

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
JANUARY 15, 2015**

Present: Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Gayle Carroll, Eric Carroll, David Eldredge, Peter Hughes, Dean Knight, Arthur Palleschi and Pat Switchenko.

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Minutes** – The minutes, which were previously e-mailed, were distributed for review. Dean Knight made a motion to approve the minutes of November 20, 2014, which was seconded by Jan Bowers. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3) **Treasurer’s Report** – None.
- 4) **Executive Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Secretary** – Pat Switchenko distributed the 2015 Membership List and calendar and asked for the HRTC to review and notify her of changes and/or additions.
- 5) **Sub-Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Membership** – The HRTC currently has 31 Regular Members, so there are 4 vacancies that can be filled to attain the full size of 35 Regular Members. As the only Associate Member, Alice Miller should be asked if she is interested in becoming a Regular Member. It was noted that she was not interested. The names of Lou Urbano, Sally Urbano (after she makes a registration change) and Leo Cakounes were mentioned as potential candidates. The HRTC would also like to increase the number of Associate Members to about 10. The membership issue will be further discussed at the February meeting.
- 6) **Old Business:**
 - a. **HRTC Web Site** – Chairman Hughes said that he, Eric Carroll and Pat Switchenko met as a sub-committee a few weeks ago to discuss the HRTC web site, using Eric’s analysis and ranking of many other RTCs in Massachusetts. Focusing on a few highly-ranked sites, they outlined a design of the new site. After the meeting, Chairman Hughes approached Jeremy Gingras, Executive Director of the Harwich Chamber of Commerce, for his assistance in developing the web site. He shared his results and the sub-committee was pleased with the outcome. Eric will have a second meeting with Jeremy to get more information on maintaining and updating the site. Pat Switchenko offered to send the URL link to the HRTC, which is provided below.
<http://www.harwichgop.com>
Gayle Carroll shared that Facebook is now integrated with the web site. Dean Knight suggested that we designate photographers at upcoming events to get current photos for the web site. Eric is also working with Rick Gleason so that Eric can be the administrator of

the domain. Eric also suggested that we have a generic “info” e-mail address to replace Chairman Hughes’ person e-mail. After Eric meets with Jeremy again, the sub-committee will reconvene and a demonstration will be provided at the next HRTC meeting in February. We will plan to have a picture taken then of the HRTC, and Dick Bowers was asked to bring his Charlie Baker sign.

7) New Business:

a. Vice Chair – Chairman Hughes applauded Eric Carroll’s previously-expressed interest in serving as Vice Chair. He also asked if anyone else was interested in this position, and no one else expressed an interest. Pat Switchenko made a motion to nominate Eric Carroll as Vice Chair of the HRTC which was seconded by Dick Bowers. When Chair Hughes asked if there was any discussion, Eric received many accolades. All then voted in favor.

b. Plan for 2015 – Chairman Hughes suggested that 2015 would be the time to raise more money. He had a conversation with Fran Meany and they discussed a Lower Cape joint effort to invite Karen Polito or even Charlie Baker to speak as a fundraiser. Dean Knight thought that someone could address the state of the budget.

8) Political Updates:

a. What’s in the News – John Chapman has been named to the administration of Governor Charlie Baker. He is the undersecretary for consumer affairs and business regulations under the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development.

b. Local Update – Chairman Hughes announced that Ed McManus must resign as Selectman effective May 18th. In November he was elected as the town’s representative to the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates and was recently sworn in to serve as a county legislator. In last May’s annual town meeting, voters approved a charter amendment prohibiting selectman from serving on other elected regional, county or commonwealth agencies. So there will be a one-year unexpired term on the ballot. There will also be a three-year selectman’s seat on the ballot. Larry Ballentine’s term expires and his intentions were not known. The last day to obtain nomination papers is Friday, March 27th, and they must be submitted by Tuesday, March 31st. Chairman Hughes encouraged the members to consider running or urge other potential candidates to run.

c. Other Updates – The next state committee meeting will be on January 27th, where a new chair will be elected. Also, we can nominate a Republican of the Year on Cape Cod, and nominations should be sent to Dean Knight. The Cape Cod Republican Club will hold its annual meeting on May 15th. There will be a Wastewater Workshop for the county on February 25 – 26th.

- 9) Next Meeting** – Dean Knight made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Jan Bowers, at 8:05 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 19th, 2015 at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Pat Switchenko, Secretary
Harwich Republican Town Committee**