



Democratic State Committee Meeting

August 21, 2025 | Meeting Minutes

Massachusetts Democratic Party Chairman Steve Kerrigan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at Beverly High School in Beverly, Massachusetts.

The Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance and confirmed a quorum was present. The agenda, meeting minutes, treasurer report, and Charter Amendments report had been distributed via DSC update on August 15th.

There was a vote to adopt the agenda for the meeting, which passed.

The Chair welcomed members and guests to Beverly High School and thanked Congressman Seth Moulton for providing the family dinner and the Beverly Democratic City Committee for supporting the meeting. The Chair congratulated Young Democrats of Massachusetts members elected at the Young Democrats of America convention.

The Chair announced vacancies for two add-on seats. There was a motion and vote for the Secretary to cast one vote in favor of electing Ruthzee Louijeune as the French-speaking female add-on, which passed. There was a motion and vote for the Secretary to cast one vote in favor of electing Joseph Pachico as the Portuguese-speaking male add-on, which passed.

There was a motion and vote to approve the 2025 Spring Meeting minutes as [amended](#), which passed.

There was a motion and vote to suspend the rules to hear from guest speakers, which passed.

The Chair recognized Congressman Seth Moulton, who discussed Massachusetts Democrats' role in leading resistance to the current administration and outlined key areas where Democrats must lead including economy, lowering costs through regional rail infrastructure, and national security. He stated there are 439 days until the midterm elections.

The Chair recognized Secretary of State William Galvin, who addressed the Committee regarding his ballot initiative for same-day voter registration. Secretary Galvin announced his initiative to place a ballot question before voters in November 2026, requiring approximately 100,000 signatures to be collected from September through mid-November. He emphasized this would protect voting rights and counter Republican ballot questions seeking to repeal vote-by-mail.



There was a motion and vote to suspend the rules for the purpose of endorsing the ballot question for same-day voter registration, which passed. There was a motion and vote to endorse the ballot question, which passed without opposition.

The Chair recognized Mayor Mike Cahill of Beverly, who discussed the importance of strong local Democratic leadership and announced his candidacy for re-election. The Chair recognized State Representative Hannah Bowen, who thanked MassDems for their support and emphasized that politics should feel good, competitive primaries benefit the party, and Democrats must engage all voters.

The Chair provided updates on party activities: 15 new Democratic Town Committees established since January, phone banking efforts into New Jersey and Virginia, and launch of the New England Democratic Victory Fund. The Chair announced upcoming municipal elections and the convention theme "Don't Agonize, Organize."

The Chair then gave the Treasurer's report and reported the party is in a strong financial position with approximately \$400,000 in cash. There was a motion and vote to approve the Treasurer's report, which passed.

Chris Matthews presented the Charter Amendment Subcommittee report recommending one charter amendment: streamline the convention process by moving from four state conventions to two state conventions per four-year cycle. Multiple members raised concerns. The Chair clarified there would be no vote at the summer meeting and it would be presented at the full 2025 Platform Convention on September 13th in Springfield.

The Chair recognized Martina Jackson, chair of the 2025 Platform Drafting Committee, who reported the committee held five public hearings and received over one thousand responses. Multiple members offered comments on the platform including questions about immigration and federal policy. The Chair clarified immigration is addressed in the preamble and delegates will have opportunity to shape the final document at the convention.

The Chair called for subcommittee reports. Amanda Smith reported Campaign Services phone banking efforts with Massachusetts as top non-resident state for calls. Mark Flanagan and Leslie Templeton reported Youth Outreach received dozens of responses showing young people are energized. Diego Sanchez and Dallas Ducar reported LGBTQ+ Subcommittee concerns about federal attacks on transgender healthcare. Kathy McCarthy reported Disability Outreach Subcommittee continues meeting bi-monthly. Jim Pimental reported that the Labor Outreach Subcommittee announced Brian Dunn as new Co-Chair and emphasized Democrats must center messaging on economic populism.



The Chair announced resignations from Nikita Burns and Mavis Fahey, which were accepted. The Chair announced vacancies created by two members obtaining 20-year status. Dates for letters of intent will be announced following the September convention.

Steve Grosso presented a resolution to endorse Massachusetts House Resolution 2554, which would repeal the religious exemption for school vaccination requirements. The Chair noted the resolution must be submitted to the Resolutions Committee per State Committee rules.

Bill Galvin thanked the Committee for perseverance. Bill Bowles requested the Chair visit central Massachusetts. The Chair accepted the invitation.

There was a motion and vote to adjourn, which passed. The Massachusetts Democratic State Committee meeting was adjourned.