

Waltham Democratic City Committee Meeting Minutes
03/19/2026
6:00-7:30 pm

Attendees:	
Don Becker Michael Cavallo Christina Curtin Mary Edwards Stacy Fatale Andrew Fintzel Carol Gill C. Koutoujian Susan Kramer Robert Logan Timothy Nolan Scott O'Neil Nancy Pratt	Clarence Richardson Cynthia Salamanis Ed Tarallo Adam Westbrook Regie Chrissie Himes Leah Greenwald Tom Stanley Ro Lucas Simpson Jo Fletcher James Zanghi

- The Feb 2026 minutes were approved.
- No Kings Waltham
 - Elizabeth Hoffecker from Indivisible Waltham spoke to group.
 - Saturday, March 28, 10:30-12noon, Waltham Common
 - This is estimated to be the biggest rally yet.
 - Indivisible Waltham has permits from the city to use the Common and use amplified sound.
 - Indivisible will have extra signs and flags if needed.
 - Groups attending can set up a table (but no tents) to distribute information.
 - Elizabeth encouraged attendees to participate in any No Kings event and to share photos on social media to amplify the resistance movement's visibility.
- US Senate Race: Susannah Cornell for Team Markey
 - Susannah, a field organizer for Senator Ed Markey's reelection campaign, spoke about Markey's support for communities facing injustice and his clear stances on important issues. She highlighted his opposition to Trump's agenda, including calls for impeachment and the abolition of ICE. He is working with Rep. Ayanna Pressley to eliminate qualified immunity from ICE. When asked about Senator Markey's position on the conflict in Gaza and the war in Iran, Susannah explained that Markey has been critical of Netanyahu's government and the violence against Palestinian people, and opposes the war in Iran, which he believes was conducted without congressional approval. Susannah encouraged attendees to reach out to her for further discussion or to get involved with the campaign.
 - She stated that Markey will continue to stand up for marginalized communities, work for affordable healthcare, and funding for MA for housing infrastructure and climate resiliency.

- US Senate Race: Isabelle Anderson for Team Moulton
 - Isabelle, representing the Seth Moulton campaign, introduced herself and explained her support for Moulton's candidacy, highlighting his commitment to term limits, veterans' issues, and progressive policies. She distinguished Moulton from Senator Markey by emphasizing Moulton's opposition to continued combat funding and his work in supporting veterans and public service members.
 - She spoke about his commitment to speak the truth, stand up to stagnant leaders, advocate for term limits, and support for vulnerable communities.
 - He stands against the lawlessness of ice
 - He was a Marine and served in Iraq. Differences between the candidates are more about leadership than ideology. Markey voted in favor of continuing the war. Moulton is against war in the Middle East.
 - He has been working to turn more seats Blue and elevate new leadership for Democrats.
- Rep. Tom Stanley, State Update
 - The representative discussed the significant challenges facing the state budget, including high housing and energy costs, potential recession risks, and the impact of federal funding cuts. The billions of dollars withheld by the “Big Beautiful Bill” damages the states ability to deliver services. It will be hard to fill gaps.
 - They highlighted the upcoming difficult budget process and their role as chair of the Aging and Independence Committee, planning to meet with the Chairman of Ways and Means to advocate for senior services funding.
 - The representative also mentioned securing \$100,000 for More Than Words and \$250,000 for the Boys and Girls Club in the recently passed supplemental budget.
 - The representative discussed their work with the Black and Latino Caucus on legislation to prevent federal ICE agents from interfering with individuals accessing courthouses and performing due process. They explained that the proposed bill would block police departments from working with federal government on immigration matters except in violent criminal situations.
 - The representative also mentioned filing a bill to include utility workers under the move over law for public safety officers following a tragic incident involving a National Grid worker, and discussed their ongoing involvement in senior care legislation and assisted living regulations.
 - The representative discussed ongoing efforts to address housing and healthcare challenges for seniors, including work on building codes and safety measures following a fire incident.
 - They highlighted the need for a public insurance policy for long-term care, similar to Washington state's approach, which would require small contributions from all residents and involve private insurance companies. The representative mentioned securing \$500,000 in the state budget for an actuarial study and expressed hope that a commission bill could be passed this year to implement this long-term care solution.

- Representative Stanley provided an update on ballot questions, including concerns about paid signature gatherers and their impact on the democratic process. The referendum to reduce State Income tax from 5% to 4% will probably get on the ballot. There is big money behind this effort using paid signature gatherers. He explained that a committee is evaluating these questions and will make recommendations.
- There will be cuts to Mass Health in 2028 from as a result of the “Big Beautiful Bill”. They are working on this but there will be pain. We can’t raise taxes enough to make up for it.
- The only answer is Vote Blue.
- Adopt a District Update
 - Christina Curtin will be leading the project.
 - Phase 1 Internal Research and Review, reduce 8 candidates to 3.
 - Phase 2 Interviews with campaigns.
 - Final Selection
 - These candidates have won their primaries and are now campaigning.
 - Choose a close race where we can make a difference.
 - Choose a candidate who wants our help and will work with us.
 - Volunteers are needed to help research and evaluate candidates.
- Frederick Douglass Project
 - The purpose of the project is to change public perception of incarcerated people.
 - It examines how policy impacts our prisons.
 - Tour of facility, Wed April 8, Middlesex House of Correction, Billerica, 5-8 p
 - If interested, send an email to watchcitydems@gmail.com
 - This is a difficult time for some members who are interested.
- Heroes Awards
 - Registration is open at watchcitydems.com/heroes
 - Sunday, May 3, 11-1p
 - American Legion Post 156
- Next WDCC Virtual Meeting
 - April 16, 6-7p Zoom
 - Speaker: Jonathan Paz, Candidate for US Representative for MA-05
 - Other candidates have been invited

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.