

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 19, 2015**

Present: Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Gayle Carroll, Eric Carroll, David Eldredge, Jeff Hadley, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Dolly Parkhurst, Judith Sullivan, Pat Switchenko and Sally Urbano

Guests: Mike and Beth Kelsey, David Gould, Fran Manzelli and Anthony Schiavi

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed guests Mike and Beth Kelsey, David Gould, Fran Manzelli and Anthony Schiavi.
- 2) **Anthony Schiavi** – Chairman Hughes introduced Tony Schiavi, a resident of Harwich, who recently announced his candidacy for the Cape & Islands State Senate seat to replace Dan Wolf. Tony thanked the RTC for extending an invitation to him. He explained that he retired from the military in 2013 where he had served as the Commanding Office at Otis and served more than three decades in the U. S Air Force and Massachusetts Air National Guard. He currently is the town manager and police commissioner of Ashland, MA, where he plans to resign in January. Equipped with military and government experience, Tony said he offers executive level leadership, commitment, dedication and passion. He is a problem solver who can propose innovative solutions. He looks forward to working with the Harwich RTC and invited all to his Campaign Kickoff on 12/9 at the Yarmouth House.
- 3) **Minutes** – The minutes were previously e-mailed and distributed for review by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Linda Hughes made a motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2015, which was seconded by Jan Bowers. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 4) **Old Business:**
 - a. **Web Site and Face Book** – Chairman Hughes suggested that pictures of Tony Schiavi addressing our RTC be posted. Gayle Carroll offered to add his Campaign Kickoff Flyer as well.
 - b. **Collection of HRTC for the Ballot** – Eric Carroll announced that he and Dick Bowers collected 33 signatures for the ballot, which provides an opportunity for two write-in candidates. This activity is done every four years.
 - c. **Ballot to End Common Core** – Eric is a team captain in the efforts to end Common Core. The deadline for signatures has passed and 120,000 signatures are needed statewide.

5) New Business:

- a. **Harwich Voter Registration Packet** – Chairman Hughes said the Mass GOP sent us a list of about 560 unregistered Harwich residents who are “leaning” Republican. We have an opportunity to contact them, by mail or phone, to provide them with Registration Forms and encourage them to register as Republicans. This will be discussed at our next meeting. Pat Switchenko will send out the list electronically by then so everyone can review the names.
- b. **Debates** – When asked for feedback on the debates, Jeff Hadley shared that he had been following all of the debates and felt there was no reason the Republican Party should not win. This sentiment was felt by many and it was agreed we all need to get the word out.
- c. **Mock 2016 Presidential Primary** – Chairman Hughes led the group in three rounds of voting. When asked to vote for four choices, the committee’s top choices were (in order): Rubio, Trump, Fiorina, Cruz and Christie. In round two, the RTC was asked to vote for two of these top five. The dominant candidates were Rubio and Fiorina. In the final round, everyone was asked to choose between Rubio and Fiorina, and Rubio won unanimously.
- d. **Cape Cod Republican Annual Holiday Party** – The party is Sunday, December 13th and Fran Manzelli handed out invitations. Peter and Linda Hughes will be contributing a wine basket.
- e. **Cape Cod Cares for the Troops** – Beth Kelsey discussed the need for the Christmas Care Packages. As a result, Dick Bowers made a motion to make a \$100 donation to this organization. It was seconded by Gayle Carroll and approved by all.

6) Political Updates – Updates were made about local seats that were open. Fran Manzelli shared information on the State Committee and the resolution condemning Illegal Immigration.

7) Next Meeting – It was agreed by all attendees that the December meeting could be cancelled. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st at 7 PM.

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