

Boston Ward 5 Democrats
Meeting Date: September 19th, 2017
MINUTES

The regular and duly noticed September 17th meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was called to order at 7:05 by Chair Chris Donnelly (the “Chair”).

Member Rob Whitney introduced Johannes Epke, the General Counsel to American Promise, an organization advocating for a 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would restrict the freedom of corporations to contribute to political campaigns. For more information about American Promise, visit americanpromise.net.

Molly Hitt made a motion to approve the June 2017 minutes; seconded by Pat Amend and approved unanimously.

The Chair gave a membership report. Matt Maddallo was eligible for associate membership and approved unanimously. Robert Binney was eligible for associate membership and approved unanimously. Grace Rosenthal Zakim was eligible for associate membership and approved unanimously. Diane Barry was eligible for nomination of membership. Molly Hitt nominated Diane for membership; seconded by Pat Amend.

The Chair opened the floor to nominations for membership to the executive committee to fill a vacancy left by George Alex. Rob Whitney nominated Ross Levanto; seconded by Kate Gallivan and approved unanimously.

The Chair gave an introduction to the endorsement process for City Councilor-at-Large. All eight candidates were invited to speak at tonight’s meeting.

Althea Garrison spoke to the committee about her priority of taking care of senior citizens and veterans; for example, implementing rent control to keep people in their neighborhoods.

Michelle Wu spoke about her work in City Hall: her focus on transparency and her work to engage the entire community, create income inequality, and address climate change.

Michael Flaherty spoke about his top priorities: closing the sex offender loop hole to crack down on sex offenders who are not registering because they are moving around or unaccounted for; as well as addressing issues with our transportation infrastructure, especially in regard to new companies that are coming to Boston and significantly increasing the number of people who use these systems.

Ayanna Pressley spoke about her creation of the committee for healthy women, families, and communities. She spoke about fighting for more women-owned small businesses to grow, reducing trauma in our communities, and transforming the role of restaurants as social anchors. She spoke about her work regarding social/emotional

wellness supports and her work to invest in BPS students receiving special services at school.

Annissa Essaibi George spoke about her focus on helping addicts connect with services in Boston, supporting residents who are in crisis, and cleaning up the city through needle disposal services and pick-ups. She will continue her work to support small businesses as Boston continues to gentrify.

William King spoke about his goals of getting more vocational programs into Boston's schools, as well as creating more affordable housing for middle-income families.

Domingos DaRosa spoke about the disconnect between youth and politics. He is focused on Boston's education system and increasing the BPS budget.

Secretary Marissa Donnelly gave an eligibility report.

The Chair explained the rules for the process of conducting an endorsement vote. The Chair opened the floor to nominations for City Councilor-at-Large.

Helen Cox nominated Ayanna Pressley; seconded by Jess Sullivan.

Dan Lyon nominated Annissa Essaibi George; seconded by Suzanne Comtois.

Marty Walz nominated Domingos DaRosa; seconded by Rob Whitney.

Molly Hitt nominated Michelle Wu; seconded by Sharon Durkan.

Kate Gallivan nominated Michael Flaherty; seconded by Kenzie Bok.

Ross Levanto nominated William King; seconded by Molly Hitt.

Ross Levanto nominated Althea Garrison; seconded by Helen Cox.

Molly Hitt moved to closed nominations; seconded by Jim Berkman.

The Chair opened the floor for debate amongst members and the Secretary conducted the endorsement vote.

21 total votes were cast.

DaRosa: 9
Flaherty: 13
Garrison: 0
Essaibi: 19
King: 0
Payasso: 0

Pressley: 20
Wu: 19

With 19, 20, and 19 votes, Annissa Essaibi George, Ayanna Pressley, and Michelle Wu were endorsed by the Ward 5 Democratic Committee.

Jim Berkman made a motion to adjourn the September 17th meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democrats. The motion was seconded by Liam Holland and passed unanimously.

Members (23)	Guests (10)
Rob Whitney	Sandra Singer
Jim Berkman	Lillian Asaph
Jessica Sullivan	Leiha Winn
Kate Gallivan	Anthony Lombardi
Ross Levanto	Domingos DaRosa
Jessica Sullivan	Tina Poindexter
Dan Lyon	Mel Poindexter
Kathy Judge	Althea Garrison
Pat McDonough	Annissa Essaibi George
Suzanne Comtois	William King
Liam Holland	
Pat Amend	
Kenzie Bok	
Molly Hitt	
Chris Donnelly	
Marissa Donnelly	
Sharon Durkan	
Helen Cox	
Marty Walz	
Matthew Maddalo	
Robert Binney	
Grace Rosenthal Zakim	
Sharon Hucul	

Nominated at the June meeting (4):

Elisha Fielding
Robert Binney
Matt Maddalo

Grace Rosenthal Zakim

Who can be nominated at the September meeting (3):

Lara Shkordoff

David Xiao

Diane Barry