

Plymouth Area Democrats
Minutes of the Meeting, June 21, 2012

Our usual meeting format was changed for a special event in June. Instead of preceding the speakers with a potluck dinner and business meeting, we had an abbreviated social time with cookies and drinks followed by an election of Grafton County officers and at-large members, and then the speakers – the three democratic gubernatorial candidates.

Chairman Bob Lamb welcomed members to the June meeting at 6:30 with some humor about the heat in the room. (We had been experiencing several days of 90+ degree temperatures and were meeting in a room with no AC.) He then introduced the attendees to Paul Phillips, our vice chair, who will be taking over as Chair after the June meeting. Bob Lamb is turning his focus to his campaign for the NH Senate.

Bob Lamb turned the meeting over to Martha Richards and Sue Ford to conduct a brief Grafton County Democrats' Meeting. The Grafton County Committee Officers' election was swift and efficient. Elected were the following Officers:

Martha Richards, Chair
Sue Ford, Vice Chair
John Chamberlain, Treasurer
Catherine Mulholland, Secretary

At large committee members: Fran Taylor, Nancy Martland, Deb Reynolds,
Karen Lieto-Hill, and Bob Lamb

“Conversations With Our Democratic Gubernatorial Candidates”

At 7pm. Bob Lamb reviewed the debate procedures and introduced the three participants – Maggie Hassam, Jackie Cilley, and Bill Kennedy. The order of their opening and closing statements, plus the order of answering each question, was determined in advance. A time limit was applied to each response, which was monitored by Carole and Ken Heuser.

Questions were asked by members of the audience and answered by each candidate. The questions included the following topics from individuals selected by the PAD Officers:

- 1) What is the role and function of government?
- 2) What will you do as Governor to improve the NH economy and increase the number of good paying jobs in the state?
- 3) What if any are the needed changes in the fiscal and tax policies in NH
- 4) Should NH adopt a single-payer healthcare system and what changes do you plan to implement in NH?
- 5) How will you stop the attack on the NH education system and allow more students to attend college?

Questions from the audience included the following:

- 6) Each candidate was asked for their views on Northern Pass

- 7) Each candidate was asked how the Democratic party and candidates could “frame” the issues better for the voters and improve our communication on issues.

After closing statements from each candidate and concluding comments from Bob Lamb in which he formally announced that this was his last meeting as PAD Chair we held a pie raffle. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. We estimated approximately 150 people attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Weston, Secretary

