

Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee

May 20, 2025, Meeting

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

Hilary Bacon Gabrieli called the meeting to order.

Membership Matters

Meeting Minutes Review & Approval

The April minutes were sent out by Shari Franzetta, as part of the meeting reminder. No corrections. Rob Whitney motioned to approve, Gretchen Bennett seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Associate Member Nominations Elected Member

No eligible members were present.

Treasurer's Report

Rob Whitney reported the following

General Financial Status

-Current Balance (Citizens Bank Account): \$4,203.35 (as of 5/20/25)

Pat volunteered to explore fundraising events, Sharon Durkan offered to sponsor, and Nancy Street volunteered to join Pat with planning.

Membership Financial Activity

-No. of Members who have paid 2025 Dues: 18

-Dues Payments for 2025: \$1280

-Dues for 2025 are payable now.

-Members can pay via links on the website, or by check, and additional donations are always welcome.

Payment

-If you can't pay the full amount: contact Bob and/or Rob or Hilary.

-THE WARD 5 WEBSITE LINK FOR PAYING DUES SECURELY ONLINE:

-Visit the Home Page at <http://bostonward5dems.org>.

-Click on the link "How to Pay Your Dues if You're a member" to connect with ActBlue.

-You'll see "Donate to Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee"

General Membership Dues: \$60 First Year Membership: \$25; Student: \$25

Other Items/Events

Ward 5's Call to Action

- Reminder to view the mayoral forum; the corrected link has been added to the website.
- Mayor and City Council endorsements will take place at next month's meeting.
- On 16 June, there will be a City Council Forum.
- A discussion about whether to move the June meeting out one week to June 24, so members will have the opportunity to digest what they learn from the forum and make informed endorsement decisions.

- Bob has been involved with cross-ward events, and has also been working with Mass Dems.
- More to come on ways to get involved.

Guest Speakers

Henry Santana, Boston City Councilor At-Large

- Continued focus on youth and youth jobs.
- Work included helping Kenzie Bok and Mayor Wu get elected.
- Worked to identify and address barriers when working with City Hall.
- Member of the Public Safety Committee.
- Established two city-wide coalitions:
 - Santana CAPE meets weekly (Community Action, Policy & Engagement).
 - Santana Youth Force encourages and promotes civic engagement throughout the City.

Q&A

Q: What about plans to improve schools and optics?

A: He is Chair of Public Education and interacts with schools regularly.

- Addresses issues he sees, or those brought to his attention, directly with the superintendent.

Q: What about policies addressing housing affordability?

A: There is no single policy that alone can resolve the issue.

- Invest in the tools we currently have to better address the issue.
- Bring ideas of what works in other cities, such as the Austin Coalition, and consider policies that work well there.
- Mixed-income social housing is one such idea.

Q: Is new construction in Boston adequately planning for flood factors?

A: Looking into this.

Next Month's Guest Speaker

Ruthzee Louijeune, currently Boston City Councilor At-Large and City Council President.

The Schedule Now Until the Election

- Mark and Bob will be inviting all our Ward 5 representatives to speak.

Sub-committee Leads

- Website preparation: Pat Amend.
- Speaker arranging: Mark Mantell.
- Social media support: Kelly Zeilman and Joshua Calianos

Jay Livingstone motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Mark Mantell seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Attendance

<p>Members <u>In Person</u> Hilary Bacon Gabrieli Mark Mantell Jay Livingstone Kathy Judge Shyam Gopaladesikan</p> <p><u>Online</u> Pat Amend Bob Binney Gretchen Bennett Creelea Pangaro Hemal Sampat Kelly Zeilman Nancy Street Rob Whitney Sheila Murray Sharon Durkan Dave Crossman Shari Franzetta</p>	<p>Guests <u>In Person</u> Michael Holmes Nathan Greene Ty Livingston Max Tamer-Mahoney Maffie Sasso</p> <p><u>Online</u> Henry Santana</p>
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