Plymouth Area Democrats Wednesday, October 14, 2026
6:00 Welcome

- Welcome! I hope you were able to meet some of the candidates who are our guests here tonight. They will speak after we finish this brief business portion.
- **Recognize** elected officials
- **Recognize** town committee members (31)
- **Recognize** candidates
- **Recognize new members.**
- **Minutes** We had a glitch on our website so the minutes didn't get posted. We will post them ASAP, along with the minutes of this meeting and vote on everything next month
- **Treasurer's report** Donation envelopes are on tables. Please consider a recurrent donation on Act Blue—thank you to all the new and on going recurrent donors! We are grateful to all our recurring **and** one time donors. This fall we were able to fund the office and the Vote No on Question 2 campaign and donate to candidates
    - Bill Nesheim will present the formal report.
    - We are getting to the end go the election season and some of our candidates may need help. Are you in favor of PAD making additional contributions to the local candidates in need? If so, I need a motion and a second.
- **Sense of the meeting:** We have skipped the December meeting in the past because our meetings were the 4th Wednesday. Since we have moved them to the 2nd Wednesday, do we want to have a meeting on December 9th? If we do, we have several excellent suggestions for speakers that we will follow up on. Otherwise we will meet in January. We will have our regular meeting on November 11 and it will be a Thank You to volunteers and time to relax after the busy election season. *Group agreed to skip the December meeting.*
- **Announcements:**
    - Volunteer opportunities abound! We are 20 days from the election.
        - We need to Get out the Vote! This means people to knock doors, make phone calls and put packets together. There is volunteer sheet going around.

- We will have a table near the Common on Saturday. We are respecting the Central NH Indivisible guidelines of having this be a non-partisan event so we will not be on the Common. Please stop by. Please see me if you can help out at the table.
- Signs! We have a lot of Cinde signs here tonight, thanks to Bridget Powers who drove to Manchester to pick them up. Feel free to take one. We also have a limited supply of Vote No signs. Please see Joyce if you would like to take one. We would like them in high visibility areas since we only have a total of 100. We also would like to spread them around our surrounding, more red towns—Plymouth is likely a safe town but we will have some at high traffic areas. We have a few signs left for the other candidates at the office. Please stop by if you have a good location for the signs.
- Maggie Goodlander will be in Plymouth on Saturday at 3pm for a Meet and Greet. This is at the end of No Kings, so please walk down the street to say hello!
- Chris Pappas will do a canvass launch on Sunday at 2pm. We would love to see you there. Our State Senator Sue Prentiss will also be with him.
- We need people to hold signs for candidates at the polls on November 3. A sign up is going around if you are willing to help. Please note the town you want to stand at—it doesn't have to be your own—and hours you are available. We would love to have people at all the polls all day but we will focus on the busy times, early morning, mid day and after work until the polls close.
- Central NH Indivisible is hosting a Refusing to Forget event on Sunday October 18 on the Plymouth Common. Grace Garvey will tell us a little more about it.

- Our Technology and Communications Officer has stepped down. We have a volunteer for that position but that will leave the Vice-Chair position open. Please see me or another Board member if you want more information or want to volunteer.
- Some housekeeping items—and I mean that literally—Please do not put cups or bottles in the trash with liquid still in them. They spill on the floor

and the car of our volunteer who takes things to the transfer station. There is a small sink by the coffee maker to discard the liquids. And, please stay a couple minutes after the meeting to help clean up. Many hands make light work. Also, if you are able to come a little early to the meetings to help set up, please see Laura Parr. Laura, please stand up so everyone knows who you are.

- Finally, I have 2 items that have been left at meetings. This lovely insulated carrier was left in the spring and this spoon was left last month. Please come to collect them if they are yours.

I am going to move right into our program. If you need to take break, try to wait until there is a break between speakers. This floor is really squeaky!

