

**MINUTES**  
**HARWICH REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE**  
**DECEMBER 16th, 2021 @ 5 PM**  
**HARWICH FIRE STATION**

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

**Guest:** Scott Degnan

**1) Call to Order** – Chairman Peter Hughes called the meeting to order at 5 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked the members for attending a meeting so close to the Christmas holiday. He also welcomed guest Scott Degnan, who was originally from Westborough where he was a member of their RTC. He now resides in West Harwich. Scott found out information on our committee by following our Facebook posts. Chairman Hughes also shared that our past Chairman, Rick Gleason, had passed away.

**2) Minutes** – Minutes for the November 18th, 2021, meeting had previously been issued to the committee by Secretary Pat Switchenko. Deborah Waugh made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Pete Switchenko. There was no discussion, and the minutes were approved by all.

**3) Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Mary Ann Pina reported that the previous balance was \$947.56. There was a donation of \$35 and \$.02 in interest, resulting in the current balance of \$982.58. Pat Switchenko made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Linda Hughes. There was no discussion, and the report was approved by all.

**4) Membership Report** - Membership Chair Michele Gallucci, due to CODID, was not available to provide a report. Per Beth Kelsey, she and Michele were creating a list of people in Harwich to contact regarding a recruitment gathering. Previously First Crush Winery was suggested as a venue, and they were also looking at other locations. The event is expected to take place in the March/April time frame.

**5) Old Business:**

**a) Facebook and Website-** Chairman Hughes commended Gayle Carroll on her ongoing effort to keep both Facebook and the HRTC web site updated. Again, Scott Degnan attended our meeting after seeing our post on Facebook.

**6) New Business:**

**a) 2022 Scholarship Plans** - Chairman Hughes reviewed with the committee what the HRTC did in the past two years for high school scholarships. Last year's committee included Lou and Sally Urbano, Michele Gallucci and Dolores Sherry, none of whom were present. Chairman Hughes and Lou were planning something separate to secure donations. This effort not only benefits the students but provides the HRTC with good publicity.

**b) Political Donations** – State Representative for the 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstable District, Tim Whelan, is running for Barnstable County Sheriff. After some discussion, Pat Switchenko made a motion to donate \$100 to Tim Whelan's campaign. This was seconded by Gayle Carroll and approved by all.

Yarmouth Select Board Member Tracy Post is running for Tim Whelan's seat as State Representative in the 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstable District. Linda Hughes made a motion to donate \$100 to Tracy Post's campaign, which was seconded by Pat Switchenko and approved by all.

**c) Admired Politicians** - Each month, Chairman Hughes encourages members to identify politicians who we admire. He pointed out Carla Spaulding as a young, dynamic politician who ran for office and lost in the 23rd District in Florida. Both Kim Klacik and Jesse Brown were also mentioned. Some were hopeful that the new demographics in Jesse's territory would benefit him. There was also discussion on political activity and politicians in New Hampshire. Scott Degnan inquired about who would be running for Governor in Massachusetts now that Charlie Baker and Karen Polito were out. Geoff Diehl has declared his candidacy. It was also thought that Maura Healy and Shiva Ayyadurai might run.

## **7) Local Updates:**

- Chairman Hughes discussed the Harwich Cultural Center and the concern with upcoming maintenance work needed and how it would be funded. It was felt that the expenses for repairs should be covered by the rental income from the tenants renting space in the building.

- Chairman Hughes raised the issue whether we should consider future meetings via Zoom (or as a hybrid) to allow more people to attend. This will be discussed again at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting** - The meeting concluded at 5:45 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 20th, 2022, at 5 PM. We will be meeting at the Harwich Fire Station at 175 Sisson Road. Everyone is required to wear a mask.

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