

**Plymouth Area Democrats**  
**April 20, 2016**

Report of the Secretary (Substitute, Fran Taylor)

Meeting call to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Reminders:**

Upcoming PAD meeting May 18 NORTHERN PASS panel discussion  
June 15 KRISS BLEVENS, Drug Recovery Crusader  
May 21 NHDP Field Training 10-1 for upcoming election activities

**Notables in audience:** County Comm. Martha Richards, Representatives HD8 Mary Cooney, Travis Bennett; HD6 Kevin Maes; Brandan Lemay PSU Student Dems; former Senator Deb Reynolds; former House member Tink Taylor; Selectman Plymouth Bill Bolton; Town Chairs Liz Coty of Ashland, Paul Phillips of Plymouth, Fran Taylor of Holderness, Terri Downs of Rumney, David Pealer of Campton.

Minutes of previous meeting APPROVED with no changes.

**FUND RAISING**

GARDEN TOUR scheduled for July 9 to raise funds for PAD election headquarters  
Looking for gardens and volunteers. Contact Joyce Weston or Barb Fahey to volunteers

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Today was a busy day for the House Committees with a number of bills considered.

- passed SB533 increased funds for drug treatment
- passed SB433 permits certain overweight vehicles from traveling over state roads during spring weight limit period to include Septic trucks
- killed SB535 establishing a grant program for high schools for heroin and opiate prevention education
- passed SB509 which changes the procedure for investigating new voters who do not confirm their status after receiving letters of identity verification.
- killed SB492 modifies the allocation of rebates to retail electric customers
- Passed SB521 which sets fees for OHRVs
- Passed SB489 authorizing a demonstration project using a Stirling engine system.

**Guest BRIAN SOWYRDA, Field and Training Director for the NHDP**

He explained the NHDP's Training4Success program, which will have two training sessions for Grafton County. The goal is to train activists and candidates to effectively participate in campaigns; i.e., grassroots organizing, knocking on doors, phone calling, etc. Sowyrda's big announcement was that NHDP will pay ½ the office expenses thanks to huge attendance at recent NHDP fundraisers! He also assured us that the INDEPENDENCE OF LOCAL OFFICES will be upheld!

**Featured Guest CAROL SHEA PORTER**

Candidate for Congressional District 1 with only one PAD town in her catchment area– Campton. Carol explained her appearance in Plymouth by breaking down the party membership in her district as 26% Democratic, 34% Republican, and all others Undeclared. She needs our support financially and by communicating with our friends who live in her district and expressing our enthusiasm for her candidacy. Social media can be an important way to reach out to those you know and asking them to “share”. Letters to the editor help too.

