



NDCC General Meeting Minutes

1 March 2018

I. Call to Order

- A. Chair Shawn Fitzgibbons called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m., at the Women's Workshop. Attendance: ~75.
- B. Executive Committee Attendance: **24**. Shawn Fitzgibbons, Sharon Stout, Holly Ryan, David Albright, Bryan Barash, Allan Cole, Audrey Cooper, Sen. Cindy Creem, Ruth Dain, Robert Fitzpatrick, Sue Fliegel, Carol Fulton, Paul Glickman, Bernie Goulding, Dmitriy Gridnev, Ted Gross, Jay Harney, Larissa Hordynsky, Martina Jackson, Ken Krems, Priscilla Leith, Joan McGrath, Emily Prenner, Frank Wolpe
- C. Member Attendance: ~40. City Councilor Susan Albright, Cory Alperstein, City Councilor Jake Auchincloss, David Backer, Larry Bressler, Carla Brigham, Lucas Brigham, Marjorie Butler, Sally Campbell, Kim Comar, Sandra Davidow, City Councilor Andreae Downs, Ellie Goldberg, City Councilor Rebecca Walker Grossman, Susan Kaplan, City Councilor Josh Krintzman, Elsa Lawrence, Tom Lawrence, Lisa Leroy, Patricia Loewy, Alice Machinist, Robin Maltz, Eugenia Marcus, Rosemarie Mullin, Jean Roper, Don Ross, Margie Ross-Decter, Amy Sangiolo, Sharon Sasanow, Lynn Scheller, Amy Silberstein, Carole Simon, Donna Sirutus, Gail Spector, Helene Stein, Elizabeth Stolar, John Tener, Nancy Tener, Toinette Ter Haar, Beth Waldorf, Catherine Willinger, Abby Wolpe
- D. Guests: **9**. John Businger (DSC, Brookline), Sec. of Commonwealth Bill Galvin, Perry Gershon (candidate for Congress NY-01), Sara Morris (Elizabeth Warren campaign), Quentin Palfrey (candidate for Lt. Gov.), Mel Poindexter (DSC, Watertown), Tina Poindexter (DSC, Watertown), Hannah Silverfine (Mass. Nurses Assoc.), Jimmy Tingle (candidate for Lt. Gov), Josh Zakim (Boston city council, candidate for Sec. of Commonwealth)

II. Minutes of the December 7, 2017 NDCC General Meeting

Motion: Frank Wolpe moved, Carol Fulton seconded the motion, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2017 general meeting as distributed. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

III. Reports of Officers and Ward and Standing Committees

A. Finance Committee (Sue Fliegel)

1. Revenues in February totaled \$135; expenses \$185.59, for a net of -50.59.
2. The balance is \$15,344.42 as of February 28.
3. Ward committees are encouraged to submit annual dues when they can.

B. State Committee Update (Sharon Stout)

1. Please let Sharon or Holly Ryan know if you know anyone interested in being an add-on delegate to the state convention. The application deadline is Friday, March 23, at 5 p.m. The state committee will vote on add-on delegates a week later.
2. Holly Ryan noted that over 100 people already had applied in the new LGBTQ add-on category.
3. The deadline for delegates to pay their convention fee is Friday, April 20. A \$25 late fee will be charged after that date. Financial aid is available if the fee is a hardship.

4. Over 5,000 delegates are expected for the convention in Worcester on June 1 and 2. The nominations in uncontested races will be Friday night, as will be the various parties. Contested races will be voted on Saturday.
5. The NDCC will put together another delegate training and social event, most likely in May.

C. Ward Committee Updates

- Ward 2: Meeting on Sun. 3/25 at 1 p.m.
- Ward 3: Meeting in March
- Ward 4: Meeting on Thu. 3/15 at 7 p.m.
- Ward 7: Meeting on Sun. 3/4
- Ward 8: Meeting on Sun. 3/18

D. National Report (Priscilla Leith)

- The Pennsylvania Supreme Court held that the state's Congressional districts are impermissibly gerrymandered in favor of Republicans. The court ordered new districts, which will give Democrats several pickup opportunities and is creating chaos for some incumbents.

IV. Announcements

1. Sen. Cindy Creem has just become the Senate Majority Leader. Congratulations!
2. The NDCC needs fundraising help, graphic design help, and an internship coordinator.
3. Ruth Dain is hosting (199 Harvard Cir., Newtonville) an event to collect nomination signatures for Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Joe Kennedy on Saturday, March 3.
4. There will be phonebanks at the Carpenters' Union in Auburndale (or call for home) for Conor Lamb, candidate for Congress (PA-18) leading up to the March 13 special election.
5. U-Chan is hosting an affordable housing event on Thu., March 8, 7 p.m., at the Eliot Church in Newton Corner.

V. New Business

A. NDCC Reorganization

1. The NDCC will elect its officers for the next two years in April. We are looking at either Sunday, April 22, or Sunday, April 29.
2. The proposal is to elect citywide officers first, as we expect few if any contested races, then the ward committees can elect their officers next.
3. Holly Ryan is not running for another term as Vice Chair. Holly said that she pledged only to serve two terms and has too many other activities to continue. As a member of the state committee, Holly will remain on the NDCC Executive Committee.
4. Martina Jackson said working with Holly is a pleasure and we all should be grateful for everything Holly does for the NDCC and the Democratic Party.

B. 2018 Nurse Staffing Levels Ballot Question (Hannah Silverfine, MNA)

1. Shawn Fitzgibbons noted that some members are opposed to the ballot question, so we will have a speaker from the opposing side at the June general meeting.
2. Hannah Silverfine of the Mass. Nurses Association said that Mass. is 6th from the bottom in the U.S. for hospital readmissions. Nurses say that understaffing makes it hard to spend as much time with patients as they would like.
3. In 2004 California passed a staffing initiative and has had good outcomes. In Massachusetts qualified nurses are leaving the state because the hospitals are not hiring enough.
4. Addressing nursing understaffing is in the Massachusetts Democratic Party's platform for 2017-21.
5. The proposed ballot question would require specific minimum staffing levels for hospital nurses, with the exact number varying by department.

VII. Adjournment

Motion: Sue Fliegel moved to adjourn, Frank Wolpe seconded the motion. Adjourned: 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert K. Fitzpatrick
Secretary, NDCC

The business meeting was followed by presentations by:

- Secretary of the Commonwealth Bill Galvin, candidate for reelection
- Boston City Councilor Josh Zakim, candidate for Secretary of the Commonwealth

- Quentin Palfrey, candidate for Lieutenant Governor
- Jimmy Tingle, candidate for Lieutenant Governor

- Perry Gerson, candidate for Congress in New York's 1st Congressional District (Long Island)