

# NDCC City Committee Minutes

June 8, 2023

## Call to Order

Derek Thibeault called the NDCC meeting to order at 7:06PM.

## Opening

Derek Thibeault welcomed members.

The Executive Board and attendees introduced themselves.

## Approval of Minutes

Susan Elberger made a motion to approve the May City Committee meeting minutes. Approved on a voice vote.

## Treasurer Report

Manny Espitia reported the NDCC had \$5634 in bank accounts, and had raised a couple of hundred dollars since the prior month. Mr. Espitia stated Mike Pederson donates monthly and encourages other members to do the same.

Mr. Espitia stated a report was due to the Secretary of State on June 7, 2023, which was filed on time. And further that previous reports are being corrected and filed.

## General Good and Welfare

### State Senate Update

Sen. Rosenwald was not present

### State House Update

Rep. Fran Nutter-Upham stated that the state budget had been passed with many Democratic priorities. The budget passed raises the public school funds Nashua receives from last year, and is greater the budget originally passed by the House.

John McAllister, IAFF Local 789, advocated for HB 436.

### City Update

Alderman Derek Thibault stated the city budget season had started with meetings between Alderman and each city department. A prospective surplus in the budget escrow account was expected to be used for one-time expenses since the money had already been collected.

Alderman Thibeaut stated salaries consume the largest portion of the budget.

The Board of Alderman recently approved the Paraeducator contract.

A public presentation on the budget will be held on June 20, 2023 at Nashua North High School.

## Board of Education

Heather Raymond presented the Board of Education report, stating there were several “hot button” issues in front of the board. One of these issues is school redistricting. The vote for middle school redistricting will be held at the next BOE meeting. Ms. Raymond stated the new Middle School is larger to account for medically needy students.

The vote for Elementary School redistricting will be held in the subsequent BOE meeting. Mount Pleasant Elementary School is a significant point of contention. It is a 100 year old school in 2024 and requires an estimated \$25M in renovations and \$5M for security upgrades.

Nashua has experienced a loss of 4000 students over the last 10 years, while the general population grew by 6000. Class sizes in Elementary schools vary significantly between schools. The Curriculum committee is discussing changes to math and literacy instruction. The BOE is also considering restructuring the school day based on the Department of Justice settlement. Middle school leveling is another contentious topic with only 25% of students at grade level mastery and racial disparities identified in Honors classes.

The Nashua School System IT functionality was restored after the recent cyberattack.

## Committee Reports

### Fundraising Committee

Christal Lloyd stated the NDCC BBQ Fundraiser was planned for July 15 from 1-4. The Flyer was ready to be distributed. The Fundraising Committee is calling and emailing potential speakers. Cinde Warmington was expected to speak. Manny Espitia indicated he would contact Congresswoman Kuster about speaking.

The Maryann Williamson campaign was seeking a location for a house party during the first week of July.

The Fundraising Committee goals are to raise sufficient funding for an Executive Director like Olivia in 2022 who helped to elect 27 Democratic State Representatives.

Manchester Democrats hold three fundraisers per year starting with a St. Patrick's day breakfast in March.

### Communications Committee

Jim Ravan stated he was looking to pay to host the new website. He plans to deploy the new site in less than a month. A suggestion from the audience was made to review the Manchester and Salem City Committee websites.

### Candidate Recruitment Committee

Derek Thibeault recognized potential Alderman candidates from Wards 6, 7 and 9 plus BOE candidates in the audience. Mr. Thibeault stated he was working with “Run for Something” to help find candidates for Moderators, Ward Clerks and Selectman.

The Candidate Recruitment Committee is still seeking one BOE candidate.

Mr. Thibeault stated Republicans Mike Broderick and Mark Galant were expected to run for Mayor.

## Get 'Em Elected Committee

Susan Elberger stated that she plans to speak at the NAACP general meeting. The Get 'Em Elected Committee is also trying to contact the Young Democrats and Hispanic community. A booth is planned at the Ward 4 (Tree Street) block party, and the committee is seeking volunteers. The event will include flyers for the upcoming NDCC BBQ. Volunteers are also requested to help staff the Pride Parade booth. Both events will be posted and pinned to the NDCC Facebook page.

The committee plans to contact the League of Women Voters for candidate recruitment.

## New Business

None

## Announcements

The next Planning Board meeting on the proposed Asphalt plant is planned for June 15 at 7PM. A vote may be taken at that meeting.

The Black Heritage Trail of NH and NAACP are holding a Frederick Douglass reading on Sat. July 1 at 12PM at the Nashua Library.

## Adjourn

Manny Espitia made a motion to adjourn at 8:33. Passed on voice vote.