

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
JULY 16, 2015**

Present: David Bassett, Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Gail Carroll, Eric Carroll, Dorothy Hemmings-Bassett, Dean Knight, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Pat Switchenko, Lou Urbano and Sally Urbano.

Guests: Fran Manzelli – President, Cape Cod Republican Club; Mike and Elizabeth Kelsey – Brewster.

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed guests Fran Manzelli as well as Elizabeth and Mike Kelsey.
- 2) **Minutes** – The minutes were previously e-mailed and distributed for review. Eric Carroll made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18, 2015, which was seconded by Jan Bowers. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3) **Treasurer’s Report** – None. However, Chairman Hughes made the comment that we do need to build up the account and asked that members consider making voluntary annual donations if they have not yet done so. The suggested amount is \$20.
- 4) **Sub-Committee Reports** - None
- 5) **Old Business:**
 - a. **HRTC Web Site** – Eric Carroll reiterated from the last meeting that the members should review the Sandwich RTC web site to get ideas for the HRTC site. Fran Manzelli complimented Eric’s efforts by stating it was an outstanding web site, with which Just Crocker had previously agreed. In response to a question, Eric said that Word Press was being used for the site.
 - b. **Chatham 4th of July Parade** – A few HRTC members attended the parade. It was agreed it was a successful event with over 25,000 people in attendance. Leo Cakounes provided a nicely decorated trolley. Photos were taken which will be posted on our Face Book site.
- 6) **New Business:**
 - a. **Lower Cape Fundraiser** – In a recent meeting with other RTCs, Chairman Hughes shared it was tentatively agreed to schedule a fundraiser on Sunday, September 20th from 4:30 – 6:30 PM. The Lower Cape RTCs include Eastham, Orleans, Harwich, Chatham and Brewster. The Elks Club in Eastham was proposed as a site. It was suggested that

indoor accommodations be considered since it might be cool for an outdoor event. Other venues under consideration are the Bowling Alley and Jailhouse Restaurant, both in Orleans. Ideally, they are looking for participation of a couple hundred attendees.

b. First Debate on August 6th – The first Republican debate for presidential candidates is Thursday, August 6th at 9 PM. If anyone is interested in viewing as a group, contact Linda Hughes. The Red Nun in Dennisport was offered as a suggestion for a viewing site.

c. Albro House – Thanks to Lou and Sally Urbano, the Albro House (next to the Harwich Town Hall) is being repainted with historic colors. Chairman Hughes expressed pride in their accomplishment, which included getting permission from the town, raising funds and engaging the assistance of volunteers. Lou Urbano was pleased with the many people who have stopped by to thank them for their efforts. Lou explained that the project serves to bring Harwich together. They also have plans to renovate the West Harwich School House. He asked that members check out Captains' Row or Historic Harwich on Face Book. Anyone making donations should make them to the "Town of Harwich".

After some discussion, Jan Bowers made a motion to contribute \$100 to the Town of Harwich for the purpose of renovating the Albro House. It was seconded by Dot Hemmings-Bassett and approved by all.

d. First Crush Winery Fundraiser – Per Dick Bowers, the fundraiser might be scheduled in the November time frame.

e. Mock 2016 Presidential Primary – Chairman Hughes led the group in making selections for their top choices in the 2016 Presidential Republican Primary. Pat had created a ballot of all declared Republican candidates. First, the members were asked to check off their top 10 choices. Eliminating those candidates who were not selected by anyone narrowed the list down. Then the members were asked to identify their top five choices and a tally was taken. The resulting top choices were (in order): Scott Walker, Marco Rubio, Carly Fiorina and Jeb Bush. There was a three-way tie for fifth place: Ben Carson, Ted Cruz and Bobby Jindal. Chairman Hughes asked Pat to create a new ballot including these candidates (in addition to John Kasich – who has not yet declared his candidacy) for further discussion at the next meeting. If there are any other names to include, please email Pat. At the next meeting, members will have the opportunity to make brief comments on their candidate of choice.

7) Political Update:

- a. **Local Update** – Fran Manzelli reminded the members that we could pick up nominations papers at Town Hall on August 3rd for the Harwich RTC. Everyone needs to sign the paperwork. Eric offered to pick up papers and find out when the signatures are due. Fran also announced that the Massachusetts Republican State Committee rejected Common Core Federal Education Standards. Additionally, he encourages the membership to attend the Barnstable Republican Town Committee 4th Annual Summer BBQ on Sunday, August 9th. It will be hosted by Bill and Ruth Ann Carey in Osterville.

- 8) Next Meeting** – Dean Knight made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Jan and approved by all. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20th 16th at 7 PM.

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