



Democratic State Committee Meeting

November 14, 2024 | Meeting Minutes

Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair Steve Kerrigan called the meeting to order.

There was a vote to adopt the agenda for the meeting, which passed.

There was a motion and vote to approve the minutes from the August meeting, which passed.

There was a motion and vote to suspend the rules to hear from guest speakers, which passed.

The Chair thanked the Boston Teachers Union for hosting the meeting.

The Chair then introduced Senator Nick Collins who welcomed everyone to the First Suffolk district. Senator Collins thanked the Boston Teachers Union for hosting the meeting and reflected on the many legislative victories at the state level that we have to be thankful for. Senator Collins concluded by thanking the Chair and the Massachusetts Democratic Party staff for their work and by wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

The Chair asked for everyone to observe a moment of silence for former State Representative Gloria Fox, Democratic State Committee member Mary Richards, and Democratic State Committee member Agnes Ricko. The Chair then spent a few minutes reflecting on the amazing lives and contributions of former State Representative Gloria Fox, Democratic State Committee member Mary Richards, and Democratic State Committee member Agnes Ricko.

The Chair recognized former Senator, former Mayor, and former Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party, Thomas McGee to say a few words about Agnes Ricko.

The Chair introduced Mayor of Boston, Michelle Wu. Mayor Wu was relieved to see so many people at the meeting and mentioned that it was one more reminder that Massachusetts Democrats will lead the way to ensure that progress continues, no matter what happens in any other part of the country. Mayor Wu then thanked the Boston Teachers Union for hosting the meeting and for the example they set in their activism and consideration of future generations. Mayor Wu also reassured everyone that the city of Boston had been preparing and would be prepared for a second Trump administration. Mayor Wu concluded by saying that she was incredibly blessed to be in this community and had faith that this community would leave its mark on the next four years.

The Chair then gave the Treasurer's Report. There was a motion and vote to approve the Treasurer's Report, which passed.

The Chair introduced the Women's Outreach Subcommittee Co-Chair, Claudia Pouravelis, to give a report. Claudia Pouravelis recognized that the subcommittee would likely have several issues of concern with the next administration and that the subcommittee would need to be ready to respond accordingly. Claudia Pouravelis encouraged people to reach out to the subcommittee to share ideas on how to respond. Claudia Pouravelis mentioned that the subcommittee held a lively panel on the 2024 DNC delegates perspectives and experiences and announced that the subcommittee was planning a bi-monthly elected women series that will highlight female electeds throughout the state and the legislation they're working on.

The Chair introduced the Youth Outreach Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Mark Lannigan and Leslie Templeton, to give a report. Mark Lannigan reported that the subcommittee has organized four working groups: Youth Recruitment, Youth Outreach, Youth Infrastructure, and Youth Organizing. Mark Lannigan further reported that these working groups would be taking more direct action to engage with young voters. Leslie Templeton reported the intention of the subcommittee to work with other youth engagement committees across the country to communicate, learn, and build up best practices. Leslie Templeton encouraged people to reach out if they had any ideas they'd like to share.

The Chair introduced the Campaign Services Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Lauren Mattison and Amanda Smith, to give a report. Amanda Smith began by saying the subcommittee was very proud of everyone who engaged with the organizing hub to make calls into Maine and New Hampshire. Amanda Smith reported that the organizing hub saw enormous turnout and new volunteers. Lauren Mattison then thanked the subcommittee members for their help and announced the subcommittee would be taking a break before deciding what to do for next year.

The Chair introduced the LGBTQ+ Outreach Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Justin Klekota and Diego Sanchez, to give a report. Justin Klekota reported that subcommittee members had been very active in phone banking, canvassing, and postcard writing efforts leading up to the presidential election and had increased their outreach significantly. Justin Klekota further reported that, despite the election results, the subcommittee would stay committed to rebuilding the democratic majority. Diego Sanchez reported that the support of the Democratic party for trans kids, young adults, and families is not forgotten and thanked everyone for everything they do.

