

Boston Ward 5 Democrats
Minutes - February 18, 2020 Meeting

The regular and duly noticed February meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was called to order by First Vice Chair Coleman Lynds.

Valentino Capobianco –State Dem Committee Representative

Valentino Capobianco is on staff with State Senator Feeney and has been one of Ward 5's elected representatives to the State Democratic Committee since 2012. He represents Democrats in Senator Boncore's district. He is on the ballot to be our representative again and asks for our vote. Mr. Capobianco spoke to the Committee about what the State Democratic Committee does, and the work he's done while serving on the Committee. He answered questions from the Ward.

First Vice Chair Coleman Lynds relinquished the meeting to Chair Sharon Durkan, who chaired the rest of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Kathy Judge moved that the January 2020 minutes be accepted as presented, which motion was seconded by Molly Hitt. Motion passed by acclamation.

Membership

Susan Smith is eligible for nomination to membership. The Chair nominated Susan Smith for membership, which motion was seconded by Pat McDonough. Motion passed by acclamation. Susan can be elected to membership at the next meeting she attends.

Treasurer's Report

Ward 5 Treasurer Bob Binney walked us through a monthly financial sheet which shows a roughly \$2200 balance as we're going into a busy season for us regarding election support activities. There were questions at last month's meeting regarding how our Christmas Party fundraiser went. Those numbers are in the handout. Ward 5 collected over \$800, and had expenses on the order of \$300. This means we took in about \$500 for that fundraiser. That is largely because both Rep. Jay Livingston and City Councilor Kenzie Bok donated \$200 each to cover the expenses. The Ward thanks them.

Review of the handouts shows that Bob revised our budget to remove a few items at the advice of the Executive Committee and the Ward at the last meeting, as we are not planning to do those activities in the next election cycle. We are considering a summer fundraiser on Flag Day in June.

Dues of \$60 for regular members, and \$25 for first time or student members, will be due in March! Please pay promptly. It helps Ward 5 to do responsible budgeting and election activity planning when we know what we have to spend. Checks should be made out to the Ward 5 Democrats, or can be paid through ActBlue. Waivers are available - talk to Bob. If a waiver is granted, it just shows on our membership sheet as your dues are paid. You can ask for a complete waiver, or to just pay a reduced amount for the year.

Boston Ward 5 Democrats
Minutes - February 18, 2020 Meeting

The Ward 5 Caucus – Saturday February 29

Our Caucus date and time is Saturday, February 29 at Old South Church at 11 am. Volunteers should arrive between 9 and 10 am please.

To run as a delegate on the Ward 5 slate, you need to physically attend the Caucus. You can only be elected in absentia if no one present wants an available spot. Because this is a nominating election, it is unlikely that there will be that kind of open spot available, so if you want to run please plan to attend. Running on the WARD 5 slate also means you promise to attend the Massachusetts State Democratic Convention in Lowell on May 30.

Sharon reviewed with the Committee how the Caucus process works and how many delegate spots Ward 5 has (12 female and 12 male, plus the Ward 5 Chair at the time of the Caucus.) Delegates from conventions past shared their experiences regarding attending the convention. Boston City Councilor and former Ward 5 Chair Kenzie Bok spoke about how Ward 5's Caucus and convention work fits into the larger picture of political work an process in the State party.

Committee members and guests who wish to run as a Ward 5 delegate gave their names to the Chair. The Chair read out the names as volunteers and asked the Ward if this was our choice for our slate. Kenzie Bok moved that we affirm the slate as read, and to authorize the Chair to add to the slate to fill it out if more volunteers indicated interest in running with us. The motion was seconded by Rob Whitney. The motion passed by acclamation.

Election Day - March 3

Ward 5 has a full slate of 35 persons seeking election as members on the ballot for the election on Tuesday March 3. We need to support our elected member candidates - the ideal is that on election day you check the box to vote for the slate - to vote for everyone.

Some of the members on the ballot plan to pass out palm cards at their polling places. If you'd like to pass out palm cards or volunteer or other election support work, please let us know.

Reformation of the Ward 5 Democratic Committee - March Meeting

Members elected on March 3 will reform the committee at the regular monthly meeting on March 17. The members elected on the 3rd will vote to elect Ward Officers; an Executive Committee; and Associate Members. Only newly elected members vote in those internal elections, and only newly elected members can be a Ward Officer or EC member. We won't be elevating associate members to full members to stand for positions. However, we are encouraging Associate Members to attend please. We will be addressing other Ward activities, and to be voted in as an Associate Member you need to be present. We can't elect you in absentia. If you're not at the March meeting, we will need to vote you back in as an Associate Member at the next meeting you attend.

Boston Ward 5 Democrats
Minutes - February 18, 2020 Meeting

Announcements

Kathy Judge spoke about the Chinese Progressive Association Banquet which will be held on March 20 at the Empire Garden in Chinatown. Tickets are \$85. Let us know if you'd like to attend. We're putting together a Ward 5 table. We'd like to support the CPA, and we'd like to support Chinatown which has been hard hit by fear about COVID-19.

Kenzie Bok and Jay Livingstone have both endorsed Senator Elizabeth Warren and are sponsoring a Democratic debate watch event - February 19th at LIR. All are invited.

Adjournment

Kate Gallivan moved that we adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Jay Livingstone. Motion passed by acclamation.

Attendance

Members

Pat Amend
Hilary Bacon Gabrieli
Diane Barry
Bob Binney
Kenzie Bok
David Crossman
Jeremy Cushman
Sharon Durkan
Kate Gallivan
Mike George
Natalie Heer
Molly Hitt
Sharon Hucul
Kathy Judge
Carol Krupa
Landon Lemoine
Jay Livingstone
Coleman Lynds
Dan Lyon
Pat McDonough
Kristen Mobilia
Michael Pizziferri
Dan Smith
John Steies
Rob Whitney
David Xiao
Adrienne Zak

Guests

Valentino Capobianco
Sandra Singer
Susan Smith