

**MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 21st, 2019**

Present: Eric Carroll, Gayle Carroll, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Beth Kelsey, Mike Kelsey, Mary Ann Pina, Pat Switchenko, Deborah Waugh and Robert Waugh.

Guests: Nancy von der Heyde

- 1) **Call to Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Hughes welcomed our guest: Nancy von der Heyde. Nancy shared that she was a retired teacher from Chatham and had been involved with Scott Brown's campaign.
- 2) **Minutes** – Minutes had previously been issued to the committee for the meeting on October 17th, 2019 by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Eric Carroll made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Deborah Waugh. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved by all.
- 3) **Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Mary Ann Pina reported that the current balance is \$2609.10. Pat Switchenko made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, which was seconded by Gayle Carroll and approved by all.

The net proceeds (after costs) generated from First Crush Winery were \$815. In addition, there was \$85 collected not yet deposited bringing the fundraiser total to \$900.

Previously \$530 was deposited from Linda and Gayle's yard sale which they agreed to donate to the HRTC.

Mary Ann asked if the money from the yard sale would be used for the scholarships. Gayle Carroll made a motion to use \$100 from the Yard Sale to add to the fundraiser proceeds of \$900 for the scholarship (s). The motion was seconded by Pat Switchenko and approved by all. Therefore, there is \$1,000 available to use for the high school scholarship(s). The decision whether the HRTC will manage the scholarship process themselves will be made at a later date.

It was agreed that Tim Whelan did a great job as our guest speaker at the fundraiser and the food was plentiful. In the future we need to increase our efforts to get more people to attend.

4) Old Business:

- a) **Harwich Voter Database** – Pat Switchenko reported that our database of email addresses is now 560 people. In her last email, she offered the recipients an opportunity to opt out of future emails. About 37 requested to be removed from our database. The latest mailing was the transcript of the Trump call with the President of Ukraine. Chairman Hughes has two more mailings that he will send to Pat for distribution.
- b) **Website and Facebook** – Gayle Carroll continues to keep Facebook updated. She recommended that the members view the video about Trump over the years. When Pat asked about posting the 2019 minutes to the website, Chairman Hughes suggested that Jeremy Gingras be contacted to do this for us.
- c) **Nomination Papers** – Chairman Hughes announced that we secured 30 signatures for our HRTC ballot for the March 3rd, 2020 primary. The receipt for the nomination papers from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was dated November 13, 2019. We are allowed up to 35 members. We will schedule our Organizational Meeting to vote in the

new members after the primary.

5) New Business:

- a) **Postcard Campaign** – At the fundraiser, Tim Whelan encouraged a postcard campaign by Republicans to inform politicians if they support or oppose legislation. Beth Kelsey handed out information from a CCWRC newsletter which identified bills they were working on as well as the legislation sponsors. Pat agreed to issue the topics and narratives to the membership. Beth also issued postcard to the membership asking for their help in writing postcards. It was noted that emails are often ignored, and postcards are more effective. Chairman Hughes said this will be an ongoing effort that we will organize and improve each month. To get started we need more postcards. Deborah Waugh made a motion to authorize the purchase of 800 postcards from Amazon for a total of \$50. The motion was seconded by Gayle Carroll and approved by all.

6) Political Updates:

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- The Harwich Town Administrator Christopher Clark is on a long-term leave of absence and will not seek reappointment when his contract expires in June 2020. Assistant Town Administrator Joseph Powers was appointed to serve as a temporary Town Administrator. A search committee is being formed to find candidates. Leo Cakounes has been identified as a possible candidate.
- There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new fire station in East Harwich.
- Not many comments were made about the recent debate with the Democratic candidates for President.
- Fran Manzelli will be running against Adam Lange for the position of Republican State Committeeman for the Cape and Islands. His counterpart, Judy Crocker, faces competition from Andrea St. Germain. Although we can not support the candidates as a committee, we can each provide our support individually.
- Beth will send Pat an absentee ballot to distribute to the team.
- Beth Kelsey said Helga Dyer was very successful with her efforts to merge the two elementary schools in Brewster. As a result of her efforts, the town will pay for a feasibility study to take it to the next step.
- Beth also thanked those who contributed to Cape Cod Cares for the Troops for Operation Santa. The storage facility for the donations is Cape Cod Gun Works.
- There will not be a CCRC Christmas Party. Instead, there will be a New Year's luncheon on Saturday, January 11th at Old Yarmouth Inn. Details to follow.

Next Meeting – The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM. The December meeting is cancelled due to the holidays and next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, January 16th, 2020 at 7 PM.

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