

## Rockport Democratic Town Committee

**Minutes of 02/04/2006 Business Meeting:** Attendees: 18

**Members** - Tom Delaney, Ann Sheinwald, Rose McMullen, Tanner Cronin, Helen Rush-Lloyd, Harold Rush-Lloyd, Ruth Gillies, Dan Lauzon, Vernice Gaietto, Nancy Eberling, Ann-Patrice Hickey, Martha Norton,, Pat Koechlin, Bernie Koechlin, Martha Morgan, Sally Takekawa, and Joyce Fossa.

**Excused Members:** Sally Chapdelaine, Mary Francis, and David Wise..

**Associates:** Bobbie Paine.

At 2:05PM the chair, Ann Sheinwald, called the meeting to order at the Rockport Public Library. Ann announced that the current secretary will resign after this meeting and called for candidates to fill the position. After several rounds of discussion on this matter, Sally Takekawa volunteered to serve and Martha Morgan volunteered to serve as assistant secretary. Both were elected unanimously by the committee.

Ann announced that democratic candidate nomination papers were on the back table waiting for signatures. She encouraged members to take papers to elicit signatures from Rockport registered voters. Helen Rush-Lloyd indicated that her experience in getting signatures proves that a lot more work needs to be done with respect to Democratic visibility since people are angry about hot-button issues such as immigration. She pointed out that republicans have been very active on their candidates' behalf.

Since there are now 5 committee vacancies, including Dan Hoch's resignation presented to Ann Sheinwald, Roberta (Bobbie) Paine, an associate member, was elected to fill one vacancy as a full member.

Ann announced that the annual July potluck supper is scheduled for Friday, July 21, at the home of Virginia LaPlante on Norwood Avenue. Since this is a busy election year, a good number of candidates are expected to attend and address the crowd.

Planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade was discussed. Dan Lauzon offered his truck but advised that participation in the parade is really only viable if we can provide some music or entertainment. Martha Morgan offered to talk to certain musicians and check out their availability and price. More about the potential for our entry in the parade will be discussed at the next committee meeting, which Ann scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, at 6PM.

The treasurer, Pat Koechlin, provided her updated report from the last committee meeting in February. After paying \$500 for delegate/alternate fees to the upcoming June 2006 Democratic State Convention and some minor bills, the balance in the committee's treasury is \$3109.

The suggestion was made that delegates/alternates to the convention be provided with up to \$10 apiece for meal expenses. This was approved by the committee.

Other dates of interest: Ann-Patrice Hickey, the committee's representative to the 1<sup>st</sup> Essex/Middlesex coalition, reported that there will be a meeting for delegates/alternates to the convention on April 27 at the Dragon Light? (on Rte. 1) to meet/greet/hear democratic candidates. Also, on Tuesday, May 23, there will be a second training meeting for precinct coordinators. In this regard, a Precinct Captain's guide can be found on the state website: <http://www.massdem.org>.

Martha Morgan reported that a visibility for Deval Patrick is planned at Grant Circle from 10 - 11:30AM on April 8, after which tables to collect signatures on nomination papers for all democratic candidates will be set up outside of the IGA in Rockport. . Everyone is invited to participate in either or both of these activities. Dan Lauzon indicated that kids will be working to solicit signatures at the Rockport transfer station on the morning of April 8 as well.

Tom Delaney reported that on April 2 there will be an event on behalf of Deval Patrick in Manchester at the home of Jim Stanley and Ann Harrison. Fliers are available.

Sally Takekawa reported that there will be a March for Peace, Justice, and Democracy in New York City on April 29. Busses leave from various locations in Boston, cost \$36. For more info, check out [www.justicewithpeace.org](http://www.justicewithpeace.org) or call 617-491-4857.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50M

Respectfully submitted,  
Rose McMullen, Secretary