

**Minutes of the Woburn Democratic City Committee Meeting
September 12, 2020, 10AM, Meeting by Zoom**

Attendance: See Attached

Jennifer Jones, Chairperson, WDCC – opened meeting by asking everyone to sign in on the Google form posted in chat.

Meeting called to order: 10:05 A.M.

First order of business – adding new members to our Ward Committees. Meetings will be held in sequence and quickly. Ward Chairs should have a list of those being added and vote will be by acclamation as we have room for new members on all committees.

THIS MEETING IS BEING RECORDED

Ward 1 – Andrew Lipsett called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing new member Gary Glennon.

Call for nominations – Derrek Genova nominated Gary Glennon; Margaret Valentine seconded the nomination. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Gary Glennon added to Ward 1 Committee.

Ward 2 – June Mackenzie called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing new member Carla Beaudoin.

Call for nominations – Elise Mayers nominates Carla Beaudoin; Rai An Perrish seconded the nomination. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Carla Beaudoin added to the Ward 2 Committee.

Ward 3 – Carol Youngclaus called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing new members Tom Arsenault, Lindsay Pradieu, Pat Deal, Julie Cotton.

Call for nominations – Marcia Andrews nominates the slate; *(not visible on Zoom recording)* – nomination was audibly seconded. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Tom Arsenault, Lindsay Pradieu, Pat Deal, Julie Cotton are added to the Ward 3 Committee.

Ward 4 – Anthony Langone called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing new members Ramla Hagi, David Koffman, Emma Jones.

Call for nominations – Jennifer Jones moved to nominate the slate; ? seconded the nomination. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Ramla Hagi, David Koffman, Emma Jones added to the Ward 4 committee.

Ward 5 – Brad Amidon called the meeting to order for the purpose of electing new member Una McMahon.

Call for nominations – Deshea Harris and George Harris nominate Una McMahon; ? seconded the nomination. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Una McMahon added to the Ward 5 Committee.

Ward 6 – Patrice McCall waives a meeting.

Ward 7 – Lindsay Higgins called the meeting to order. Lindsay has recently been elected President of the Woburn City Council and has decided to step down from chairing the Ward 7 Committee. There are no nominations for new members. Lindsay would like to take nominations for a new chairperson of Ward 7.

Call for Nominations –Steve Hurley nominates Sue Coakley as the chair. Sue accepts the nomination. No additional nominations. Steve Hurley motions to elect Sue Coakley chairperson by acclamation; Kelley Hurly seconds the motion. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Sue Coakley is voted chairperson of Ward 7.

Sue Coakley takes over chair of the meeting. Lindsay raised a point of order that Sue is the current Treasurer of Ward 7 so we must hold nominations for Treasurer.

Call for Nominations – Lindsay Higgins nominates Lilya Dreik as Treasurer; Steve Hurley seconds the nomination. Vote by acclamation – affirmative. Lilya Dreik is elected Treasurer of Ward 7 Committee.

Ward meetings are adjourned. Jennifer Jones thanked Sue and Lilya for stepping into their new leadership roles. Jennifer Jones thanked Lindsay Higgins for her service to the WDCC.

During the process of adding new members a question came into the chat about how large our committees can be – Jennifer Jones and Carol Donovan answered the question, we are able to have 35 people on each Ward Committee and we do have room for new members on all committees.

Jennifer Jones thanked the Chairs of the Ward Committees for running their meetings.

Jennifer Jones introduced Andrew Lipsett, Ward 1 Chairperson and Chair of the Issues and Campaigns Sub-Committee.

Andrew Lipsett individually recognized elected leaders to provide a brief update to the committee. They appeared in the following order:

- Representative Richard Haggerty, representing Wards 2-6 and parts of Reading
- Representative Michelle Ciccolo, representing Wards 1 & 7 and Lexington
- State Senator Cindy Friedman
- Governors Councilor Marilyn Devaney
- Middlesex Sheriff Peter Koutoujian
- Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan
- Kelsey Perkins, District Director for Congresswoman Katherine Clark, representing the Congresswoman

Thank you to all our elected leaders who were able to join us and share updates on their important work.

Andrew turned the meeting back to Jennifer. Jennifer took the agenda out of order so we could introduce our guest speakers on some issues –

Kaveesh Pathak with Sunrise Lexington (sunriselexington.org)

Deb Otis with Yes on 2, Ranked Choice Voting (initiative on the November ballot) (yeson2rcv.com)

Thank you to our guest speakers for sharing information on how we can get involved.

Jennifer introduced Phyllis Norwood, WDCC treasurer for an update on our treasury

Phyllis Norwood reported a balance of \$827.84, and we have a credit balance of \$150 with the American Legion because they held our payment from the April meeting we had a deposit for.

Phyllis shared our ActBlue information for making donations. We've raised \$440 this year through ActBlue. Jennifer shared the link: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/wdcc-2>

Jennifer shared that running events and voter registration drives will require funds post-covid and thanks those who contributed during our meeting.

Jennifer Jones introduced Steve Hurley to discuss and introduce our new Working Sub-Committees – these committees can be the place where a lot of focused and targeted work will be accomplished.

Steve introduced Anthony Langone who Chairs the Communications and Publicity Committee

- Social Media Policy – this will be sent out in the week ahead and feedback is appreciated. It will help define how our pages are used and keep information flowing on broad issues.
- Email Newsletters via Mail Chimp – help us share news and updates
- WDCC Website as a source of information for committees and the public.

