

Preston Democratic Town Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Preston Town Hall: Conference Room

Attendance: Nick Vegliante, Annie Sabrowski, Sandra Allyn-Gauthier, Lynwood Crary, & Melissa Lennon

Absent: Deb Grabarek, Jerry Grabarek, Roberta Charpentier, Pauline Andruskiewicz

Excused: Joanne Eisenhardt, Sean Nugent, & Karen Stockton

Audience: Jill Charron, Andy Depta, Liz Duarte, Zack Maurice, Andy Nemeeth, Lydia Lavoie, & Andy Bilodeau, Leigh Pappas

1. Call to Order
 - a. Chair Nick Vegliante called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Minutes – tabled to the next meeting
3. Treasurer – no report
 - i. Need a to think about selecting a Deputy Treasurer to add cross-training for the role
4. Update from Town Officials
 - a. ROV
 - i. The Polling Committee recommended a change of location for the polling place to Preston Plains Middle School. There will be a Town Meeting on April 4, 2019 for approval
 - ii Cheryl Roberts was appointed as an assistant by the Republican Registrar
 - b. BOS
 - i. There will be a Town Meeting Thursday night to approve the Uncas Health District. At the Public Hearing last week, the Uncas Health District proposed changes to the requirements for food permits with small organizations in mind.
 - ii. The General Government budget has been submitted to the Board of Finance.
 - c. BOF
 - i. The Board has received bids for auditors and is in the process of reviewing the proposals.
 - ii. The Board will begin reviewing the FY20 General Government and Board of Education budgets this week with special meetings planned.

- d. BoE – no report given
- e. PRA – no report given
- f. P&Z – Business is as usual with one opening on P&Z for an alternate.
- g. Other – none

5. Old Business

- a. DTC Recruitment
 - i. Continue to recruit possible candidates
- b. CT VAN
 - i. Democratic National Committee created a database with the ability to make strategic lists to reach out to voters during campaigning; individual DTCs can have access to the database as well.
 - ii. Can customize the list by entering criteria to streamline your campaigning needs (ex. Can predict number of doors that need to be visited to increase odds of winning)
 - iii. Preston DTC has paid into the service.
- c. 2019 Municipal Elections
 - i. Intro guests: Zack Maurice (D), Andy Nemeeth (D), & Jill Charron (U)
 - ii. Preston DTC endorses a slate of candidates for elections in July
 - iii. Introduced Liz Duarte and explained her role in the 18th District
 - iv. Preston DTC does not foresee an issue endorsing an unaffiliated candidate
 - v. Members of the DTC who serve on boards gave an overview of what serving on their boards entail.
 - vi. Process was discussed - Candidate comes to party at caucus with intent to run, candidate is endorsed by a party, candidate then runs on ballot (may run in a contested or uncontested race – which will determine how to much campaigning is needed with heavy focus on First Selectman) Preston DTC will host events with meet & greets to make candidates visible.

- vii. Considering whether to run? As long as you have a goal of making decisions in the best interest of the Town, your immediate experience is not key.

d. Fundraisers

- i. Spring – Community Tag Sale on May 4th?
- ii. Summer – Get together at Nick’s house
- iii. Fall – fundraiser at Preston Farms Corn Maze with cow patty BINGO
- iv. Community Foundation offers mini-grants; PDTC can’t apply for the grant alone, but could if it was a community event to education residents on voting or the boards and commissions

e. Other Events

- i. Training in Newtown this weekend
- ii. Cinco de Mayo – jointly host an event with North Stonington DTC at the North Stonington Library from 3-5 p.m., which allows for beer & wine, to encourage Democrats to run for municipal positions.

6. New Business -none

7. Public Comment & Questions (per posted Town Ordinance)-none

8. Adjourn

Motion was made by Annie and seconded by Sandra Allyn-Gauthier to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. All in favor. Motion carries.

Upcoming Meeting – April 29, 2019