

Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee February 15, 2022 Meeting

Due to the declared Public Health Emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and upon the advice of the State Democratic Party, this monthly meeting of the Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was held online via Zoom.

Sharon Durkan (The Chair) called the February meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum.

Sharon reported on the results of our Caucus. If members are interested in joining an elections committee for the upcoming primary and general elections and/or working on the candidate forums being planned, please reach out to the Chair.

Approval of the Minutes

Pat Amend moved that we accept the January minutes as presented, which motion was seconded by Rob Whitney. Motion passed; the Minutes are approved

Membership Matters

Nancy Street is eligible for nomination to membership. Nancy addressed the Committee. Sharon Durkan nominated Nancy Street to associate membership, which nomination was seconded by Pat McDonough.

Rob Whitney noted that as of the Caucus, he has moved up to being a 20-year member, which makes an elected member spot available.

Treasurer's Report

Rob Whitney gave his first Treasurer's Report. Our bank balance is \$6,454.28. Membership fees are coming up. If anyone needs a waiver for the fees, please contact Rob or Sharon.

Sharon reviewed the Ward's policy that fee waivers will be held as confidential. Persons who receive a waiver will just be marked as dues paid. Financial hardship is never a reason to not be involved in the Committee. The Chair noted that dues should be paid before the March meeting.

Rob suggested that we might want to hold a fundraiser before the statewide races, so that we have enough funds to do everything we might want to do.

The Mass Dems Convention

Elected delegates need to pay the delegate fee. If the fee is an issue, you can apply to Mass Dems for a fee reduction or waiver. And, if anyone who wasn't elected at the Caucus still wants to go, consider applying to Mass Dems for an add on delegate. The Convention dates are Friday June 3, and Saturday June 4. Currently, it's to be a hybrid convention – virtual and in-person in Worcester.

Gathering Signatures for Candidates

Jay Livingstone is gathering signatures both for his own campaign, and for Maura Healey. Paul is gathering signatures for Maura Healey as well.

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Mayor Kim Driscoll - Candidate for Lt. Governor

Mayor Driscoll is the Mayor of Salem, and is running for Lt. Governor. She addressed the Committee, and then took questions.

City Councilor Kenzie Bok

Councilor Bok reported on the budget process going on in the City Council and explained how the City Council and Mayor are implementing the new measures to make the budget process more consultative. Tonight, was the first of four listening sessions which will be held around the City to talk about the budget. Councilor Bok encourages everyone to attend any of these sessions. There's also a survey which she encourages everyone to fill out to help inform the budget process. Councilor Bok is also chairing the City's COVID recovery committee. There will be a meeting soon to address the federal and other funding coming into the City for recovery. This meeting will be open the public and attendance is encouraged.

Bret Bero - Candidate for Lt. Governor

Bret Bero is running for Lt. Governor. He addressed the Committee, and then took questions.

Motion to Adjourn

Gretchen Bennett moved to adjourn, which motion was seconded by Diane Barry. Motion passed and meeting adjourned. Motion passed; meeting is adjourned.

Attendance

Members

Pat Amend
Hilary Bacon Gabrieli
Diane Barry
Gretchen Bennett
Bob Binney
Alex Bok
Kenzie Bok
Suzanne Comtois
Helen Cox
David Crossman
Sharon Durkan
Shari Franzetta
Abigail Gabrieli
Kate Gallivan
Molly Hitt
Sharon Hucul
Jay Livingstone
Dan Lyon
Pat McDonough
Kristen Mobilia
Rajan Nanda

Guests

Mayor Kim Driscoll (candidate)
Juan Gallego (Team Driscoll)
Bret Bero (candidate)

Sandra Singer
Paul Caron
Nancy Street

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Susan Smith
Jon Spillane
Rob Whitney
Josh Zakim