

Boston Ward 5 Democrats - October 16, 2018. 7 pm

The regular and duly noticed October meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was called to order by Chair Kenzie Bok (the Chair).

Approval of the Minutes

The following amendments to the September minutes were offered: add the following members to the attendance roster: Molly Hitt, Matt Maddalo, Pat Amend, Alice Lin.

Jim Berkman moved that we accept the minutes, with the proposed amendments which motion was seconded by Kathy Judge. The motion passed.

Membership Matters

Nominated for Membership

Adam Kronish was nominated for membership by Anthony Lombardi, which nomination was seconded by Diane Barry.

Associate Membership Elections

Diane Barry moved that we elect John Gabrieli to associate membership, which motion was seconded by Hilary Bacon Gabrieli, and passed.

Sharon Durkan moved that we elect Helen Vincent to associate membership, which motion was seconded by Molly Hitt and passed.

Anthony Lombardi moved that we elect Adrienne Zak to associate membership, which motion was seconded by Kate Gallivan and passed.

Question 1 (The Patient Safety Act) Presentation & Endorsement Consideration

The Chair recognized Ryan Berard to speak for Yes on Question 1. Ryan works for the Nurse's Union, and spoke in favor of Question 1 explaining that it would increase patient safety because it would limit the number of patients which could be assigned to a nurse at any one time. He discussed what can happen to patient care when a nurse has too many patients; the California nursing ratio law which had the measurable effect of increasing patient safety and improving patient outcomes; the effects of money and lobbying efforts on attempts to pass a law like this in our legislature.

Q&A with Ward 5

The Chair recognized Nicole Lincoln and Jen Conlon for No On Question 1. Both are nurses in

management at Boston Medical Center, and spoke against the proposition due to the rigidity of the law which did not allow for taking into account shifting patient needs; that the effect would be to create a nursing shortage (greater than the one that currently exists) and to increase costs which might drive some smaller hospitals out of business.

Q&A with Ward 5

Andrea Burns moved that we open the floor for nominations to endorse YES or NO on Question 1, which motion was seconded by Matt Maddalo, and passed.

Andrea Burns's moved that Ward 5 endorse the YES position for Question 1, which motion was seconded by Molly Hitt.

Anthony Lombardi moved that we close the floor for endorsement nominations for Question 1, which was seconded by Jim Berkman, and passed.

Rob Whitney called the question, which was seconded by Molly Hitt.

Whether to endorse YES on Question 1- Vote by Roll Call

David Crossman Yes

Kenzie Bok Present

Olivia Cifrino Present

Kristen Mobilia Present

Molly Hitt Silent

Suzanne Comtois YES

Hilary Bacon Gabrieli Present

Sharon Hucul Yes

Sharon Durkan OUT

Katherine Judge NO

Diane Barry Yes

Patrick McDonough Silent

Kate Gallivan Present

Grace Zakim No

Anthony Lombardi Present

Jay Livingstone Silent

Jim Berkman Yes

Matt Maddalo Silent

Elisha Fielding Not here

Dan Lyon Yes

Helen Cox Yes

John Gabrieli Silent

Rajan Nanda Yes

Bob Binney Yes

Patricia Amend Present

Josh Zakim Present

Michael George Yes
Andrea Burns Yes
Rob Whitney Present
Adrienne Zak Present
Helen Vincent Yes

12 Yes / 2 No / 10 Present. Yes takes 50% which is insufficient to endorse. No endorsement.

Question 3 Presentation & Endorsement Consideration

The Chair recognized Sarah to speak for YES on Question 3. Her organization was formerly called Freedom for All Massachusetts. A YES vote on Question 3 would support keeping the current law on the books. That law has been in place for more than two years and has been working well - none of the horror stories told by the opponents have occurred here. No increase in funding would be required.

The Chair informed Ward 5 that despite invitations, no one would come to speak to us from the NO on THREE sponsors.

Q&A from Ward 5.

Counselor Zakim moved we endorse Yes on Question 3 by acclamation vote, which motion was seconded by Helen Cox. The motion passed by acclamation. Ward 5 endorses YES on Question 3.

Democratic Consolidated Committee

Monica Reina-Gonzales from DCC addressed the Ward, asking for our participation in the last 19 days leading up to the election. DCC is scheduling 4 shifts a day or GOTV. See sign in sheet.

Presentation on Ranked Choice Voting

The Chair introduced Koby Yank-Jacobs, the Live Outreach Director for Voter Choice Massachusetts. Mr. Yank-Jacobs made a presentation on ranked choice voting.

Ranked choice voting is about improving our Democracy. Plurality voting is the problem. Ranked choice voting is the solution.

- Eliminate Spoilers
- Encourage more people to run
- Incentivize positive campaigns

The Chair noted that there will be no endorsement discussion or vote tonight because there was no endorsement vote notice in the October meeting notice. We can take it up another time.

Election to fill Executive Committee Vacancy

The Chair announced that there is a vacancy on the Ward 5 Executive Committee. Matt Maddalo moved that we open the floor for nominations, which motion was seconded by Anthony Lombardi, and passed. Kathy Judge nominated Hilary Bacon-Gabrieli to fill the open spot on the Ward 5 Executive Committee, and Helen Cox seconded the nomination. Matt Maddalo moved that we close the nominations, which motion was seconded by Josh Zakim, and passed. Jay Livingston moved that we vote by acclamation to elect Hilary Bacon-Gabrieli to the Ward 5 Executive Committee, which motion was seconded by Pat MacDonough, Hilary Bacon-Gabrieli was elected by acclamation vote..

Campaign Announcements

Rep. Jay Livingstone is helping and organizing volunteers for some of the vulnerable progressive candidates. He will send around a schedule. The Chair called our attention to the various election opportunities shown in the hand out in this evening's meeting packet. Ward 5 will email out any opportunities list and we'll be doing palm cards on Election Day, if anyone would like to volunteer for that effort.

Save the Date: the Ward 5 Christians Party will be the evening of Tuesday December 18 - instead of the Ward Meeting. Site TBA.

Other Business/Announcements

[Baby announcements!]

The Chair is seeking members for a by-laws subcommittee. Jim Berkman, Anthony Lombardi and Kathy Judge are already on that committee. The Chair will send out an email to see if others would like to join that effort.

Matt Maddalo moved we close the meeting, which motion was seconded Molly Hitt, and passed.

Attendance

Members

Pat Amend

Hilary Bacon-Gabrieli

Diane Barry
Jim Berkman
Kenzie Bok
Bob Binney
Andrea Burns
Olivia Cifrino
Suzanne Comtois
Helen Cox
David Crossman
Sharon Durkan
John Gabrieli
Kate Gallivan
Mike George
Molly Hitt
Sharon Hucul
Kathy Judge
Alice Lin
Jay Livingstone
Anthony Lombardi
Daniel Lyon
Matt Maddalo
Pat McDonough
Kristen Mobilia
Rajan Nanda
Dan Smith
Rob Whitney
Adrienne Zak
Grace Zakim
Josh Zakim

Guests

Ryan Berard
Glen Corbin
Jeremy Cushman
Natalie Heer
Adam Kronish
Nicole Lincoln
Sten Owens
Enid Pope
Sandra Singer
Shoreh Varmeh
Helen Vincent