

RDTC April 4 meeting at Town Hall at 7 PM

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Reorg meeting; Exec Cmte at 6:30.

Zoom link:

Topic: RDTC Reorganization meeting

Time: Apr 4, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9633988959?omn=84520612889>

Meeting ID: 963 398 8959

Agenda notes with this color background

Live minutes have this color background

## Call to Order 7:05 pm

Quorum Present: (Seven)

Jesse Gordan

Toby Lyn Schwartz

Sandy Slavet

Kevin Joyce

Elain Coutu

Davis Norris

Judith Conway

Kathleen Crogan-Camara

Betty Spears

Christopher Spears

Kate Shore (Online)

Andrew P (online)

Daija Kirkland (online)

Cheryle Totten (Online)

## SECTION A: REGISTRAR ELECTION

===== 1) See email below from the Town Council Clerk -- a request for the RDTC to nominate three candidates for the Board of Registrars (I got the formal request in snail mail too!). Please think about who might be appropriate for this position, and we can create our list of three nominees at the April. Details below in section 3.

1a) They have a deadline of March 31 but I asked for an extension to April 4; if the Town Council president doesn't extend it, I'll call a special meeting over the weekend (virtual only) on March 30 at 10 AM just for this purpose. (The Town Council would vote at the April 1 meeting, but could vote at the April 10 meeting instead).

DETAILS OF POSITION in item #3 BELOW; OUTCOME:  
(this is our formal letter to the Town Council)...

To: Town Council President William Alexopoulos  
[walexopoulos@randolph-ma.gov](mailto:walexopoulos@randolph-ma.gov)  
Re: Democratic Town Committee Registrar nominations  
CC: Natalie Oliveras, Town Council Clerk  
[noliveras@randolph-ma.gov](mailto:noliveras@randolph-ma.gov)

**April 24, 2024**

Dear Town Council President Alexopoulos,

On behalf of the Randolph Democratic Town Committee (RDTC), I thank you for your continuing collaboration and effective communication on matters concerning the Town of Randolph and its residents. Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law – Part 1, Title VIII, Chapter 51, Section 15, we proudly submit the following three (3) members for consideration to serve as Election Board of Registrar to replace the current Board of Registrar member, Yvonne Watson, whose term expires in April 2024.

Nominees (in the order nominated):

Toby Lynne Schwartz

David Norris

Christopher Spears

Ms. Sandi Cohen, the RDTC Treasurer, will present to the Randolph Town Council at the Monday, April 29, 2024 meeting.

Sincerely,  
Jesse Gordon, Chair  
Randolph Democratic Town Committee  
c/o 52 West Street, Randolph MA 02368  
617-320-6989 [jesse@jessegordon.com](mailto:jesse@jessegordon.com)

The three nominees were nominated in the order above, and then the nominations were closed after no other nominees were brought forward. The three nominees were therefore elected in a voice vote. We also held a vote on what order to present the nominees to the Town Council; that vote resulted in the listing in the order in which they were nominated.

### ===== 3) Details about the **Board of Registrars**

3a) The Randolph Board of Registrars is a 4-person board that counts the election results. There are 2 Democrats and 2 Republicans appointed. But our Town Clerk (Cheryl Sass) is a registered Democrat, so she automatically gets a seat and we only get to appoint one (yes, the Randolph Republican Town Committee gets to appoint two!)

3b) The Democratic incumbent is Yvonne Watson. I've asked her if she's interested in re-nomination but have not yet heard back.

3c) The Board of Registrars is a paid position but it doesn't pay much. I think it's \$400 per year as a stipend, regardless of how much work is required. And this year, for example, there was a lot of work....

3d) We had a recount in the Town Council election and the Board of Registrars ran it (bringing in a dozen counterparts from other towns). We also had a write in campaign for Democratic State Committeeman on March 5 (Jesse Gordon won, but there were 3 other write-in candidates) and the Board of Registrars counted them all by hand. They're also responsible for the regular machine-counted ballots, of course.