6:15 Speakers

- Tonight we have the pleasure to hear from some of our regional and local candidates. The format for tonight is to give each person 3 minutes to tell us a little about themselves and a brief statement on what they see as the main issues in their race and how they will address them. There will be 5 minutes for Q & A after each office. I hope we end early enough to allow for time if you want to speak one on one with any of the candidates here tonight. We will start with the County Candidates, then the State Senate Candidates and, finally, out State Rep Candidates
- **Mike Cryans**
    - Mike is a resident of Hanover and is running for re-election as the Grafton County Treasurer. He has served Grafton County as a Commissioner for many years and also served as the District 1 Executive Councilor
    - *Mike spoke of his time as Commissioner and recommended that folks vote from the bottom of the ballot up.*
- **Marcie Hornick**
    - *Marcie was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but has a statement.*
    - *Marcie's statement mentioned that communication has improved between the county and local police forces.*

    - Marcie is running for re-election as the Grafton County Attorney. Marcie was first elected in 2018 and is running for her 5th term. Prior to being elected as Grafton County attorney, she was a public defender for 15 years.
- **Questions:**

- **Kurt Webber**
    - Kurt is the State Senate District 2 Candidate. He will represent the towns of Ashland, Campton, Holderness and Thornton in the PAD area. He is a West Point Graduate and has dedicated his life to service both in the Army and back at home.
        - *Kurt has spent 23 years in the Army and also serves on the school board in Gilford. He is the founder of Camp Resilience. He asks for volunteers to submit letters to the editor*
- **Rebecca Harned**
    - Rebecca is not able to join us this evening. She has family obligations with her son—a cross country meet and orientation for his winter sport. Her campaign manager, Emma Cranage will introduce Rebecca. We had the pleasure of hearing Rebecca speak earlier this year. She is the State Senate District 7 candidate. Her district encompasses the Pad towns of Bridgewater, Bristol, Alexandria and Hebron
    - *Emma spoke on Rebecca's behalf and read a letter that reflected on her campaign's mission is to ensure that NH families can afford to stay in the communities they love. NH children deserve opportunities, strong public schools, and leaders who take the future seriously.*
- **Questions:**
    - *Kurt and Becca spoke of how they communicate to voters about the damage the Free State Project has done to the state.*

- **Heather Baldwin**
    - Heather is well known to us and is the State Rep for Grafton District 4 representing the towns of Ellsworth, Thornton and Waterville Valley. She was first elected in 2022.
        - *Heather has lived in Thorton for over 50 years and has raised a large family. She stated that she continues to run for office because she has not seen a positive change since she first started running.*
- **Paul Goundrey**

    - Paul is running for State Rep in Grafton District 6. He will represent the towns of Orford, Wentworth and Rumney. He is a long-time resident of Orford and has served on the Select Board and the Planning Board.
        - *Paul spoke of his many years of experience on various local boards. Paul wants to bring public service back to the legislature.*
- **Bill Bolton**
    - Bill is well known in Plymouth. He is seeking his 3rd term as one of the 3 State Reps serving Ashland, Holderness and Plymouth. He is also on the Select Board and is the Executive Director of Transport Central
        - *Bill discussed how FSP members have driven down state revenue and he hopes to reverse this trend*
- **Sallie Fellows**
    - Sallie is another of the 3 State Reps serving Ashland, Holderness and Plymouth. She has served as our State Rep since 2018. She was born and raised in Plymouth and her career was in Education. She currently resides in Holderness.
        - *Sallie spoke of how Question 2 is a poorly worded law and this reinforced*
- **Peter Lovett**
    - Peter is the 3rd of the 3 State Reps serving Ashland, Holderness and Plymouth. He followed in his father's footsteps both as his career as a pastor in the Congregational Church, most recently as the pastor in the Meredith UCC, but also as a state Rep. Peter is a Holderness resident.
        - *Peter asks for you to follow his social media phenomenon Live Free Lovett.*
- **Marc Bourassa**
    - Marc is the State Rep Candidate from Grafton District 10 which includes Bristol and Bridgewater. He has been a home owner in NH for many years and several years ago he moved to Bristol as his permanent residence. He had a long career in finance and now sits on the Planning Board in Bristol
        - *Marc spoke of how property taxes have exploded under Free State leadership and how housing prices are*
- **Roger Larochelle**
    - Roger is the State Rep Candidate from Grafton District 11 which encompasses Hebron, Alexandria, Grafton and Groton. He is currently the Hebron Town Moderator as well as the Moderator for the new Pasquaney

School District. He was the executive Director of the Squam Lakes Conservation Society and, prior to that, the Mayhew Program

- *Roger mentioned that there has been a 70% increase in property taxes in the last 20 years!*

- **Questions:**
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7:30 adjourn.

- Our next meeting is Wednesday November 11 and we will take that time to relax after the busy election cycle and thank our many volunteers and candidates.
- Please remember to put the elastic inside your name tag.