

Hebron Democratic Town Committee
Regular Meeting
Hebron Senior Center
04/28/2025 7pm

Attendees: Meg Clifton, Maura Curran Baker, Amy D'Amaddio, Beth Fitzgerald, Bob Fitzgerald, Janet Fodaski, Bernie Furbush, Greg Howard, Davis Howell, Cris Lawrence, Jan Lawrence, Maryanne Leichter, Nicole Lotko, John Matra, Cathy McSweeney, Adam Ockman, Heather Petit, Denise Rodosevich, David Rose, Mary Rose, John Surowiecki, Jo Ann Souza

Guests: Luke Bronin, Cathy Osten, Judy Podell, Tonya Maurer, Dave Souza, Suzanne Barber

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cris Lawrence at 7:02pm and a quorum was established.

Luke Bronin – He talked about the current political environment and how so many people have a sense of crisis about the future. He thinks we should all fight what's happening by doing things like protesting and talking to friends who voted for Trump to see if this is what they expected. Democrats need to win back the trust of people who were disillusioned enough to vote for Trump. He said if Ned Lamont doesn't run for Governor of CT again, then he will run and would like our support. He answered people's questions.

Cathy Osten - She talked about the Democracy forum held Sunday 04.27.25 in Marlborough. Speakers talked about how what's happening at the Federal level will affect CT and our towns. People from the local towns around Hebron attended to learn how to get involved. She talked about the ECS (Education Cost Sharing) formula that's designed to ensure that all public school students have equal access to quality education regardless of their location or the wealth of their town. Lawmakers are talking about changing it which will adversely affect a lot of Eastern CT towns. She mentioned other cuts to UConn and UConn health research grants, etc.

Chair Update

Fundraisers – John Matra reported on the 5/21/2025 Meet the new DTC Chair fundraiser at Cris and Jan Lawrence's house from 6 to 8pm. We'll ask for a \$20 donation per person.

Hebron Day – Saturday, June 14th at Burnt Hill park, we'll have a DTC tent/table. Cris will send out a sign up Genius for people to sign up for a shift.

Municipals – Open positions – We're looking for people to run for various town boards and commissions for this November.

Board of Selectmen – 2

Board of Finance – 2

Hebron Board of Education – 3

RHAM Board of Education – there's only 1 Democrat so we should try for another seat.

Planning and Zoning – 1

Planning and Zoning Alternate – 1

Zoning Board of Appeals -1

Approval of Minutes from 03/24/2025 meeting

Maryanne Leichter made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and Nicole Lotko seconded it. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report (Janet Fodaski)

Bank account balance: \$3,796.69

Expenses - \$24.99 for Goodbye cake for Erin Bussiere

\$57.38 for a table to use at events

\$212.69 for a new tent for events

Approval of Treasurers Report

Meg Clifton made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Mary Rose. All were in favor.

Registrar's Report:

We have 7651 registered voters in Hebron, of those:

2174 registered Democrats

1967 registered Republicans

3407 registered Unaffiliated

103 other (including Green party)

Old Business:

The DTC Facebook page and website have been updated recently.

Board reports:

Charter Commission – They will be presenting their revisions to the Board of Selectmen at the 5/1/2025 meeting at 7pm.

Board of Finance – We talked about writing letters to the editor of the Rivereast which would've been due the next day 04/29/2025. It was suggested that the people most needed to reach don't really read the Rivereast though.

Dept. of Public Works (DPW) – The public voted at a town meeting to pass the initial half of the design's funding, approximately \$750,000

Board of Assessment Appeals – The motor vehicle tax formula is changing, Car valuations can be appealed by Hebron taxpayers.

Planning and Zoning – They approved a new mini golf course to be built at the new nursery across from Wild Bill's in 2026. We're getting 16 new apartments on Wellswood Rd, some of which will be affordable housing.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at 9pm by David Rose and seconded by Judy Podell. All were in favor.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2025

Submitted by Cathy McSweeney