3e) The process is that the RDTC nominates three people for registrar, and we vote on all three so they're in rank order. (We can vote on more than three, but only the top three vote-getters get nominated). We then send that list to the Randolph Town Council who select one of the three nominees.

3f) I've observed the Board of Registrars in several other towns now, and none are even close to the efficiency and professionalism of the Randolph Board of Registrars. I say that to the Randolph Town Clerk's office at every chance I get.

## SECTION B: OFFICER ELECTION

First, we define our official membership, based on the March 5 election. Our members are in the list below. ALL CAPS means your name was on the ballot; lower-case names means your write-in campaign was successful. The March 5 election results are online permanently at: [Official-3-5-24-Election-Results \(randolph-ma.gov\)](https://randolph-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2551/Official-3-5-24-Election-Results)  
<https://randolph-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2551/Official-3-5-24-Election-Results> (scroll down past the presidential primary, and past the State Committee seats, to the own Committee seats).

## RANDOLPH PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY MARCH 2024 - OFFICIAL RESULTS

JESSE GORDON  
NATACHA CLERGER  
IDA GORDON  
CHERYL FRAZIER  
KATRINA HUFF-LARMOND  
PAUL MEONI  
SANDR COHEN  
KATHLEEN CROGAN-CAMARA  
TOBY LYNNE SCHWARTZ  
KEVIN COLEMAN JOYCE  
DAVID HARRIS, JR.  
CYNTHIA STRONG  
SANDRA SLAVET  
JUDITH CONWAY  
CATHY SHORE  
JOHN CONWAY  
ANTONIO ROSA ANDRADE  
BETTY SPEARS  
CHERYLE TOTTEN  
CHRISTOPHER SPEARS  
ALLAPHIA SACKEENA RICHARDS  
PEG NONEZ  
GEORGE MAGAZINE, JR.  
DAVID NORRIS  
ANDREW PEMBERTON  
ALLEN LAURENT  
Malik Williams  
Timothy Heidcamp  
Patrick Kanza  
Elaine Coutu  
Daija Kirkland  
Guerlince Semerzier  
Lisa Millwood

Added by vote (later in meeting): Jenelle Cadogan  
Counting the list above, we have 34 members and we are allowed 35 full members.  
If we vote in one more member, anyone added after that can be "associate members" until someone drops off. Associate members have all the rights of full members except... [I'm not sure what rights they don't have!].

===== 2) The April 4 meeting is our "**reorganization meeting**" where we elect all the RDTC officers. All of our terms expire at that time (mine included), so please think about who you'd like to see as officers, which I describe below. And you

can volunteer for any of them! (Just nominate yourself, and we'll have a vote). There's no March 31 deadline on this (deadline is later in April). This is all on <https://massdems.org/your-party/town-and-ward-committees/> and click on "Chairs Manual" and the other info there.

2a) **Chair** -- runs the meetings, and anything else that's not done. We can have two co-chairs as long as they're of two different genders. Incumbent Jesse Gordon.

2b) **Vice-Chair** -- runs the meetings when the chair is unavailable, and anything else that's not done. We can have two co-chairs as long as they're of two different genders. Incumbents are Toby Lynne Schwartz and Chris Spears. Both have served in chair roles in the past year, including at our recent caucuses.

2c) **Treasurer** -- responsible for maintaining the RDTC checking account, taking donations, and signing checks. Incumbent is Sandi Cohen.

2d) **Secretary** -- responsible for recording minutes and all other communications with RDTC members and with the State Committee. Our incumbent was Cheryle Totten but she retired last year and Jesse Gordon has been filling in.

2e) **Affirmative Action / Outreach Advisor** -- we have not had an active Affirmative Action Officer for some time, but past incumbents include Dave Harris and George Magazine. Any member is eligible, if you think you can recruit new members.

