



Falmouth, Cape Cod, MA

Falmouth Democratic Town Committee Newsletter: January 17, 2018 Monthly Meeting



Megan English Braga

Our Chair, **Megan English Braga**, opened the meeting. She announced our **2018 Caucus** which will be on February 11, 2018 at the Morse Pond School. Doors open at 1 pm and the caucus starts at 1:30 pm. We will be electing Democratic delegates from Falmouth who will attend the party Convention, June 2nd in Worcester, MA. All interested registered Democrats are invited to attend and to run as a delegate. **Grant Walker** asked if our group has a local platform. **Megan** noted that we endorse the state platform but can amend it to

urge local concerns be reflected.

Megan also announced that the FDTC Executive Board voted to give donations for the year to the Falmouth Service Center and to the Falmouth Education Foundation. Then **Su Moran**, Chair of the Board of Selectmen in Falmouth, and member of the Cape Cod Assembly of Delegates reported that in a recent meeting the Assembly proposed that the charter for county government be revised and a recall initiative be adopted. Several different ways of organizing the Assembly were discussed in order to improve county government. **Tom Lebach** noted that there will be a Women’s March in Hyannis on the 20th to mark the anniversary of last year’s March on Washington. **Ann Stone**, chair of the FDTC subcommittee on Gun Violence Prevention, reported on the January postcard party. Approximately 500 postcards were written by over 40 people to our state legislators to request positive consideration of the Extreme Risk Protection Order bill to strengthen protections for those in domestic violence situations. **Ann** noted that the committee was investigating having a gun buy back event later in the years and had scheduled two important speakers on gun violence, **Jane Scarborough**, Scholar and **Professor Jack McDevitt** of Northeastern Univ. for the May 16th FDTC meeting. **Megan** urged other subcommittees to get more active, noting that the Racial Justice Sub Committee had shown the film, “ I am Not Your Negro,” at a recent monthly meeting, and the Economic Justice Sub Committee had brought in **Dan Wolf** as a speaker.



Grant Walker



Tom Lebach



Nan Logan, Grandmothers against Gun Violence organized postcard party

Cindi Bucken, working for **Setti Warren** as a candidate for Governor, spoke about her candidate and passed out literature. She asked anyone interested in working for **Setti Warren** to contact her at cabucken@comcast.net. She would like to know if anyone plans to attend the caucus representing support for **Setti**. **Skip McCormack** asked when we might get more information on the three Democratic candidates for Governor, **Jay Gonzalez**, **Setti Warren**, and **Bob Massie**. They will appear at the Convention and the Globe is going to start running a series on them soon. We will invite them, of course, to our meetings to speak.



Cindi Bucken



Stephanie Houghton

Stephanie Houghton, who formerly worked for the **Elizabeth Warren** campaign, spoke to us about her recent experiences in Alabama working for **Doug Jones** against **Roy Moore**. She was the Deputy GOTV Director for the last six weeks of the campaign. She was able to build a field program from the bottom up. It worked and **Doug Jones** won by 22,000 votes. She recommends to us a program called “Rides to the Polls” to increase voter turnout. High turnout is always the goal as it tends to bring out Democrats. She was very enthusiastic about ground work and noted that on Jan. 31, there will be a lobby day at the Boston State House for Automatic Voter Registration from

9:30 to noon.

Next we heard from **Josh Zakim**, running for Secretary of State against incumbent, **William Galvin**, who has been Secretary of State since 1994. **Zakim** feels a change is needed after so many years with **Galvin** in the office. He self identifies as a progressive who is the chair of the Boston City Council’s Committee on Civil Rights and the Committee on Consumer Affairs, Small Business and Regulations. He is concerned that it is not easy to register or vote in MA and it should be easier. Turn out for voting is down 30% so automatic voter registration and same day voting would be changes he would advocate. He noted that we have not seen from **Secretary Galvin** a report on security of our voter database. He would drop objections to the 20 day wait period, ask for automatic registration, and urge everyone who can vote and register asap. He has led the Boston City Council in its efforts to deal with issues of equity and fairness in Boston, convening hearings to address problems faced by seniors in the LGBT community in finding affordable, welcoming housing in Boston. He sees himself as serving the interests of Boston’s underserved and disempowered.



