

**Blue Hill Town Democratic Caucus  
02/26/06  
Minutes**

**Attending:**

Name	Address	Phone	Email	?
Bjorkman, Thomas	611 Parker Point Road	374-3644	<a href="mailto:tnbj@downeast.net">tnbj@downeast.net</a>	Y
Blake, Cynthia	47 Turkey Farm Road	374-5282	<a href="mailto:Cynthy@downeast.net">Cynthy@downeast.net</a>	Y
Brown, Ronald	467 Falls Bridge Road	374-5881	<a href="mailto:rjbphd@adelphia.net">rjbphd@adelphia.net</a>	
Dodd, Beverly	477 Falls Bridge Road PO Box 477	374-5598		Y
Dodd, Donald	477 Falls Bridge Road PO Box 477	374-5598		
Fisher, James	101 Carleton Stream Lane	374-3678	<a href="mailto:fisher@gwi.net">fisher@gwi.net</a>	Y
Garfield, Henry	256 Union Street PO Box 1603	374-2373	<a href="mailto:werewolf@hypernet.com">werewolf@hypernet.com</a>	Y
Gray, Emma	41 Tamworth Farm Road	374-5231	<a href="mailto:emmagrays@localnet.com">emmagrays@localnet.com</a>	Y
Leighton, Judith	24 Parker Pt. Rd. PO Box 353	374-5001	<a href="mailto:leightongallery@verizon.net">leightongallery@verizon.net</a>	Y
Lewis, Nadine	165 Ellsworth Rd. PO Box 874	374-2902	<a href="mailto:nadinelewis@adelphia.net">nadinelewis@adelphia.net</a>	Y
Preston, Bonita	49 Mattson Lane	374-3636	<a href="mailto:bonniepreston@earthling.net">bonniepreston@earthling.net</a>	Y
Schatz, James	578 Pleasant St PO Box 437	374-5126	<a href="mailto:bluehillfarm@gwi.net">bluehillfarm@gwi.net</a>	
Schatz, Marcia	578 Pleasant St PO Box 437	374-5126	<a href="mailto:bluehillfarm@gwi.net">bluehillfarm@gwi.net</a>	
Schneider, Ed	46 Mill Street PO Box 827	374-5027	<a href="mailto:JustEd@verizon.net">JustEd@verizon.net</a>	Y
Schneider, Justine	46 Mill Street PO Box 827	374-5027	<a href="mailto:JustEd@verizon.net">JustEd@verizon.net</a>	Y
Scroggy, James	23 Parker Point Road	374-2801	<a href="mailto:ajscroggy@hypernet.com">ajscroggy@hypernet.com</a>	Y
Truitt, Frances	39 Parker Ridge Ln #51	374-3653	<a href="mailto:Justus@gwi.net">Justus@gwi.net</a>	Y
Yunker, Les	47 Turkey Farm Road	374-5282	<a href="mailto:Curmudgeon@downeast.net">Curmudgeon@downeast.net</a>	Y

? – Choose to serve on municipal committee

**Non-Residents**

Damon, Dennis	Maine State Senate
Martin-Zboray, Heather	Hancock County Democrats

**Caucus Convener:** Cindy Blake

Cindy gaveled the meeting to order at 1:18 PM  
Request that all attending complete the Caucus Record

**Election of Municipal Officers**

Election of Chair – Justine Snyder nominates Cindy Blake, passed without dissent  
Election of Secretary – Les Yunker nominates Jim Fisher, passed without dissent

**Election of Blue Hill Town Committee**

- ◆ Show of hands for Municipal Election Committee – encourage people to check the box on form 1

**Election of Municipal Officers**

- ◆ Town Chair for Blue Hill
  - Responsibilities
    - Organize committee
    - Hold meetings

- Sign up volunteers
  - Les nominates Jim Schatz
    - Jim Schatz agrees to take the position provided he has support
  - Elected without dissent
- ◆ Secretary/Treasurer
  - Ed Snyder nominates Jim Fisher
  - Elected without dissent

**Elected Officials enrolled in Democratic Party present at the meeting**

- ◆ Jim Schatz, Select Board, State Legislature
- ◆ Cindy Blake, Planning Board
- ◆ Ed Schneider, Planning Board

**Adoption of By-laws** – Jim Fisher moves adoption. Passed without revisions

**Speeches from candidates**

Jim Schatz spoke for his re-election to the Maine Legislature

Debate over how to absorb federal cuts.