2f) **Ex Officio Executive Committee members** -- The Executive Committee makes the agenda prior to each meeting (we've settled on a half-hour right before the meeting). I've always included all our districts' Democratic State Committee members on the Exec Committee, which is called "ex officio". But I've discovered that's not a rule at other DTCs. So we can vote on that too, on April 4. The incumbents from Randolph are Kevin Joyce and Kate Shore but their terms may be expiring on April 6. There are a half-dozen other DSC members who represent Randolph, because we're in a "split district".

#### OFFICER NOMINATIONS:

Sandy Cohen nominated for Treasurer (Judy Conway nominated; Sandy Slavet Seconded)

Jenelle Cadogan nominated for Secretary by Toby;

Kevin Joyce nominated by himself for Affirmative Action; 2nded by Judith Conway

Daija Kirkland nominated by herself for Affirmative Action; 2nded by Jesse; this took place after the April 4 meeting and a vote will be held at the May 2 meeting and the results will be in the next minutes. Daija's was sent to the DSC as co-affirmative action-outreach officer.

Toby nominated for co-chair by Kevin Joyce

Jesse Gordon nominated for co-chair

Christopher Spears nominated for co vice-chair by himself

David Norris nominated for co-vice chair

Slate accepted by unanimous acceptance

Judith Conway requested that our by-laws be changed allow two chairs and vice-chairs regardless of gender identity

Ayes: 14

No: 2

Jesse proposed that any State Committee member from the district could show up at a meeting and be allowed attend and advise at the executive committee meeting and to vote during regular meeting as an ex-officio member.

VOTE: State Committee members can attend and advise at Executive meeting

Aye 11

Opposed 5

VOTE: State Committee members can attend and advise at Executive meeting

"No" vote was unanimous (Jesse Gordon abstained)

Acceptance of March Minutes (updated and emailed caucus results)

Jenelle voted in as member - send out whole roster to all!

## SECTION C: REGULAR MEETING TOPICS

### **Officers, Committees or Subcommittee Reports:**

#### ***Treasurer's Update***

Sandi - \$625.60 after both scholarships recipients have cashed their checks. So now we need money.

## ***Scholarship Committee Update***

Toby: picking up tomorrow

May 28 at RHS starting at 5 PM

Judy Harris, Judy Conway, Jenelle, Elaine, Betty Spears, and Toby are now members of the Scholarship Committee, and will decide where and when to meet, and then decide on the scholarship recipients.

## ***Legislative Updates***

Sandi attended Ayanna Town Hall - Creole Ballot reported out of cmte

End of Life Options Act H2246/S1331

Toby: bill reported favorably on joint cmte public health -> healthcare financing

Kevin: Scotland now has a bill for end-of-life options.

Toby: DeathWithDignity.org has a petition ; compassionateChoices.org = history of bill since 2012

Sandy Slavet: Gov. Healey supports it but nothing is happening

## **Mass Care/Single Payer Program –**

Chris Spears on MassCare update Medicare for All bill "sent to study" on 3/27/24 - MassCare says it can be revived

South Shore Medicare for All Hub running a ballot question in November in Norfolk 7<sup>th</sup>

Link: Lynn Newkirk 781-864-0973

2024 MassCare Gala (outdoor BBQ & fundraiser & \$40 fee) on May 4 at Lars Anderson Shelter 11 AM - 2:30 w/ State Senator Jamie Eldridge

## **Gateway City Home Rule Petition**

Nothing new

## **Chickatawbut Petition**

Jesse: I presented to the Milton Town Meeting Warrant Committee, after submitting a petition with 31 certified signatures from Milton residents (10 were required). The petition calls for the Milton Town Meeting to withdraw their Home Rule Petition to replace the MassDOT roundabout at the corner of Randolph Ave (Rt 28) and Chickatawbut Road with a 25-mph speed limit sign. The petition called that a "speed trap" which would target Randolph and Dorchester residents, both majority-minority communities.

I was the first non-Milton resident to ever present to the Warrant Committee. Accordingly, the Warrant Committee officers had a preparatory discussion with me prior to the Warrant Committee

meeting about the rules of presenting. They ultimately decided in favor of allowing it, since the Randolph Town Council had allowed a Milton resident to present on the same topic in 2023 (among other reasons). Hence I will be the first non-Milton resident to ever present at Town Meeting (I pointed out that I was the first to do so in Randolph also, for our petition process after we became a city).