Steve introduced Andrew Lipsett who Chairs Issues and Campaigns Committee

- Education around different issues of interest to voters
- Work to support Democrats at the State and National level so we can elect candidates that represent our values.
- Encouraged everyone to jump on board for the fall election, but this committee is also focused on long-term goals.

Steve introduced John Cordero who Chairs the Registration and Outreach Committee

- Now is a great time to find our those who are interested in getting involved as Democrats as we have many volunteering for the presidential election and other important movements.
- We want to increase our members on our Ward Committees as part of this work.

Steve turned it back to Jennifer. Jennifer thanked our chairs for leading these sub-committees, and thanks those who have already volunteered to serve on a committee. Jennifer shared this was one of her goals when becoming chair last fall, that we would have some committees focused on some important work and actions for our membership and our community, so we're excited to see these launch. To join a committee or with questions, email woburndems@gmail.com

Jennifer shared an update about the November ballot:

For the Biden and Harris campaign, we have many people in Woburn involved in texting, hosting a lawn sign or doing calling – please share how important it is to you to elect Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Update on the Massachusetts Coordinated Campaign – MassDems is focused on getting Biden/Harris elected now that Ed Markey won the Senate primary race. MassDems is doing calling for the ME senate race for Sarah Gideon so we're happy to connect volunteers with multiple activities.

For the Biden/Harris campaign we're hosting a bi-weekly phonebank and we call together and it's been fun, but if you're interested in other opportunities definitely let us know and we're happy to connect you with possibilities

Biden/Harris lawn signs are coming – sign up!

Changes to voting for the fall – October 24, 2020 is the last date to make changes to your registration. Ballots can be hand delivered to the Clerk or delivered to a box outside City Hall. Ballots by mail must be post marked by November 3rd and must be received by the 6th. Walking a ballot in it is due by November 3rd at 8pm. Most important thing is to make a plan to vote and ask others about their plan to vote.

We are updating our communications tools so we can keep everyone connected. Please make sure you sign up for our newsletter, sign in to our meeting or email woburndems@gmail.com so we can add you to our mailing list, connect you to your ward chair and make sure that you know what action items we are working on.

Jennifer asked Steve to open the floor for comments from those attending.

Derrek Genova asked about ballot delivery – can he bring the ballot of another to City Hall. Yes.

Patrice McCall mentioned about early voting, she works the polls. If you are worried about Covid, feel free to go and vote in person using the early voting, crowds were slow and there is plenty of space for social distance. Carol Youngclaus mentioned that things are running well given all the changes. Andrew added that the primary went very smoothly and the City has done a great job. Pat Deal asked about needing poll workers and Carol answered that you should reach out to Bill Campbell, Clerk. There are opportunities both public facing or working at City Hall. Jennifer mentioned that with the November election day being a day off from school, additional volunteers may be necessary.

Jennifer noted the information she dropped in the chat window about sign ups for the calling to Maine with MassDems.

Derrek asked about early voting and how it is reported – results are tabulated after 8pm on election day. There are voting machines by ward at City Hall and at the polling location and results are reported Ward 4-1 EV or Ward 4-1 and those combined results are the results for 4-1, for example.

We had a long meeting – Steve Hurley made a motion to adjourn. Jennifer adjourned and shared there will be a follow-up email.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our meeting.

Attendance of 9/12/2020 Meeting:

First Name	Last Name	Ward # or Voting Location
Derrick	Genova	1
Gary	Glennon	1
Jennifer	Hess	1
Andrew	Lipsett	1
Emily	Lipsett	1
Margaret	Valentine	1
Carla	Beaudoin	2
Mary	Freeley	2
June	Mackenzie	2
Elise	Mayers	2
Rai An	Perrish	2
Edward	Quinn	2
Charles	Sumner	2
Marcia	Andrews	3
Tom	Arsenault	3
John	Cordero	3

Julie	Cotton	3
Kelley	Curran	3
Pat	Deal	3
Carol	Donovan	3
Richard	Haggerty	3
Lindsay	Pradieu	3
John	Scanlon	3
Carol	Youngclaus	3
David	Youngclaus	3
Elizabeth	Cavicchi	4
Alva	Couch	4
Mary	Grenham	4
Ramla	Hagi	4
Jennifer	Jones	4
Emma	Jones	4
Chip	Jones	4
Dave	Koffman	4
Anthony	Langone	4
Carrie	McSheffrey	4
Elissa	Milto	4
Phyllis	Norwood	4
Diane	Scinto	4
Brad	Amidon	5
Timothy	Garvey	5
Deshea	Harris	5
Deshea	Harris	5
George	Harris	5
Vanessa	Keating	5
Una	McMahon	5
Patrice	McCall	6
Auriana	Musselman	6
Susan	Coakley	7
Lilya	Dreik	7
Lindsay	Higgins	7
Steve and Kelley	Hurley	7
Michelle	Ciccolo	
DA Marian Ryan		
Rep Michelle Ciccolo		
Sen Cindy Friedman		
Rep Richard Haggarty (also a member)		
Sheriff Koutoujian		
Governor's Councilor Marilyn Devaney		

Kelsey Perkins for Congresswoman Katherine Clark		
Deb Otis, Yes on 2 - Ranked Choice Voting		
Kaveesh Pathuk, Sunrise Lexington		