

Waltham Democratic City Committee Meeting Minutes
1/15/2026
6:00-7:33 pm

Attendees:	
Susan Burstein	Daniel Maloney
Ken Davis	Timothy Nolan
Stacy Fatale	Scott O'Neil
Andrew Fintzel	Matthew Petrovich
Carol Gill	Nancy Pratt
Chrissie Himes	Clarence Richardson
C. Koutoujian	Cynthia Salamanis
Susan Kramer	Nadene Stein
Evan Levinson	Stewart Woodward

- Heroes Awards Committee
 - The committee has reviewed, vetted, and confirmed that the nominees can accept the award.
 - Nominees: Clarence Richardson, Nadene Stein, Waltham Educators Association, and The Waltham Times
 - Robert Logan and Sean Durkee were nominated but could not accept the nomination at this time.
 - The nomination process was outlined for members who are new to the event.
 - After some discussion there was a motion to vote for the 4 nominees as a slate. Motion passed.
 - The Heroes Awards will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026, 11a-1p at the American Legion Post 156 (215 Waverly Oaks Rd. Waltham)
 - Further details will be brought to Steering Committee or Committee at Large concerning funds and venue contract
 - Improving the sound system for the event was discussed. We will look into the costs to purchase, rent, or borrow appropriate equipment.
 - It was requested to discuss at a later date whether there is some other way to honor local politicians.
- Communication Task Group Report
 - It is the mission of the group to improve communication internally and externally.
 - The group is researching how people in Waltham get their news and find out about things in town.
 - The group is reviewing the metrics for our own communication methods. What is our baseline performance?
 - The group will be discussing how we can improve by category.
 - Existing social media for the WDCC
 - Facebook (2,500 FB followers)
 - WDCC e-letter
 - Waltham Times and Patch (with press releases)

- Website
 - Word of mouth (including through events and other groups)
 - We are looking for ways we can improve the website, such as a calendar
 - All of this will happen in baby steps. More help is needed.
 - We use WordPress but need website coders, writers, and editors.
 - We can ask MassDems if there are resources. There may be resources at Brandeis for web development.
 - We will look into connecting with newly registered Democrats. We want to create an information package to mail/deliver.
- 2026 Democratic Caucus
 - This is a caucus for Ward committees to elect delegates for State Democratic Convention.
 - Tentative: March 7, 2026 at the Northeast Elementary School
 - State Democratic Convention is on May 29-30 in Worcester.
 - It is a contentious primary with candidates vying for delegates.
 - We will try to use this as an opportunity to strengthen and reorganize Wards 2, 3, and 6.
 - Good time to recruit for Ward Committees.
- Talking on Red Districts
 - Many have expressed a desire to make a difference.
 - “Adopt-a-campaign” strategy was recommended by Melvin Poindexter.
 - Discussions with Minority Whip Clark’s office
 - Phone banking, letter campaigns
 - Collect demographics, define local politics, know the voters = meaningful campaigning
 - One city, one district approach would provide metrics
 - Democrats are experts in urban centers but we don’t know the issues outside of the cities.
 - It was suggested that we find a trainer to improve our skills with effective letter writing, conflict resolution, and how to have a conversation with people who don’t think like we do.
- Treasurers Report
 - WDCC Funds currently \$4,495.57
 - The treasurer is finalizing the OCPF reports.
 - Please email any in-kind donations to note.
- Mara Dolan Campaign Kickoff event
 - Thursday, 1-29-26 at 5:30-8pm
 - The Stockyard, 135 Market St., Brighton.
 - RSVP at MaraDolan.com
- Several campaigns are asking for volunteers. If any interest you, we will do our best to connect
- Our next meeting is 2-19-26 WDCC (Virtual).
- Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.