The discussion proceeded for over an hour, with questions from several Town Meeting members, plus testimony from the Milton Police Chief. You can view it all at [www.RandolphPetitions.com](http://www.RandolphPetitions.com) (click on "Chickatawbut" then "MiltonAccessTV.org"). That website tells you all the issues involved.

The Warrant Committee asked me to contact MassDOT to see if they plan to await the outcome of the Home Rule Petition before deciding what to do, and whether they would do BOTH the roundabout AND the 25-mph speed limit (which I would not oppose -- that's no longer a speed trap). I contacted MassDOT and got no response, so I sent in a FOIA request two weeks ago. They're required to respond within 10 days but did not do so until April 24, when they said "we received your request." The project manager wrote me directly, so maybe I'll get some answers by the Milton Town Meeting.

### ***State Dem Committee Update –***

Next meeting April 6 in Revere-

Kate - Marshfield and Pembroke Dems are activating their membership to gather sigs -- we could up our electoral activity.

### ***Convention update***

June 1 Worcester; delegate list sent in to Mass Dems; please go to MassDems.org to fill in your forms if you have not done so!

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Kevin - Elixabeth Warren sigs at Shaw's on 11AM Saturday. Needs 40,000 signatures by May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Food pantry jar filled with dollar bills

Diana DiZoglio Tuesday the April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6-9 at Florian Hall in Dorchester \$100 a head - Kevin going at about 6

"Audit the Legislature" ballot initiative: 12,000 signatures more needed! Kathleen Crogan-Camara supports; Bill Driscoll opposes

Sandi: Daughter running for Mayor of Piscataway; Andy Kim filed lawsuit against archaic ballot layout & won on appeal & 17 counties appealed that; Andy Kim won for now. Bob Menendez may run as an Independent. Mayor has been in power for 27 years.

Sandy Slavet May 31 and June 1 is DEI in cooperation with others - all day event - Second Annual Progress Pride Flagraising and whole weekend of food trucks and big event. Same day as Convention!



## OLD BUSINESS

### Bus Petition:

Jesse: The consultant has been hired and is calling people who testified to Town Council, and anyone that those people suggest. I did a 30-minute interview with them and added more people to their list. Their report is due in June, so they should finish interviewing soon.

State Senator Timilty III announced he is running for Clerk of Courts, his father's position

Kate on postcard writing - next time

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Toby on bottle caps - looking for new HQ

AmVets Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 to 7 for spaghetti dinner

**CD7 Caucus:** The Democratic National Committee will elect delegates to the National Convention this weekend. It's another caucus -- for each United States Congressional District. Our district (called "CD7") extends from Somerville thru Boston to Randolph. If you'd like to attend the caucus, it's at 3 PM on Saturday April 27 at Roxbury Community College (1234 Columbus Ave., Boston) -- show up on time and you can vote for delegates, and you can run for delegate.

I did attend one CD7 caucus once -- it was "packed" by Mayor Menino, who bussed in hundreds of Russian-speakers, who were instructed in Russian to not listen to anyone else and to vote for Menino's slate. Mayor Wu is not running a slate, it seems, but it will be a contested election (there are more candidates than seats -- 4 male + 4 female seats, plus one male alternate).

A candidate contacted me to invite you all. He is Jack Perenick, the chair of the Somerville Dems, who is running on a "Gen Z for DNC" slate with Leslie Templeton. You can contact Jack by text or phone at 413-271-2242 or by email at [JackForSomerville@gmail.com](mailto:JackForSomerville@gmail.com) -- Jack and I discussed that very few people have been notified of this meeting (I didn't hear about it until Jack texted me) -- that means that your presence and your vote would make a real difference.

## NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT:

May 2 Thursday 7 PM

Judy C will propose to DEI to do a joint meeting

Meeting Adjourned 8:27

