

**MINUTES  
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE  
APRIL 18, 2019**

**Present:** Jan Bowers, Dick Bowers, Eric Carroll, Gayle Carroll, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Beth Kelsey, Mike Kelsey, Pat Switchenko, Lou Urbano, Deborah Waugh and Robert Waugh.

**Guests:** Maureen Healey, Tom Sherry, Maria Alex and Chris Alex

- 1) **Call to Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) **Minutes** – Minutes had previously been issued to the committee for the meeting on March 21, 2019 by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Linda Hughes made a motion to accept the March minutes which was seconded by Deborah Waugh. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved by all

3) **Treasurer's Report** – None.

4) **Old Business:**

- a) **Harwich Voter Database and Letter** – Pat Switchenko issued a letter about Town Meeting to the Harwich Voter Database, which now includes 223 email addresses. The letter, created by Sally Urbano, Lou Urbano and Peter Hughes, listed a few issues that will impact tax payers and provided a pie chart showing the town's proposal for spending tax dollars. It included the link to access the Town Meeting Warrant. Pat encouraged the committee to provide any other email addresses that should be added to the database. She will also work with Sally to utilize MailChimp, which would allow us to send one email to the entire data base. Currently, each email sent is limited to a maximum of 100 addresses so multiple emails are required.

Chairman Hughes referred to Article 51 in the Town Meeting Warrant: "Refrain from Using Town Funds/Resources to Enforce Federal Immigration Laws". Essentially, if Article 51 passes, it would limit what the police force could do, and Harwich would function as a sanctuary city. It was suggested that another letter, which emphasizes the significance of Article 51, be issued to the Harwich Voter Database. Chairman Hughes also encouraged the RTC to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> (if needed) evenings of Town Meeting, if Article 51 is voted upon at a later meeting.

- b) **Website and Facebook** –Gayle Carroll shared the updates that she has posted on Facebook.

5) **New Business:**

- a) **Joint Candidates Forum** - Chairman Hughes was approached by Ray Gottwald, of the Harwich Democratic Town Committee, to co-sponsor a joint Candidates Forum, to which he agreed. It will be held on Saturday, May 4th at 10:00 a.m. at the South Harwich Meeting House on Chatham Road. It will provide a great opportunity to further discuss Article 51.
- b) **Annual CCRC Meeting** – The annual CCRC meeting will be Sunday, June 2nd at 1 PM at the Riverway. Governor Baker will be the guest speaker and James Lyons, the new State Party Chair, is expected to attend. The meeting will include the election of officers. From Harwich, both Chairman Hughes and Pat Switchenko will be on the ballot, for the Vice President and Treasurer positions, respectively. Chairman Hughes is also co-chair of the scholarship committee, which will be giving out five scholarships to high school seniors on Cape Cod. Thirty-two applications were submitted.
- c) **Fundraiser** – Chairman Hughes will speak to Frank Puzio about a fundraiser at First Crush Winery in the Fall. He was looking for volunteers to take on the responsibility.
- d) **Yard Sale** – The Linda & Gayle's Yard Sale is expected to take place in August, although the exact date may not be known until July. Lou Urbano has a new trailer available for picking up items. There is also a Yard Sale in Brewster on May 4th as part of the "Brewster in Bloom" event.
- e) **Board of Registrars** - Susan Mills' position on the Harwich Board of Registrars expires on June 30, 2019. Chairman Hughes is required to provide three names from the Harwich RTC as potential candidates to fill this position. He contacted Dot Hemmings-Bassett about the opportunity, and she expressed her interest.

Pat Switchenko and Gayle Carroll agreed to be listed as the other two candidates. Chairman Hughes will draft a letter which Pat will put on our stationary.

**6) Political Updates:**

- \* Chairman Hughes provided updates on the local elections which was followed by discussion on national political news.
- \* Eric Carroll reminded the team about Operation Flags for Veterans on May 25th at 10 AM at Bourne National Cemetery. Last year, 72,000 flags were placed on the graves.
- \* Beth Kelsey reminded the group about the upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Troops in the Spotlight on Memorial Day weekend (May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>). Donations support the packages that go to the troops, which includes \$18 per box (for about 2000 boxes) for shipping.
- \* The CCRC is seeking nominations for Republican of the Year to be awarded at the Annual Meeting. Please provide suggestions to Fran Manzelli.
- \* Tom Sherry shared that there will be a Voters Information Meeting on Monday, April 2nd at 9 AM in Town Hall.
- \* Gayle Carroll mentioned that there was a Women's Breakfast held every month at the Harwich Community Center. In the past, the attendees discussed town issues and she thought this would be a good opportunity for our committee to provide representation and to share our view points on the issues.

**Next Meeting** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7 PM.

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