallwagen	Kearney
Francis Tacardon	Ferrari
Dan Cook	Ferrari
Bob Kearney	Kearney
Rich Oches	Ferrari
Launa Zimmaro	Ferrari
Carrie Patel	Ferrari
Bridget Ferrari	Ferrari
Sharmali Das	Ferrari
Maureen Hoda	Ferrari
	14 3

14 votes for Bridget Ferrari and 3 votes for Bob Kearney so Ferrari becomes our new chair.

Francis Tacardon thanked Robert Kearney and Nancy Kronenberg for their service as vice chairs.

The nomination was then opened for vice chair. Sharmili Das was interested in vice chair but the chair and vice chair must be different genders, although if there were no other candidates we could elect a vice chair of the same gender as the chair (Rick Oches, Francis Tacardon, and Rebecca Morris confirmed this to be the case). At this point, Robert Kearney nominated Frank Rigg to be vice chair. Frank Rigg accepted the nomination, Tacardon moved to close the nomination, it was seconded by Morris and Frank Rigg was elected by acclimation.

Kate Reid then moved that we select a second vice chair, noting that this is an important year. This motion was moved and seconded. Robert Kearney thought the motion violated both State and Local Charters, although Morris said that the state party allows us to have as many vice chairs as we like. Nancy Kronenberg had checked with Gus Pickford who responded that we could have two vice chairs. Francis moved the question (seconded by Maureen and approved). Dan Cook moved to have a second vice chair and Bonnie Miskolczy seconded, the motion was then passed by acclimation. At this point Sharmili Das was nominated as vice chair, seconded, and approved by acclimation.

Frank Rigg thanked Kearney for nominating him and thanked him for his great service.

Moving on to secretary, Dave Erickson was nominated and approved by acclamation.

Dan Cook was then nominated for treasurer and approved by acclamation and Maureen Cosgrove-Deery was nominated for Outreach/Diversity officer and again approved by acclamation.

This concluded the election of officers with:

Bridget Ferrari	chair	14 votes
Frank Rigg	vice chair	17 votes
Sharmali Das	vice chair	17 votes
Dave Erickson	secretary	17 votes
Dan Cook	treasurer	17 votes
Maureen Cosgrove-Deery	Outreach/Diversity officer	17 votes

Rick Oches thanked those who recruited our new members and Bob Kearney passed the gavel to Bridget for planning the DTC picnic.

5. Update on Ken Deitch

Bob Kearney sent Ken Deitch flowers from the committee. He is at the Life Care Rehabilitation Center in Littleton after a serious fall and will not be able to put weight on one leg for 4-6 weeks. He thanked us for the flowers and wants to keep up on our activities.

6. Picnic

Francis said the 3rd mad picnic will be on Sunday July 31 1-4pm at 64 timothy lane. Bob Wallhagen can't yet provide a list of speakers but noted that last year we had virtually all of the candidates. Francis will put the event on the Mosquito activity calendar and Maureen Deery is our official photographer. Volunteers will need to show up at 11 or 12. Robert Kearney, Dan Scholten, and Launa Zimmaro volunteers (Launa as long as she is in town). It was suggested that people might have kids who could help, although they can't get community service credit for a political event. Bridget volunteered to coordinate. Bob Wallhagen said we are getting more verbal support from 3rd mad and said we should get in touch with Bob Logan in Waltham, who wants to promote the picnic and he will be here.

Bob Wallhagen has registration forms that can be copied. There was also a discussion of food and people suggested keeping it simple.

7. Adjourned at 20:43