

**Marlborough Democratic City Committee**  
**Hybrid Monthly Meeting**  
**Marlborough Public Library**  
**25 W. Main Street, Marlborough, MA 01752**  
**October 19, 2024 Minutes**  
**10 AM**

**Officers:**

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

**Attending Members:**

Barb Allen, Barb Fenby, Michelle Bodin Hettinger, Elaine Chont, Diane Stevens, Barbara Shapiro, Alice Wertheimer, Pam McNair, Trey Fuccillo, Alexis Williamson, Dave Doucette, Debbie Doucette

**Guests:**

Jamie Eldridge, State Senator; Carmine Gentile, State Rep; Danielle Gregoire, State Rep

**Call to Order:** 10:07 AM

Bob Burke, our member from New Horizon, returned to his home in NH. A card to sign for Bob was sent around the group

**I Secretary's Report**

- A. **Minutes Approved:** 5/11/24, 6/08/24, 09/14/24; Executive Mtg Minutes 6/14/24.  
April Minutes still outstanding

**II Treasurer's Report:**

A. **Financial Statement**

1. General Accounting  
George LaVenture sent in Treasurer's Report after our September meeting.  
Projected Balance: \$2603.29 as of Oct 05, 2024
2. Presidential lawn signs cost; \$370 for 20 signs.

Still outstanding:

- Report on Postcard Campaign. (see below)
- An accounting of lawn signs (see below)
- Budget Meeting with George is required to send info to OCPF by Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.

## IV. Committee Reports/Action Items/Strategic Plans

### A. Membership:

1. New Membership Canvas- Trey Fuccillo. Sending out our MDCC pamphlet after the Nov 5<sup>th</sup> election. Best to take our time and do it right.
2. 2024-2025 MDCC meeting Calendar is now available  
Meeting location will vary depending what meeting rooms are available on the day of our meeting.
3. Barbara Allen is communicating information thru facebook

### B. Political Action

1. Ward 3 Postcard Campaign  
Diane Stevens reported the campaign analysis will not be available until January. 7,000 postcards were sent out.

Diane suggests that members should get involved with local issues by attending or watching on tv the city council meetings

2. Presidential Election

Six lawn signs are still available. Trey Fuccillo and Barb Allen will pay for the remaining unpaid yard signs.

Election Night Watch party may be at the Funky Murphys. Dan will check on the availability

Endorsements—Barbara Allen motioned that we consider each question on the ballot separately as to whether we endorse the question. Dave Doucette second the motion. Members vote 12-3 motion passes.

Question 1: Whether the state Auditor should be able to audit the legislature (Short Version) Dave Doucette motions to vote yes; Diane Stevens 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Results: Yes—2      No---12      Abstain---1

Question 2: MCAST is not required to receive a High School diploma  
Elaine Chont motioned to oppose to endorse, Diane Stevens 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion

Results: Yes --- 13      No---2      Abstain---0

Question 3: Law would provide Transportation Network Drivers with the right to form a union. Doug Pizzi motions to endorse; Pam McNair 2nds the motion

Results: Yes---14                      No---1                      Abstain---0

Question 4: Legalization and regulation of Psychedelic-like substances. Trey Fuccillo motions to propose YES to question, Diane Stevens 2nds the motion

Results: Yes---12                      No---1                      Abstain---2

Question 5: Full minimum wage for tipped workers to increase over a period of 5 years. Employers could pool all tips received and distribute them back to all their non-management workers or not. Barb Allen motions to endorse YES on Question 5. Babs Fenby 2nds this motion

Results: Yes---9                      No---5                      Abstain---1

### **C. Events**

1. Food Drive – November 16th at Navin’s Skate Arena parking lot, deliver to food pantry on Tuesday. Signs for Food Drive are too expensive. Will need to bid out for less expensive signs.

2. MDCC/Harvard DTC Fundraiser---temporarily on hold

### **V. Public Relations**

No updates

### **VI. By-laws**

No updates

### **VII MDCC Project 2025**

#### **A. Goals and Objectives**

Babs Fenby, who volunteered to head the G&O, motions we should endorse the 3 goals that were previously handed out.

Goal 1. To reach out to potential voters to inform them and to engage them with MDCC

Goal 2: To provide organizational visibility and develop organizational cohesiveness while delivering a needed community service through food bank collection four times per year.

Goal 3: To develop awareness on how to support a more secure and peaceful world

All 3 goals were unanimously endorsed (15 – 0)

**B. Executive Meeting**

**C. Sub-Committees**

**VIII. Members Forum**

**IX. State House Roundup**

**A. Carmine Gentile, State Rep**

The Legislature is ready to take a vote on the Climate & Energy Bill

Supplemental Closeout Budget has been signed. There is now \$8 Billion in the state rainy day fund.

State spent \$1 Billion last year for housing. How will the state cover the costs of shelter for the Haitian immigrants?

Carmine's campaign is going well. He has an opponent, Virginia (Ginny) Gardiner from Wayland, that was a write-in during the primary.

He will be travelling to Monroe County, PA to volunteer for the Harris-Walz campaign.

**X. City Council Roundup**

**A. Dave Doucette, City Councilman-Ward 2.**

There will be a proposal to ban plastic bags at the Nov 4<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting at a Public Hearing.

Dave attended a Mass Trail Meeting held in Marlborough.

**Miscellaneous**

Alice Wertheimer reminded us about Voter Suppression tactics.

1. Check to be sure you are registered to vote
2. Vote early
3. Bring valid ID to voter location

**Next Meeting on November 9, 2024**

Babs Fenby motioned to adjourn  
Barb Allen second the motion to adjourn  
All agreed  
Adjourned at 11:45 am

October 2024 Minutes  
Submitted By  
Debbie Doucette, MDCC Secretary