



NDCC General Meeting Minutes
6 December 2018

I. Call to Order

- A.** Chair Shawn Fitzgibbons called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., at the Women's Workshop.
Attendance: **33**.
- B.** Executive Committee Attendance: **21**. Shawn Fitzgibbons, Sharon Stout, Amy Sangiolo, David Albright, Bryan Barash, Claudia Bowman, Robert Fitzpatrick, Sue Fliegel, Carol Fulton, Dmitriy Gridnev, Larissa Hordynsky, Bill Humphrey, Martina Jackson, Barbara John, Joan McGrath, Emily Prenner, Gary Rucinski, Holly Ryan, Caroline Schwarzwaldner, Tim Snyder, Amy Xiao (H.S. Democrats, Newton South).
- Member Attendance: **11**. David Backer (Ward 2), Renee Blumsack (Ward 3), Larry Bressler (Ward 3), Marcia Cooper (Ward 5), Jane Frantz (Ward 5), Mark Hooker (Ward 5), Judith Myerson (Ward 6), Peter Myerson (Ward 6), Tamika Olszewski (Ward 4), Donna Sirutis (Ward 3), Helene Stein (Ward 8).
- Guests: **1**. Scott O'Neill (Chair, Waltham DCC).

II. Minutes of the September 6, 2018 General Meeting

Motion: Emily Prenner moved, Carol Fulton seconded the motion, to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2018, 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. The projected 2019 budget has \$10,300 in revenue and \$9,300 carrying over from 2018.
2. There are some small changes to the expense projections. We expect no more than we raise and carry \$9,000 to \$10,000 over into 2020. We started 2018 with \$15,000 carried over.

Motion: Barbara John moved, Carol Fulton seconded the motion, to approve the 2019 NDCC budget proposal. Motion passed, no votes against. Bryan Barash, Dmitriy Gridnev, and Holly Ryan abstained.

B. State Committee Update (Sharon Stout)

1. The state committee met in Newton in November. There will be upcoming training sessions with DSC members teaming with staff to help communities.
2. As was the case in 2015, the 2019 convention may be in the fall instead of June.

C. Ward Committee Updates

1. Ward 3 - The committee will meet on Thursday, Dec. 13.
2. Ward 5 - The committee met on Sunday, December 2.
3. Ward 6 - The holiday party will be pushed back to Saturday, Jan. 12, 4 p.m., at Shawn's house.

IV. Announcements

- JALSA is seeking public comment on a Trump plan to means-test the visa lottery.
- There will be an event honoring Rev. Howard Haywood on Sunday, Dec. 16, at Temple Shalom.

- One Revolution Newton and the Progressive Democrats of Massachusetts have sent a combined letter to Rep. Joe Kennedy asking him to oppose further funding for war in Yemen and to support the Green New Deal.
- City Council hearing on Monday, Dec. 10 on the city's climate action plan. Input wanted.

V. New Business

A. Honoring Peg Hannigan

1. Larissa Hordynsky and Donna Sirutis proposed naming the brunch after Peg Hannigan, who died earlier this year.
2. Discussion: Peg definitely should be honored, but there were others who worked with her to start the brunch tradition. We should consult them and identify an appropriate way to honor Peg.

Motion: As amended - Larissa Hordynsky moved, Donna Sirutis seconded the motion, to form a committee to explore the most suitable way to honor Peg Hannigan. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

Motion: Dmitriy Gridnev moved, Martina Jackson seconded the motion, that the NDCC congratulate Ward 6 member Ruth Shapiro on her 100th birthday today. Ruth was the oldest delegate to the June state convention. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

B. Joint Outreach with Waltham DCC (Scott O'Neill)

1. Scott was elected Waltham DCC chair earlier this year. He has tried to reach out to Waltham's large immigrant community, partnering with Progressive Waltham.
2. They have gone to festivals, increased outreach about WDCC events, held meetings in locations known to immigrant communities, collaborated with other organizations, and sponsored events like a story slam specifically about the immigrant experience.
3. Scott hopes to work with the NDCC and other local DCCs to create more regional collaboration and regional events. The 3rd Middlesex Area Dems, covering about 9 towns in a single state senate district, have been very successful with this. The Ward 3 committee has worked with Scott on this.

C. Yes on 3 Campaign Review (Holly Ryan)

1. Yes on 3, to keep civil rights protections for transgender people in place, won with almost 69% statewide. In Newton Yes received 83% thanks to the efforts of Emily Prenner and dozens of canvassers. The expected flood of out-of-state money for the "No" side never materialized.
2. Freedom MA, formed for the Yes on 3 campaign, has disbanded but the national organization still exists to keep an eye on other states.

D. Climate Change Update (Gary Rucinski)

1. Two recent reports show a dire situation. The UN report in October showed temperature rise to date is higher than projected a few years ago. Time is running out. We must reduce emissions to 55% of 2010 levels by 2030 to avert the worst. A US report on Nov. 27 also was sobering.
2. Members of Congress have proposed the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, which would impose a carbon tax and a rebate to households. More efficient households would come out ahead, creating an incentive to be efficient. 60% of households would come out ahead.

Motion: Gary Rucinski moved, Amy Sangiolo seconded the motion, that the NDCC issue a resolution urging our Congressional representatives to support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

E. Green New Deal and Newton Power Choice (Marcia Cooper)

1. A group met with Rep. Joe Kennedy to urge him to support the Green New Deal proposed by Rep.-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and 20 others. Key goals are to get 100% of power from renewable sources, create an efficient national power grid, and upgrade all buildings for efficiency.

2. Newton Power Choice will have 60% renewable energy (state minimum is 14%) with the option to upgrade to 100% renewable for a few dollars a month.

Motion: Bill Humphrey moved, Barbara John seconded the motion, that the NDCC issue a resolution urging Rep. Joe Kennedy to support the Green New Deal. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

F. Newton Teachers Contract (Jane Frantz)

1. The Newton Teachers Association contract expires in 2019. The teachers could use our support in ensuring they get a fair new contract.

G. NDCC Table Committee (Claudia Bowman)

1. Claudia proposed a committee to organize more efficiently, and present better, the NDCC's presence at various fairs and events like the 4th of July, village days, or Harvest Fair. Claudia is willing to chair it.

Motion: Claudia Bowman moved, Martina Jackson seconded the motion, that the NDCC establish a committee to organize our tent at outdoor fairs. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

H. 2019 Meeting Schedule (Shawn Fitzgibbons)

1. Shawn proposed a schedule for the NDCC's 2019 meetings. The Executive Committee would meet on the first Thursday of each month, except July, when the first Thursday is the 4th. The July meeting would be July 11. Once again, the March, June, September, and December meetings would be general membership meetings. All meetings at the Women's Workshop.

Motion: Helene Stein moved, Larry Bressler seconded the motion, that the NDCC adopt the 2019 meeting schedule as proposed. Motion passed, no votes against, no abstentions.

VI. Adjournment

Motion: Dmitriy Gridnev moved to adjourn, David Albright seconded the motion. Adjourned: 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert K. Fitzpatrick
Secretary, NDCC