

MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 17, 2016

Present: Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Gayle Carroll, Eric Carroll, Jeff Hadley, Beth Kelsey, Mike Kelsey, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Dean Knight, Tony Schiavi, Debe Schiavi, Pat Switchenko, Lou Urbano and Sally Urbano

Guests: Linda Bond, Rick Gleason

- 1) **Call To Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Minutes** – The minutes were previously e-mailed and then distributed by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Tony Schiavi made a motion to approve the minutes of October 20, 2016, which was seconded by Linda Hughes. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** – None.
- 4) **Old Business:**
 - a. **Web Site/Face Book** – Gayle Carroll has been busy updating Facebook with celebratory messages about the election and events, such as the Cape Cod Republican Christmas party on December 11th. She also mentioned an event planned in Orleans on Saturday, November 19th – a demonstration for peace.
 - b. **Fundraiser on 10/29 at First Crush Winery** – Although there were no official numbers, it was estimated we made a profit between \$1500 - \$1600 from the fundraiser. This was a very successful event and we were able to add significantly to our coffers.
- 5) **New Business:**
 - a. **Elections Discussion (National Level)** – Members shared stories and reactions to the national results. Overall, everyone was very pleased, if not surprised. In Harwich, turn-out was an impressive 85%.
 - b. **Election Discussion (Local Level)** – Chairman Hughes led the discussion by saying how proud he was of the candidates, which was followed by applause.
 - Tony Schiavi thanked the Harwich RTC and volunteers for their support – both financially and time in stand-outs. He explained he ran a traditional, grass roots campaign. In his analysis after the election, he recognized that his competitor rolled out a political machine of consultants from off-Cape and even out of state. The Democrats had a modern, high-tech campaign and seemed to have more data available to them than the Republicans. Tony was planning to share his feedback with the State party. He referred to the early voting which compressed the campaign cycle. Although Tony was disappointed, he was proud. He also thanked Linda Bond and Rick Gleason, who supported Tony, while they were running their own campaign. Chairman Hughes also recognized Debe Schiavi for her

tremendous and on-going support.

- Linda Bond similarly thanked the Harwich RTC, where she began her campaign. Through the process, she both changed and grew as a person, and was appreciative when people recognized her. As a former skater, she learned how to accept failure. She also thanked Dean for putting up her sign. Rick Gleason was also recognized for his support. Linda is taking signs back and asked members to collect any she missed and let her know.

The discussion concluded with Mike Kelsey's words of encouragement followed by another round of applause.

6) Political Updates:

* Eric Carroll mentioned that some colleges and universities are petitioning to be granted the same status as sanctuary cities. He also shared the extent of how much federal funding these schools were receiving.

* Chairman Hughes advised the RTC to pay attention to two issues. 1) There is a need to renovate Cape Cod Tech for about \$160M, a cost which may be shared among 12 towns. 2) Also, Harwich is in negotiations to send sewage from East Harwich to Chatham.

* The CCRC Christmas party is scheduled on 12/11 at 5 PM (cocktails) and 6 PM (dinner) at the Double Tree (\$35 each). Contact Beth Kelsey for more information.

* There was discussion on donations being down for Cape Cod Cares for its Troops. Gayle Carroll made a motion to donate \$300 to Cape Cod Cares for its Troops, which was seconded by Lou Urbano. There was no further discussion and it was approved by all.

7) Next Meeting – The meeting concluded at 8:05 PM . The December meeting, which was scheduled for December 15th, was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19th at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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