Josh Zakim

Finally we heard from **Deb Rudolf**, an attorney running for State Senator from the Plymouth and Barnstable District, the seat of **Vinny deMacedo** (R). She congratulated **Dr. Roger Kligler** who is working



for the Death with Dignity bill and who helped to bring **Diane Rehm** to Falmouth recently for a forum on the issue of aid in dying. She drew our attention to the fact that **Governor Baker** (R) had approved cutting mental health care for youth in half and **deMacedo** had not voted to restore this funding. Both had also vetoed funds for the Real program to improve literacy and **deMacedo** voted for a voter ID law. She wants to restore the values of our area.

Submitted by Kirstin Moritz, Newsletter Editor Photos by Kirstin Moritz

Deb Rudolf

Calendar:

January 28th: Engage Falmouth Fair at Waquoit Congregational Church from 2-6 pm. Come to visit booths for service organizations in Falmouth, take action in the Action Corner, and learn about volunteer opportunities.

February 11th: Falmouth Democratic Caucus at Morse Pond School. Sign in at 1 pm and caucus to elect delegates to the Annual Convention in Worcester on June 2nd starts at 1:30.

February 21: FDTC Monthly meeting at Gus Canty Center at 7 pm. Democratic Party candidates for office to speak.

March 21: FDTC Monthly meeting at Gus Canty Center at 7 pm. Tammi Jacobsen, Director of Workforce Development and Training, The Center for Corporate and Professional Education at CCCC, on job training at CCCC for Cape jobs, and Heather Harper of the Cape Cod Commission on Affordable Housing.

April 18: FDTC Monthly meeting at Gus Canty Center at 7 pm. Democratic Party candidates for office to speak.

May 16: FDTC Monthly meeting at Gus Canty Center at 7 pm. Jane Scarborough, Constitutional scholar and Professor Jack McDevitt of Northeastern University on the 2nd Amendment and MA gun laws.

June 20: FDTC Monthly meeting at Gus Canty Center at 7 pm. Reports on the Convention.

FDTC Officers:

Chair: **Megan English Braga** at 508-540-3434 Ext. 4 and attyme@gmail.com

Vice Chair: **Scott Simenas** at 508-540-3490 and scott_simenas@comcast.net

Treasurer: **David Barrat** at 508-392-9914 and dbarrat5@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: **Judy Ziss** at 508-548-1339 and judith_ziss@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor and Recording Secretary: **Kirstin Moritz** at 508-540-8528 and kmoritz@verizon.net

Affirmative Action/Outreach Advisor: **Hugh Gregory** at 508-548-4696 and moohu38@yahoo.com

PLEASE note that we are trying to build up our treasury for this election year so kindly make sure you have paid your DUES.

Please note that annual dues should now be submitted as below. Thank you.

Annual membership Fiscal Year: April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Name: Address: Precinct:

Email Address: Phone:

Elected Committee Member: \$25 a year

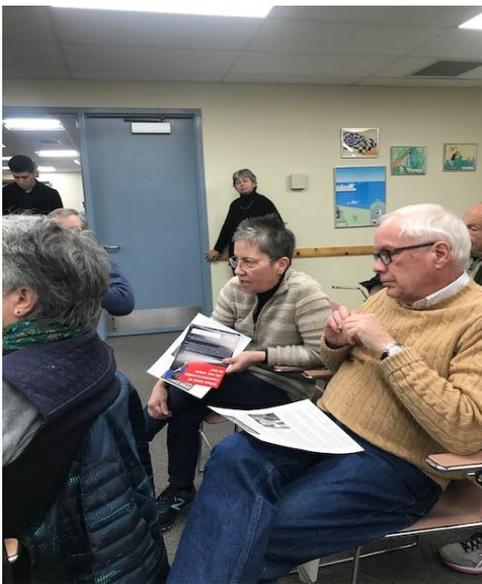
Associate Member: \$15 a year

Newsletter by U.S. Mail is \$10 extra a year

Total Donation:

Please mail to FDTC, PO Box 312, Falmouth, MA 02541

In addition, if you would like to make a contribution to the **Thelma Goldstein Scholarship**, you may send donations to the above address. We will be awarding the scholarship again this year to a Falmouth High School student who is interested in politics and community service.



Tom and Ann Stone, subcommittee on Gun Violence Prevention