

York Town Democratic Committee
Annual Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2013 12-2 p.m.

Following gathering and serving of lunch, the YTDC annual meeting for 2013 was called to order in the hall of First Parish Church in York at 12:25 by Victoria Simon, Chair. Victoria gave a brief intro on YTDC and those present introduced themselves to the group. Approximately 25 people were in attendance.

YTDC Secretary, Susan Glick, read the minutes of the February 26, 2012 town caucus. Minutes were approved as read.

YTDC Treasurer, Lydia Blume, reported available funds of \$493. Report was accepted. A goodwill collection was taken during the meeting. Room costs for event were \$85.

Victoria reported on the resignations of Vice Chair, Judith McAllister, and Secretary, Susan Glick, effective with today's meeting. The names of Nancy Stolberg and Christine Hartwell were put forward for the positions of Vice Chair and Secretary, respectively. Each candidate gave a brief introduction to those in attendance followed by a vote in the affirmative for each candidate.

Our guest speaker, Rep. Diane Russell of Portland, was introduced. Rep. Russell serves on the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. She was asked to speak to the group on her proposed legislation legalizing marijuana in Maine, LD 1229 (HP 868) "An Act to Regulate and Tax Marijuana". She discussed why this bill was being presented at this time. She and other legislators believe it is inevitable that a people's petition on the issue is just a matter of time. By having experienced policy makers write and support the legislation, a bill can be fashioned in the interest of all Maine stakeholders. She discussed some of the specifics of the bill and took questions from the group.

District 149 Rep. Paul McGowan also addressed the group. He is currently serving on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee and is sponsoring a number of bills focused in those areas and others. Rep. McGowan addressed issues around healthcare in Maine and encouraged support for Maine accepting federal funds to expand healthcare coverage here. He provided handouts and encouraged people to call the Governor's office to show support. Rep. McGowan led a conversation on citizen advocacy on issues encouraging us to get in touch with our elected officials to share when we support a position as well as when we don't. He mentioned that testifying in person or in writing at public hearings is a great way for citizens to participate in the legislative process.

Candidate for York Selectman, Torbert McDonald spoke to the group. He discussed his background and qualifications and addressed local issues. There was a Q&A following.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Hartwell, Secretary