

MINUTES
HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 17th, 2020 @ 5 PM
BROOKS PARK, HARWICH

Present: Bob Braman, Eric Carroll, Gayle Carroll, Judy Crocker, David Eldredge, Dorothy Hemmings-Bassett, Linda Hughes, Peter Hughes, Beth Kelsey, Michael Kelsey, Mary Ann Pina, Pat Switchenko and Pete Switchenko.

Guests: Toni Lyn, Phil Chiampa, Dolores Sherry, John Babyak, Nancy Babyak, Adam Lange, Maria Alex, Helen Brady, and Michele Gallucci.

1) Call to Order – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Hughes welcomed our guests. David Danish, Chair - Brewster Republican Town Committee was originally our first guest speaker. He was not present since he was recovering from surgery and Chairman Hughes wished him well.

2) Adam Lange, Director of Special Events - Adam explained how he was engaging both grassroots efforts in the election of Trump, as well as the Mass GOP infrastructure down to the RTC level. He has been actively promoting events which to date have included Brewster, Chatham, and Sandwich. He felt there was strength in numbers, and applauded Harwich's efforts in joining other RTCs in stand-outs. Chairman Hughes shared that our high-traffic stand-out location has been the intersection of Routes 137 and 39, as well as the Orleans rotary. Adam had signs available for purchase or even to borrow. Adam can be reached on adamlangegop@gmail.com.

3) Helen Brady, Candidate for the 9th Congressional District - Helen is running against Bill Keating and needs our help. She cannot do it by herself. She does not want to let him run unopposed and stated, "if we diffuse, we lose". As observed during WWII in Germany, she noted that things can rapidly change, and we all need to "be aware" and "be alert". Helen needs our assistance with stand-outs and has signs. Adam and Helen are working together on her campaign. Helen's website is www.giveemhelen.com.

4) Minutes – Minutes for the August 20th, 2020 meeting had previously been issued to the committee by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Pete Switchenko made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Eric Carroll. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved by all.

5) Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Mary Ann Pina reported that the opening balance was \$914.95. With a \$100 donation and interest of \$.11, the balance is now \$1014.99. Chairman Hughes reminded the committee that the suggested donation for Regular Members is \$20 per person and \$30 per couple. (In addition, the suggested donation for Associate Members is \$15 and Friends of the Committee is \$10.)

6) Old Business:

a) Database, Website and Facebook - Chairman Hughes requested that Lou Urbano send out the warrant prior to Town Meeting to the email addresses in our database. Gayle Carroll will add Helen Brady's information to Facebook.

7) New Business:

a) Election Results (Primary) - Kevin O'Connor is now the Republican candidate for the U S Senate in MA running against Ed Markey.

b) Town Meeting - Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 26th at 10 AM in the football field. The rain date is Sunday, September 27th at 1 PM. The quorum has been set at 100 voters. Chairman Hughes pointed out specific articles including the Single-Use Plastic Water Bottle Ban and the New Climate Policy Bylaw. David Eldredge also mentioned the Bylaw dealing with the preservation of historic areas.

c) QAnon - Pat Switchenko read information to the committee from a newspaper article which described QAnon as a conspiracy theory. Michele Gallucci shared additional information.

8) Political Updates:

- Judy Crocker provided the committee with election updates. She pointed out that mail-in ballots needed to be post-marked 5 PM on Election Day but they have five days to count the votes.
- In a recent trip to NH, Beth Kelsey observed that there were many Trump signs, but very few for Biden.
- Chairman Hughes announced we may be scheduling stand-outs within a couple of weeks.

Next Meeting –The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, October 15th, 2020. Time and location TBD. All members should give some consideration as to where and when the meeting should be held as the weather gets colder.

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