

Carlisle Democratic Town Committee

Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2018

Gleason Public Library, Carlisle

Attendees: Bob Wallhagen, Nancy Kronenberg, Frank Rigg, Ken Deitch, Maureen Deery, Cynthia Schweppe, Bonnie Miskolczy, Helen Young, Anne Gibbs, Launa Zimmaro, Dan Coates, Laurie Aragon, Francis Tacardon, Rick Oches.

Nancy Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

Rick Oches gave the Treasurer's report: total DTC funds currently available are \$920.12.

Recount Process: Nancy, Maureen, Cynthia and Anne reported on the 3rd Congressional District wide recount of the Democratic primary for the office of Representative in Congress. Cynthia and Anne spoke of the process as town registrars for Carlisle, and Nancy and Maureen gave the perspective of observers for the Koh campaign in towns outside of Carlisle.

Launa spoke on the need for a more democratic process in the Mass. state legislature. The Legislative Commission Regarding Public Records has been formed to examine the issue of transparency or lack thereof in the legislative process. Launa will send DTC members a copy of relevant testimony to the Commission and newspaper articles about the effort.

Launa also brought to our attention the League of Conservation Voters' graph illustrating and detailing the partisan gap over the years 1970-2015 re: the environment and climate change. She will send a copy of this to DTC members.

NOTE: you can recycle your candidate lawn signs when they are no longer relevant at the transfer station. Slide off the corrugated plastic sign and put in the plastics container, and the wire stand can go in the metal container. Tnx.

Discussion of ballot questions: there was a lively discussion of the ballot questions, particularly Question 1 on nursing staffing. Questions 2 & 3 had unanimous support of the DTC members present, but question 1 did not. Nancy raised the question of whether the DTC should send the Mosquito a statement of the DTC's position on each of the questions. A motion to that effect was postponed since two members were undecided on their support of question 1. If a letter is to be sent to the Mosquito, it would be more powerful if there was a unanimous DTC vote on each question.

DTC role in the general election: attendees shared various ideas about how members might want to participate in spreading the word and getting out the vote for Democratic candidates. There are many ways one can help including holding signs at the center, phone banks, handwritten cards and letters, texting, displaying lawn signs and canvassing both in Carlisle and out of state. The latter is considered by many to be the most effective way of campaigning and Maureen and Nancy spoke enthusiastically

about their experiences. We discussed the possibility of gathering signatures to endorse a slate of Democratic candidates to appear in the Mosquito.

In addition to the individual candidates' campaigns, there are local groups involved in organizing the efforts of those wishing to be involved. 3rd MAD is planning to open an office in Waltham that will combine the efforts of multiple Massachusetts campaigns. Rising to Action in Carlisle has organized weekly phone banking and letter writing sessions (Wednesday evenings) at the home of Barney Arnold and Michael Ansara – this group is primarily involved in out of state races. They also organize canvassing trips out of state.

Upcoming events of Interest:

Monday, 9/24: ORCA (Our Revolution Concord Area) – Meeting to plan for mid-term actions. At Harvey Wheeler Center, Clock Tower Room, West Concord, 7-8:30 pm.

Tuesday, 10/30: Dark Money Film Screening and Mass. Ballot Question 2 Discussion with Jeff Clements – at First Parish in Concord, 7-9 pm.

Thursday, 11/1 or Friday, 11/2: Richard Kimball, president of Vote Smart – Multimedia presentation on Fake News. 11/1 at Lexington Community Center, Room 242, at 12 pm. 11/2 at Bedford Unitarian Church at 7:15 pm.

The next meeting of the DTC is scheduled for WEDNESDAY, October 17 in the Hollis Room, Gleason Public Library. Please submit topics for the agenda to Nancy.

The meeting was adjourned by Nancy Kronenberg at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Gibbs (in Bob Luoma's absence)