The Chair introduced the Affirmative Action Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Gillian Hinkson and Linda Monteiro, to give a report. Linda Monteiro and Gillian Hinkson thanked Charlotte Golar Richie and Organizing Director Alex Bausch for their help with phonebanks to Pennsylvania and thanked Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, Senator Elizabeth Warren, and Governor Maura Healey for joining the phonebanks.

Campaign Services Subcommittee Co-Chair Lauren Mattison briefly returned to thank Organizing Director Alex Buasch for all of his help during the campaign.

The Chair introduced Joe Kelly to give the Labor Outreach Subcommittee report on behalf of Co-Chair James Pimental. James Pimental reported that the Massachusetts State House had

recently passed a bill that would allow cities and towns to use 100% union labor for construction projects and passed a separate clean energy bill that includes labor standards regarding registered apprenticeships, work place diversity, and labor harmony, among other victories. James Pimental also reported that 92.3% of labor's preferred candidates won election or re-election and that voters approved ballot questions number two and three. James Pimental concluded by reporting that the subcommittee had a lively discussion about the election results and recommended getting back to basic issues that affect most Americans.

The Chair introduced Jim Roosevelt. Jim Roosevelt reported that the DNC Rules and Bylaws Committee and the DNC Executive Committee would be meeting in December to set up rules for upcoming election for Chair of the DNC and that this election would likely take place in February.

The Chair then gave the Chair's report. The Chair addressed the recent election and the fact that, in many areas, both nationally and locally, Democrats lost. The Chair encouraged everyone to be proud of the work they did, but also encouraged everyone to see these results as something to learn from. The Chair reflected that this was an opportunity to listen to people's concerns and understand why they voted the way they did. The Chair announced that, in the coming days, he would be traveling to Washington to meet with labor leaders and to ask this very important question. The Chair further announced that, if re-elected, he would like to hold listening tours in every Congressional district to hear directly from voters about what the Massachusetts Democratic party can do to improve going forward.

The Chair yielded to Vice Chair Debra Kozikowski. Vice Chair Kozikowski took a moment to recognize Issac Kaufer for all of the help he's provided the Massachusetts Democratic Party as a super volunteer. Vice Chair Kozikowski then began the process of administering the election of the Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair pursuant to the Massachusetts Democratic Party's Bylaws. Vice Chair Kozikowski then read the rules by which the election of the Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair would be governed.

Vice Chair Kozikowski opened the floor to nominations for the Massachusetts Democratic Party Chair. Vice Chair Kozikowski recognized Sharon Stout who nominated current Chair Steve Kerrigan for re-election. Vice Chair Kozikowski recognized Mark Lannigan who seconded this motion. There was then a motion to close the floor to nominations, which was seconded. There was a vote to close the floor to nominations, which passed. There was then a vote to give Secretary Joseph Kaplan the approval to cast one unanimous vote to re-elect Chair Steve Kerrigan, which passed. Secretary Joseph Kaplan then cast one unanimous vote for, and thereby re-electing, Chair Steve Kerrigan.

The Chair thanked everyone and asked that everyone give a round of applause to the Massachusetts Democratic Party staff. The Chair then announced that the 2025 Massachusetts Democratic Convention will be a platform convention that will likely be held in September. The Chair also announced that dates and locations for 2025 Democratic State Committee (DSC) meetings would be announced soon. The Chair congratulated Madeline Ranalli on her Fulbright scholarship to study in Italy and announced that she would be resigning to focus on this

opportunity. The Chair announced that there would be an election to fill the youth female seat that Madeline was resigning from at the Winter DSC meeting and that the upcoming Winter DSC meeting, and ideally all future Winter DSC meetings, would be fully remote.

The Chair then opened the floor to new business.

The Chair recognized Jack Perenick who announced that Young Democrats from every state across the country would be sending their leadership to Boston in December to set the agenda on how to win back young voters. Jack Perenick then asked everyone for their help to make this event as successful as possible.

There was a motion and a vote to adjourn. The vote passed and the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee meeting was adjourned.