



Town of Clinton Monthly Democratic Committee Meeting 7/16/22

11am on Zoom

Executive Committee 10.30

Jane Brien
Charlie Dykas
Ian Shrank
Greg Stephens
Eliot Werner

Committee Meeting 11.00

Bronwyn Bevan
Jane Brien
Charlie Dykas
Steve Haggerty
Pam Lovinger
Robert Renbeck
Greg Stephens
Eliot Werner (Town Board)
Mike Whitton (Town Supervisor)

BOLD = Committee Members

AGENDA

Approval of minutes
Overview of Special Election August 23rd
Town Board Report
Update on Clinton Democratic Social
Committee Recruitment
County Legislature update

Eliot Werner opened the meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes from 5/20/22
Mike Whitton moved to approve amended minutes, Charlie Dykas seconded.
Minutes were approved.



2. Overview of Special Election August 23rd

Mike Whitton gave an overview of information on Special Election August 23rd.

- For Town of Clinton Democrats there are TWO decisions and TWO separate ballots.

Ballot 1. New York's 19th Congressional District (CD19) Special Election

to serve out the remaining time (until December 31st) that was left in Antonio Delgado's term when he resigned to become Kathy Hochul's Lieutenant Governor.

Pat Ryan (D) Current Ulster County Executive

Marc Molinaro (R) Current Dutchess County Executive

Ballot 2. Democratic Primary for NEW 18th Congressional District (CD18)

Pat Ryan - Town of Clinton Democrats of Clinton supporting.

Aisha Mill

Moses Mugulusi

Candidate information posted on ToCDems website:

www.townofclintondemocrats/currentcandidates

3. November General Election

As the result of congressional redistricting, the Town of Clinton Residents will be voting in CD18. New 18th district is Dutchess, Southern Ulster and Orange.

The Democratic Candidate will be the winner of the August 23rd Democratic Primary.

The Republican Candidate is Colin Schmidt, from New Windsor.

Whitton stressed the importance of Ryan winning the interim Congressional seat in the 19th because whoever wins can campaign as an incumbent, a distinct advantage.



4. Town Board Report - Mike Whitton

ARPA money spending decisions have been made.

Various projects include:

Upgrading Friends Park

Masonic Hall upgrade

Ramp/ access to library

Discussion of AC failure in Town Hall. Location of compressor is a problem, above the dais in Town Hall. Plans are being made to fix it.

Town Board passed a law July 12th to change the upper limit senior citizen property tax exemption, to \$37,000 annual income.

Town Board budget process is about to begin. The tax cap of a 2% increase is a problem because it is not in step with inflation.

Discussion ensued about the level of tax increase based on increase based on assessments. It is not always that an increased assessment means more taxes.

Bronwyn Bevan talked about messaging in an election year with this economy and the optics of increased taxes. Whitton talked about how small an actual increase would be in reality. The Committee agreed that on point messaging and knowing how to answer questions regarding T of C assessments, taxes and what the town needs would be important during election season.

Whitton encouraged people to watch the process by attending meetings online and in person.

5. Charlie Dykas, talked about upcoming communications, these are in the planning phase.
6. Whitton told the committee that the Town of Clinton Library budget increase is now on the on the ballot after collecting enough signatures.
7. Update on Clinton Democratic Social



Eliot Werner said there had been a planning meeting at Marion Auspitz's house for the Clinton Democratic Social on **September 17th 1-4.**

Candidates are being invited.

Volunteers are needed.

Bronwyn Bevan volunteered.

8. Clinton Community Day September 2nd.
Town of Clinton Democrats will have a table.
Volunteers and a sign up sheet are needed.
Discussion of what to hand out at the table

Ideas included:

Clinton Dem Committee info

Voting info - dates, second home registration, early voting, endorsed candidates

Sign up list to join T of C Dems and Committee

Give away?

What we stand for information, what we do.

9. County Legislature update
(Eliot Werner for Brennan Kearney)
Gun safety signage resolution was voted down at committee meeting so it could not reach the floor to be voted on. All republicans voted against it.
See upcoming Dutchess Voice for full report.
Goal had been to have all members of legislature on record for their stance on gun safety.
10. Jane Brien brought up whether the committee should be involved in making statements about local, national or international issues. She mentioned that Sam Moyer had written a statement from the committee condemning the invasion of Ukraine in March 2022. Brien was interested in people's thoughts on the committee weighing in on other issues and making statements of support for things like Roe v Wade, Gun control or other issues.

Short discussion ensued and Bronwyn Bevan suggested that it might be useful if the committee set some protocol for any issues it would comment on in the future.

TOWN OF CLINTON DEMOCRATS
PO BOX 146, CLINTON CORNERS, NY



11. Call for volunteers for the committee

Eliot Werner called for volunteers for the Town of Clinton Democrats Executive Committee. There is one space available. Anyone interested should contact townofclintondemocrats@gmail.com

Eliot Werner motioned to adjourn, Pam Lovinger seconded.
Meeting was adjourned at 12pm.