

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
JANUARY 19, 2017**

Present: Jan Bowers, Gayle Carroll, Eric Carroll, David Eldredge, Jeff Hadley, Beth Kelsey, Mike Kelsey, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Mary Ann Pina, Pat Switchenko, Lou Urbano, Sally Urbano, Bob Waugh and Deborah Waugh

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Minutes** – The minutes were previously e-mailed and then distributed by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Deborah Waugh made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2016, which was seconded by Linda Hughes. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Mary Ann Pina reported that we received \$1,555 from our event at First Crush Winery, and expenses totaled \$240. The ending balance is \$1,620.71. Pat made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Gayle Carroll seconded it. There was no discussion and the report was accepted by all.
- 4) **Old Business:**
 - a. **Web Site/Face Book** – Gayle Carroll has posted a new photo on Face Book.
- 5) **New Business:**
 - a. **Confirmation Hearing** – Chairman Hughes led a discussion with members regarding the on-going Trump cabinet confirmation hearings.
 - b. **Suggested Donations** – Chairman Hughes reminded the members that this is the time of year to consider a suggested donation; i.e., \$20 per person and \$35 per couple.
 - c. **HRTC Banner** – Eric Carroll volunteered to investigate the creation of a HRTC banner. Pat offered to assist and Chairman Hughes suggested he look at other RTC banners for ideas.
 - d. **Harwich Town Committee Volunteer Recruitment Fair** – This event will take place on Saturday, January 28th (10 AM – noon) at the Harwich Community Center. It gives attendees an opportunity to meet town committee representatives and learn more about committee service and how it contributes to the success of our town.

6) Local and Political Updates:

- * **May Elections** – Chairman Hughes and Angelo LaMantia will not be running for re-election for the Harwich Board of Selectmen. This is the time for people to think about potential candidates. There are other local positions that are also open.

- * **Wastewater** – This will be a big topic at the next Town Meeting. Chairman Hughes will bring the Wastewater Handbook to the next HRTC meeting. Funding in the \$32-\$34M range will be needed for Pleasant Bay watershed. Harwich is working with Chatham which has excess capacity to see if it can be utilized. Jeff Hadley raised his concerns with sewers which might make living in Harwich cost-prohibitive, particularly for young people. He suggested a step-by-step approach versus a comprehensive plan. Chairman Hughes pointed out that there is a problem with the nitrogen level, and the handbook would provide additional information.

- * **Saquatucket Harbor** – Harwich previously voted for renovation of this harbor. The Corp of Engineers wants to do more study & evaluation. Harwich wants to extend docks, but they extend into federal territory.

- * **Harwich Fire Station 2** – The town is looking into renovating and expanding this station.

- * **Cape Cod Tech** - Beth Kelsey asked about the status of Cape Cod Tech. Chairman Hughes said they were hiring a consultant to review options. There will be a vote in October and about 40% of the expense would be covered by the state.

- * **Next Meeting** – The meeting ended with Chairman Hughes pointing out that this is an off- year for elections so we should be focused on increasing membership and coffers. The meeting concluded at 7:40 PM and the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16th at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Switchenko, Secretary
Harwich Republican Town Committee