

Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee

February 20, 2024, Meeting

The Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee was held both in person and online via Zoom.

Bob Binney called the meeting to order.

Membership Matters

January meeting minutes

Edits to Correct Hemal's name spelling.

January minutes approved with correction.

Associate Member Nominations

Associate member

Joshua Calianos is eligible to be a member.

Diane Barry nominated Joshua to be associate member.

Rob Whitney seconded.

Approved as associate member.

Kelly Zeilman eligible to be a member.

Diane Barry nominated Kelly to be eligible to be associate member.

Rob Whitney seconded.

Approved to make Kelly eligible to be voted as associate member in March

Treasurer's Report

Current balance as of 2/20/2024 is \$7,943.93.

Member 2024 dues are due typically by March.

Only 4 members have paid so far for 2024.

Ward 5 website has a link to pay for membership (ActBlue).

If not able to pay full amount, contact Bob and/or Rob.

Noted funds needed to plan what can be done for fall—postcards, Biden signs, etc.

City Council President Ruthzee Louijeune

Update on changes to the BPDA: Key points

1. Mayor petition to remove from BPDA-separate planning & development.
Align with affordability.
Hearing on 2/28.
Separates planning from development.
Noted city council has oversight.
2. Streamlining Article 80.
Reform.
Community benefits.
3. Updating zoning codes.
Different types of building (focus on Hyde Park, Rosendale, Dorchester).

Next: If passed by the City Council, it goes to the Statehouse.

Noted rent control passed the city council but died in the Statehouse.

Reply to Diane Barry's question about other changes being addressed.

- The need to increase trash pick-up

Any question or issue. Ruthzee.Louijeune@boston.gov; 617-635-4376 (office); and 617-286-2349 (her directly).

Future Scheduled Speakers

March meeting, **State Auditor Diana DiZoglio**, update on proposed Audit of State Legislature
April Meeting, **Senator Will Brownsberger**, update on proposed new Gun Laws.

2024 Caucus

Caucus planned for Saturday, March 2nd (doors open at 9, call to order at 10, plan to close by 1) at the Old South Church, 645 Boylston Street (4th floor).

Delegates for the MA Democratic Convention will be elected at the caucus.

Delegates: 11 women, 11 men

Interested:

Kelly Zeilman

Creelea Pangaro

Nancy Street

Kathleen Gallivan

Gretchen Bennett

Patricia Amend

Diane Barry

Suzanne Comtois

*Abigail Gabrieli noted if needed

Rob Whitney

Hemal Samat

Pat McDonough

Joshua Calianos

Mark Mantel

MA Democratic Convention, June 1st in Worcester.

Need to reserve rooms if going early (overnight May 31st).

Other Items/Events

2024 Get Involved!

Volunteer opportunities—handout

Discussion on what else to do- possible literature drop

Tools for talking points

Postcards were a success, urged to look into postcards, phone calls, other events.

Look into phone banks across the country. Bob will do research.

Media support

Joshua Calianos is leading the subcommittee.

“Biden Talking Points”

Nancy Street created the Biden talking points (handout shared).

Motioned to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Attendance

Members	Guests
<p data-bbox="186 457 316 489"><u>In Person</u></p> <p data-bbox="186 493 479 777">Bob Binney Mark Mantell Diane Barry Hilary Bacon Gabrieli Rob Whitney David Crossman Kelly Zeilman Josh Calianos</p> <p data-bbox="186 856 284 888"><u>Online</u></p> <p data-bbox="186 892 511 1144">Creelea Pangaro Hemal Sampat Patricia Amend Nancy Street Sharon Hucul Kathleen Gallivan Sharon (Shari) Franzetta</p>	<p data-bbox="776 751 901 783"><u>In Person</u></p> <p data-bbox="776 787 982 850">Anna Wilinsky Joanne Vaccaro</p> <p data-bbox="776 934 868 966"><u>Online</u></p> <p data-bbox="776 970 966 1001">Sandra Singer</p>