

Boston Ward 5 Democrats  
Meeting Date: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**MINUTES**

The regular and duly noticed June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was called to order at 7:00 by Chair Chris Donnelly (the “Chair”).

The Chair gave a membership report. Jim Berkman and Kristen Mobilia were eligible for membership. All members unanimously approved Jim Berkman and Kristen Mobilia as members.

The Chair gave an introduction to the evening’s program, explaining that each candidate will be given twelve minutes to speak to the group and answer questions. Questions at this meeting were limited to members.

The Chair introduced **Mayor Marty Walsh**. He began with the question: “Why should Ward 5 re-elect Mayor Walsh?” He addressed the lack of Ward 5 support that he had initially, but spoke of the accomplishments he has had over the past four years in office. Mayor Walsh spoke to the Triple A bond rating that Boston has had for four consecutive years. Under Mayor Walsh, Boston has created and built more affordable housing than in any period of our history. Boston has raised the IDP to 18%. Mayor Walsh wants to continue his work with the Boston Public Schools. Currently, the Boston Public Schools have more Level 1 and Level 2 schools than in any other period of Boston’s history. Another goal he has is to make more investments into historic preservation throughout Boston.

The Chair introduced **City Councilor Tito Jackson**. He spoke about his background growing up in Boston and segued into the city’s struggle with providing affordable housing. He wants to take the lead that Cambridge has taken by creating more affordable housing. He wants to take \$5 million dollars to create more city vouchers. He believes that the education system has been underfunded in a time that we have more money than we have ever had in the past. He wants to do more to provide support to small local businesses and wants to use resources for multi-mobile transportation across the city.

The Chair introduced **Candidate Joseph Wiley**. He spoke about his hopes for education, affordable housing, and income equality for the city of Boston. He wants to make a difference for our city.

The Chair opened the floor to members for a brief discussion about the mayoral candidates.

Jon Spillane spoke about the differences that Marty Walsh has made in Boston and gave his endorsement for the candidate.

Marty Walz and City Councilor Josh Zakim also gave their endorsements for Mayor Walsh.

Marty Walz nominated Mayor Marty Walsh; seconded by Gretchen Bennett.

Dan Lyon nominated Tito Jackson; seconded by Helen Cox.

Kenzie Bok nominated Joseph Wiley; seconded by Jon Spillane.

All nominations were approved unanimously.

Secretary Marissa Donnelly gave an eligibility report and conducted the vote for endorsement of a mayoral candidate.

### **Mayor Walsh was endorsed by the Ward 5 Democratic Committee.**

The Chair gave a membership report. Elisha Fielding was eligible for nomination of membership. Pat Amend nominated Elisha; seconded by Jon Spillane. Robert Binney was eligible for nomination of membership. Andrea Burns nominated Robert Binney; seconded by Kathy Judge. Matt Maddalo was eligible for nomination of membership. Josh Zakim nominated Matt Maddalo; seconded by Sharon Durkan. Grace Rosenthal Zakim was eligible for nomination of membership. Grace was nominated by Josh Zakim; seconded by Jess Sullivan. Elisha, Robert, Matt, and Grace each introduced themselves to the committee.

The Chair welcomed **City Councilor Josh Zakim** to the floor to provide a special legislative update from the City Council to help frame our discussion with the District 2 City Council candidates. Members were given time for questions. City Councilor Zakim spoke about the city's budget as well as what the city is doing to tackle climate change. He spoke about working with state legislature to repair gas leaks and also to allow Boston to continue keeping in accord with the Paris Climate Change agreement.

The Chair explained how the committee would conduct the second portion of the evening's program.

The committee heard from each candidate running for District 2 City Council:

**Erica J. Tritta**

**Joseph F. Kebartas**

**Corey G. Dinopoulos**

**Edward M. Flynn**

**Michael S. Kelley**

**Peter Lin-Marcus**

Each candidate spoke about their main goals.

The Chair opened the floor to questions from the membership for the candidates. The committee learned the candidates' views on the issues of Climate Change, Transportation, and Housing.

Jon Spillane nominated Corey Dinopolous; seconded by Sharon Durkan.

Pat McDonough nominated Edward Flynn; seconded by Ross Levanto.

Suzanne Comtois nominated Peter Lin-Marcus; seconded by Pat Amend.

Kenzie Bok nominated Michael Kelley; seconded by Josh Zakim.

Andrea Burns nominated Joseph Kebartas; seconded by Helen Cox.

Jessica Sullivan nominated Erica Tritta; seconded by Emelia Encallado.

All nominations were approved unanimously.

Secretary Marissa Donnelly conducted the endorsement vote for District 2 City Councilor.

**Mike Kelley was endorsed by the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee.**

Ross Levanto made a motion to accept the minutes for the meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, which was seconded by Kenzie Bok and approved unanimously.

Josh Zakim made a motion to adjourn the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democrats. The motion was seconded by Jon Spillane and passed unanimously.