

Election Process for CDTC Members

CDTC Members must be registered Democrats residing in Carlisle. They are (re-)elected every four years by the town during the presidential primary in the spring. The DTC is responsible for getting the nominee list they agree upon together on the proper form and endorsed by at least 5 registered voters. There are different ways of forming the list – individuals, or a slate (easier for the voter to just vote for the slate and what the committee normally uses), or a combination.

Alert: the process starts early: for 2024 it started August 8, 2023 with availability of forms that were due Nov 10 for certification. There are some preliminaries and resources you will be using:

- The list of all the dates and actions needed put together and posted on the SoC's website. It contains dated information and they tend to rewrite it every four years, so google it. For 2023-4, it is here: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/elections/getting-on-the-ballot/how-to-run-ward.htm> (There is a reminder on the carlisledeems.org | DTC Operations to search for the revised doc 15 months prior to a presidential election.)
- A committee member to organize and be in charge.
- The town clerk is involved in certifying the paper work. It's helpful to get on board with the TC at the start by visiting town hall, identifying yourself, and requesting the form.
- Forms are NOT available online, for good reason. If the town clerk does not have them yet, there is a phone number in the above document
- The official list of CDTC members is owned by the secretary and it's usual to start with that list, minus people who are interested in another term.

In 2023 the committee got a late start and no in-person meetings were happening, so a regular meeting was not used to collect signatures. Instead an attended venue (library) and semi-attended (Launa's porch) were used to collect signatures. It would be a little more convenient if most of the signatures could be collected at CDTC meeting(s), but in the day of zoom, this will be incomplete at best.

The following details are from member Launa Zimarro, as an example from 2023. The form appearance is self-explanatory – nominee slate on the front, and endorsements on the back. The rest of the instructions were written by Launa, thanks for being so conscientious!

Example, 2023-2024

Greetings, All!

I have the nomination form required to be an official member of the Carlisle Democratic Committee at my home. Three of you on this email list have indicated that you want to continue on the Committee. Jesse, Bev, Helen and Steve have not responded (yet) to the question of signing on.

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The nomination form is required by state law (Sec of State). If you are a life-time member (20 years or more on the Committee) you should not sign. Life-time may apply to one or more of you - Jesse, Bev, Helen and Steve. Please let me know if that is the case.

If you do want to sign, the form will be outside my door (address/directions below) for you to sign for the rest of the day into evening.

Please read and follow the instructions below re the quality of the signatures. We don't want anyone disqualified!

I have to leave the house soon, but if you need to reach me, please call: 617-429-2534.

And thank you all for your support past, present and ongoing of the Carlisle DTC!

INSTRUCTIONS

PAGE ONE

- **NO "STRAY MARKS" BEYOND THE SIGNATURE BOXES OR THE FORM**
- **PRINT YOUR NAME LEGIBLY WITHIN THE FIRST COLUMN BOX**
- **PRINT YOUR STREET ADDRESS WITHIN THE SECOND (MIDDLE) COLUMN BOX**
- **SIGN YOUR NAME LEGIBLY WITHIN THE THIRD COLUMN BOX**

PAGE 2 (BACK SIDE OF TWO SIDED FORM): ATTN ONLY Dave, Bob or Dan

Two more signatures are needed as endorsements of signees on first page. You can be listed both on the front as a candidate and endorser! The first two of you to arrive, please take an extra minute to sign on the back as endorsers!

Our address:

398 Lowell Street

- Last driveway on the right before the Transfer Station, diagonally across the street.
- Look for the faux rural mailbox with 398
- Long driveway - you can't see the house

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Notes:

Lifetime Members do not appear on the ballot. They are flagged in the excel spreadsheet of current members. This is all in the by-laws, but the rationale is as follows:

1) A life time members, upon becoming lifetime member, vacates his/her voting position (bylaws), so that it can be filled by another candidate.

2) The maximum number of members is 35. Without counting the lifers. That is, they don't occupy the slots in the 35 count.

There is one unpredictable thing that can happen during the vote. There can be write-in(s). In this case you can check to see if they are registered Democrats and town residents. In 2020 there were two write-ins. The first seemed like a really good idea, but when asked, she declined. The second was a Republican and unreachable, so dropped.
