

Waltham Democratic City Committee Meeting Minutes
1/23/2025
6:30-7:38 pm

Attendees:

M. Baily-Edwards	C. Koutoujian
R. Baker	S. Kramer
E. Beade	C. Lorant
T. Benavides	S. O'Neil
S. Burstein	R.Regie
S. Fatale	C.Richardson
A. Fintzel	C. Salamanis
C. Gill	N. Stein
M. Karapanos	J. Vallon

- The Dec 2024 minutes were approved.
- State Rep. Thomas M. Stanley spoke regarding the upcoming two-year legislative session and some of his priorities.
 - They are dealing with the President's plans one day at a time.
 - The legislature will continue to try to protect and support MA residents.
 - The legislature is dealing with a budget crisis. They are working on an immigration policy needed to house immigrants coming to MA.
 - They are working on what it means to be a sanctuary state.
 - The State and Waltham will only assist ICE with violent criminals and judicial warrants.
 - Major housing bills with 49 initiatives; Accessory Dwelling Units should be legal to make them safer by requiring them to be inspected and up to code.
 - Rep. Stanley is currently Chair of Elder Affairs,
 - support for skilled care
 - identify bad actors with background checks
 - long term support services
 - budgeted help to teach people how to be financially ready for elder care
 - MA senior housing committee,
 - New committee assignments will be out next week
 - New house rules to address transparency issues
 - State budget will be difficult with less federal funds.
- Meeting Schedule
 - Feb 27 virtual mtg: Mass Dems presentation
 - Mar 27 virtual mtg: no presenter yet
 - April mtg no presenter yet

- May 22 in-person mtg.: WDCC elections
 - Clarence Richardson is stepping down at the May meeting, Google form will be available for nominations.
 - Ward 2: Heather May is stepping down as Ward 2 Chair, looking for candidate
 - Ward 6: Cynthia Salamanis has moved and can no longer serve as chair
- Progressive Democrats of America: a way to connect with actions and supporting candidates. Flyer will be in next news letter
- Heroes Brunch
 - The Committee met and discussed logistics.
 - Costs:
 - American Legion Hall rental < \$600
 - Catering \$1000
 - Trophy \$250
 - Staples \$200
 - Total Requested for Planning \$2,050. Approved
 - \$2900 in the WDCC account
 - 2025 Nominees: Tom Stanley, WIN, Connie Koutoujian, Marcou Charitable Foundation, Approved
 - Next Committee Mtg Tues Jan 28, 7p

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.