

Carlisle Democratic Town Committee
Meeting May 18 2019 Gleason Library Hollis Room
Minutes PRELIMINARY DRAFT

Present Nancy Kronenberg, Bob Wallhagen, Remis Bistras, Ken Deitch, Maureen Deery, Bob Luoma, Frank Rigg, Dan Scholten, Cynthia Schweppe, Sally Zielinski

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Kronenberg at 11:30 am.

Endorsement of Political Candidates. It was noted that the CDTC cannot does not? endorse Democratic candidates in advance of a primary. Several members made the case for not endorsing any candidates for town elections – because these have historically been non-partisan. Candidates have not run with a party affiliation. There was general agreement on this point. Perhaps a written policy should be proposed.

A discussion of whether individual members can or should note they are members of the CDTC when endorsing a candidate through a letter to the editor or other means raised several questions. Do the bylaws allow it? Would listing the affiliation imply that the CDTC as a whole endorsed the candidate? Would prohibiting this impinge on the member's freedom of speech? Most of the members present were uncomfortable with members identifying themselves as members of the CDTC in connecting with town elections.

Ken Deitch offered to provide wording for proposals relative to elections for town offices for the next meeting.

The draft **Minutes** of the April 18 2019 meeting as amended were unanimously approved. Motion: Maureen Deery; second Frank Rigg.

Youth Outreach. Ken Deitch suggested contacting Parkman Howe, whose expertise could be helpful in recruiting young people. Others mentioned high school programs, a young people's project of the Democratic State Committee and the Rotary Club as potential sources of information and outreach. Nancy Kronenberg will pursue some of these leads.

The committee voted unanimously to pay the \$50 fee for a Carlisle youth 16-to-19-years-old to accompany the Carlisle delegation to the Democratic State Convention. Bob Wallhagen will determine whether they must be registered or pre-registered Democrats.

Nancy Kronenberg said she has expenses for the Naomi Oreskes talk summarized. A complete **Treasurer's Report** will be presented at the next meeting.

Bob Wallhagen said that potential dates for the annual **CDTC Picnic** are Sundays July 28, August 4, and several later in August. The availability of Anne Gibbs as organizer and of the musicians is key. He will check with them.

Nancy Kronenberg noted recent additions **CDTC Website** including information on members of Congress and the FiveThirtyEight site. Sally Zielinski suggested that the official websites of Democratic presidential candidates be available on the website, Kronenberg said she has access to them and will post. Bob Wallhagen indicated that 14 states (and Washington DC) have now passed laws requiring their electoral votes go to the winner of the national popular vote. (The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact will go into effect when enough states join to provide a majority of the 538 electoral votes.)

Climate Change Talk “Fallout.” There was a preliminary discussion on divestiture of fossil fuel stocks. Cynthia Schweppe said her question is whether the town has the power to determine where its money is invested and noted there are pension funds for both teachers and town employees. She suggested talking with Carlisle’s new Financial Director.

Investments of the banks the town deals with could be relevant. It was also suggested that individual members could divest. There was a sense that this is a hot topic that could bear further discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Zielinski