

ELIOT DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 2009

ATTENDEES: Tom Markham, Donna Murphy, Jack Murphy, Gary Sinden, Jim Schliestett and Connie Weeks. Guest: Roberta Beavers (South Berwick)

1) Meeting called to order 4:08

2) **Minutes.** Jim stated there were some typos that he corrected prior to emailing. Connie made a correction to list her name as an attendee at the October meeting. Gary made the following corrections regarding B) Website Communications. Regarding Ning, Facebook, etc., Gary questioned if we are chasing a need that doesn't exist and suggested the webpage could be the Eliot Dems billboard. Corrections regarding 5D. Gary did not say there were no viable candidates, he stated there were no candidates open to transparency and we are at risk of losing all we have gained. Gary raised issues about minutes stating he didn't think an actual transcript was needed. Gary suggested using format of BOS minutes. Points raised and decision made. Gary stated exception would be if someone requested to have something recorded. Jim suggested topic and disposition. Gary motioned for a shorter form. Jim second. All were in favour. Minutes were accepted as amended.

3) **Treasury.** Savings Account (Scholarship) \$776.40. Checking Account \$626.93. Connie requested someone else volunteer to be treasurer. Jim suggested addressing this at the January meeting. All agreed.

4) Reports from Task Groups

A) **Scholarship/Internships-** Nothing new.

B) **Website/Communications:** Draft minutes are sent to those who attend the meeting. Dem Talk will be used to communicate events and news. Website will be used as a billboard with agenda, links to candidates, referendum positions, latest corrected minutes and upcoming agenda.

C) **DataBase/Membership:** Nothing new.

D) **Policy/Lobbying:** Gary gave a "heads up" that in January he will bring some language to lobby the Democratic legislators.

E) **Events:** Christmas party to be held at Connie Weeks, 34 Odiorne Lane, Eliot on Friday, December 11, 2009 at 6:00. This will be a pot luck dinner with a donation basket to support the Eliot Democratic Scholarship Fund. Jim will send out an announcement on Eliot Dem Talk. Fundraising will be placed on the agenda for January.

5. Semi-new and New Business.

A) Registration Appeals Board: Current members are Wendy Rawski and Sandra Smith (R). A Democrat needs to be appointed. Gary motioned to appoint Jim Schliestett. Jack second. All were in favour.

B) Task groups: Jim moved to eliminate and renew as necessary. Tom second. All in favour.

C) Evolving communications plan: Jim suggested considering Facebook for the future.

D) Lessons from the election: Some voters expressed anger at high number of contacts, only Gary and Jim showed for TABOR phone bank, local database appears more accurate than VAN data base. Gary suggested we keep our database updated and if someone says they don't like phone calls, don't call them. Gary suggested asking other entities not to call Eliot voters. We will call them. This has proved successful in the past per Gary's experience. Tom shared experience in participating in a group call initiated by the group supporting the referendum. Tom felt this was helpful and successful in his experience.

E) Vacancies in Municipal Posts: Roland Fernald, Mary Fournier, Jack Murphy, Orland McPherson, Richard Norek and Ed Strong have filed for BOS. Other: Sally Lewin is running for State Senate. Suggested Roberta Beavers for State Representative.

Meeting adjourned: 6:00