

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
MAY 21, 2015**

Present: Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Leo Cakounes, Gayle Carroll, Eric Carroll, Jeff Hadley, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Dolly Parkhurst, Mary Ann Pina, Pat Switchenko, Lou Urbano, Sally Urbano, Deborah Waugh and Robert Waugh.

Guests: Fran Manzelli, President – Cape Cod Republican Club

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed Fran Manzelli, President – Cape Cod Republican Club.
- 2) **Opening Comments** – Chairman Hughes announced that as a result of our recent election, we have two new Selectmen. He also congratulated Dick Bowers for being elected Cape Cod Republican of the Year. This award was presented to Dick at the Annual Meeting of the Cape Cod Republican Club.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** - Mary Ann Pina reported that there was a beginning balance of \$1,301.31. With \$.05 earned in interest and \$300 payment for the web design, the ending balance is \$1,001.36. Dick Bowers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Deborah Waugh. There was discussion about the reported interest (Mary Ann stated \$5, when she meant to report \$.05) which she corrected and the report was approved unanimously.
- 4) **Minutes** – The minutes, which were previously e-mailed, were distributed for review. Eric Carroll made a motion to approve the minutes of April 16, 2015, which was seconded by Linda Hughes. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 5) **Sub-Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Fundraising Committee** – Dick Bowers said First Crush Winery was ready to pick a date for our fundraiser; perhaps in the Fall. Chairman Hughes has not heard from Fran Meany lately on a potential fundraiser with Charlie Baker.

Gayle Carroll mentioned she and Eric spoke to someone from the Sandwich RTC who had a successful yard sale as a fundraiser. Leo Cakounes pointed out it was a good idea but a lot of work, and you had to deal with the unsold items. He suggested that we consider a plant sale in collaboration with a nursery which could raise significant funds.

Leo also offered Cranberry Bog tours which he has done for other fundraisers. He requires about 50-55 people, who will pay \$15 each, and he will split it 50-50. The Harwich RTC would just need to decide the time and date. At Chairman Hughes' suggestion, Leo confirmed they could plan a cocktail party after the tour.

b. Membership – Since we had a few regular member switch to associate member status, Chairman Hughes encouraged the members to bring other people to future meetings to fill the vacancies.(Note: We have 29 regular members, so we can add 6 new members for a maximum of 35. We also have 6 associate members).

6) Old Business:

a. HRTC Web Site – Eric was seeking feedback on the web site and members agreed it looked good. He suggested that Leo could use the web site for any statements or notifications he wished to share. Pat reminded the committee that in the last meeting we discussed giving Jeremy Gingras additional money to compensate for his extra time and support. Gayle made a motion to offer Jeremy Gingras \$150 for Website Enhancements and Maintenance, which was seconded by Dick and approved by all. Pat agreed to secure an invoice from Jeremy.

7) New Business:

a. Town Elections – The two new selectman are Jannell Brown (3 year term) and Michael MacAskill (1 year term).

b. Town Meeting – Jan Bowers asked about time limits for speakers, which should be 10 minutes. Lou Urbano also suggested that the position of each item should be random and pulled out of a hat.

c. Updates from Fran Manzelli – Fran discussed the 2016 Convention in Cleveland and distributed the debate schedule. He reminded the members that 3 million people did not vote for Romney, so it's critical for the Republicans to stand together. We want to win. With respect to debates, he suggested that the HRTC and CCRC get together to watch the 1st debate on 8/15 at a local hotel for \$5/per person. He also said they were offering two teen-age awards to students working for the Republican Party. Fran would bring the winners to the State House. He congratulated Dick Bowers again for his Republican of the Year Award. He has applications available for anyone who wishes to join the CCRC.

d. Polls – Chairman Hughes commenced discussion on which candidates the membership was favoring. Members shared their preferences and what they were seeking in a President. The results of the live poll were Marco Rubio placing first, followed closely by Scott Walker. This was similar to our written poll tabulated by Pat which was taken last month. There was also discussion on issues of concern. Lou Urbano brought up it was important to consider which issues were significant to Independents. Chairman Hughes suggested we have discussions like this every month.

8) Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 18th at 7 PM. Since Chairman Hughes will not be in attendance, Eric agreed to run the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

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