

Marlborough Democratic City Committee Minutes
Hybrid Meeting-Zoom/In-Person
New Horizons
420 Hemingway Street
Marlborough, MA
Monthly Meeting February 10, 2024

Officers: Dan Caruso, Chair; Barbara Allen, Co-Chair; Debbie Doucette, Secretary; George LaVenture, Treasurer; Rosalind Baker, Affirmative Action Chair

Attending Members: Dan Caruso, Debbie Doucette, Dave Doucette, Barbara Allen, Pamela McNair, Joan Gregoire, Bob Gregoire, State Rep. Danielle Gregoire, Elaine Chont, Alice Wertheimer, Barbara Shapiro, Diane Stevens, David Mc Nair

Guest: Robert Preciado, City Councilor; Christopher Lorant, DSC Disabilities Outreach Committee; Benjamin Bloomenthal, DSC Member; J, Michael Gilbreath, Candidate for DSC

Call to Order: 10:07am

Minutes: January Minutes were approved and filed.

Communications/Correspondence: We received a notecard from a former member, Kathleen O'Connor, who has moved to Maine, wishing us well, along with a donation to the Marlborough Community Pantry

Treasurer's Report: Bank balance as of 2/5/2024: \$2850

Budget: List of budget items proposed by chair and vice-chair unanimously approved on voice vote

Chair Vote: Previous Ward 1 Chair has stepped down due to other commitments. David McNair nominated Pam McNair as Ward Chair, seconded by Bob Burke. Hearing no other nominations, nominations were closed and Pam McNair was elected Ward 1 Chair by acclamation as moved by Bob Burke and seconded by David McNair.

Reports of Committees:

Membership:

Brochure - Looking for feedback before our caucus on March 2nd.
Ex.; Caucus info, QR code for additional info.

Voter Registration Drive – List of non-registered voters has been obtained by Diane Stevens

Motion made by Diane Stevens, seconded by Dave Doucette to accept the Membership report – Passed.

City Caucus: March 2nd/Kane Elem School/9:15am

Purpose – to vote for delegates to attend State Democratic Nominating Convention

Ward 1 has 4 delegates
Ward 2 – 7 has 3 delegates each
Must be present at caucus to be voted in as a delegate.
No proxy can be used.
Public notice needs to be in printed in newspaper 7 days before Caucus

State Convention planned to be all live in-person with no remote option.

Motion made by Rep. Gregoire, seconded by Diane Stevens, that the MDCC go on record in strong opposition to the lack of remote participation at the upcoming State Democratic Convention. Approved unanimously.

Dan will write a letter to the State Democratic Committee.

District Caucus: March 2nd/ Kane Elem School/Following Convention Caucus

Purpose – To elect delegates to a Senate District Conference
On March 23rd (location TBD) to fill the male caucus seat from the Middlesex-Worcester Senate District on the Democratic State Committee
of our District scheduled for March 23rd

Each ward has same delegate allocation as state convention plus one for wards with odd number of delegates
Delegations must be gender-balanced
There are no ex-officio delegates

Candidates – Ben Blumenthal, Acton, current DSC member
member in J. Michael Gilbreath, Wayland. Former DSC
redistricting. another district for 8 yrs before recent

Issues Forum: Collaborating with Ellen Church and Hudson DTC

Engagement Forum at Marlborough Public Library, possibly May 8, 9, 16, or 17
topic of choice Possible Topics: Transportation, College Debt, Housing, Civic
continue Members of both committees to be polled with option to add one
Poll results announced at next meeting; Dan, Barbara and Ellen to
discussing

Events: Food Drive Jan 20, 2024

Very cold, zero degrees. Next winter Food Drive will be held indoors. Location TBD

Fundraiser with Harvard Democratic Town Committee.
HDTCC Chair Dennis Bradley suggested collaborating on a revival of the

spring breakfast fundraiser once sponsored by the Middlesex-Worcester Democratic Coalition, in Marlborough with a keynote speaker, place and time to be determined, possibly the end of May.

By-Laws: Need to be reviewed sometime after the re-organizational meeting. Members needed to serve on the by-law committee.

Members Forum: Danielle Gregoire is officially running for State Rep.

Robert Preciado, our new City Councilor, will officially become a new member of the MDCC after the primary

Alice Wertheimer noted the survey sent out by Mayor Christian Dumais, on Facebook and in the Patch and urged everyone to fill it out

Next Meeting is on March 9th at 10am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:42 am