- ◆ Education
  - New funding formula has not hurt Blue Hill Consolidate School, but will affect two other schools in this district
  - Working with a rural caucus to identify funding for rural schools
- ◆ Social services – home heating, mitigating federal cuts
- ◆ Transportation – concerned about MaineDOT cuts
- ◆ Working with Blue Hill Hospital – making sure that money owed to them will reach the rural hospitals
- ◆ Preserving tobacco funds for tobacco and related health programs
  - Healthy Peninsula will receive continued support
- ◆ Two bills accepted this year
  - Moving fuel programs through the LIHeap program – for future heating systems
  - Setting an excise tax to the purchase price of cars rather than the sticker price
- ◆ Educating legislators
  - Changing procedure to have committee analyst speak first to the committee, prior to the hearing from lobbyists
  - Purpose is to educate legislators before lobbyists overwhelm them

**Questions**

- ◆ Is there any gap in time between being a former legislator and being a lobbyist? Until recently there were no rules. No there are.
- ◆ Name of the bridge over the Penobscot Narrows? No position. Like the name Penobscot River Crossing
- ◆ Vernal Pools?
  - Speaking with Hugh Durgin on this issue.
  - Rules are likely to have a negative impact on some land owners.
  - Will it be possible to create rules that will protect the environment, but not hurt some people.

Final Request – need 50 contributions of \$5.00 for the Maine Clean Elections Fund

Heather Martin Zboray spoke in support of Eric Mehnert for US Senate

Eric grew up in Orono and is a civil rights lawyer practicing in Orono.

- A populist at heart
- Concerned about concentration of power
  - Involvement in Iraq war – defense industrial complex
- Sustainable energy and renewable energy
- Grass roots strategy
- Pro-choice
- Has worked on candidate campaigns in various states
- Web site - [www.MehnertForMaine.com](http://www.MehnertForMaine.com)
- Primary – June 13<sup>th</sup>

Hank Garfield spoke in support of Jean Hay Bright for US Senate

Known Jean for about 20 years

- Jean was an editor for the Bangor Daily News
- Jean is good at bringing people into the political process
- Jean is a savvy campaigner, wants to help create a majority democratic senate

Questions

- Jean is author of a book – Flag Waving Liberal – or something like that
- Why would she be a stronger candidate for senate? – Because she brings new voters into the process.
- Demographics – woman running against a woman
- Elected Office? Several campaigns, no victories

Dennis Damon speaking for his reelection to the Maine Senate

- Would like to be re-elected to the senate
- Please sign petition
- I have been on the majority side in the Maine Senate and see many close votes
- A Republican majority would make a big difference in future votes.
- Jim Schatz does a tremendous job.
- Learning curve for new elected officials is very steep.
- Hope that you will support me in June and November
- Very important to keep our Governor in office – he is working for Maine

Questions

- Any thoughts about term-limit reform? Would need to come as a citizen initiative. The limits are a problem because the legislature lacks institutional memory.
- What are some big issues?
  - Chair transportation and marine resources
  - Need to have a working fishery – just traveled to D.C. as a commissioner for the Atlantic Marine Fishery
  - Transportation – concerns everywhere about the deferments in transportation project
    - Maine does not have a sustainable way to fund transportation
    - The Fuel tax is not sufficient
  - Act to preserve the working waterfront

- Naming the new bridge – Proposed Name – Downeast Gateway Bridge
  - There will be a hearing shortly on this
  - The process for naming the bridge was extensive
  - The name is now a political football
- Thanks to all of you for attending the caucus. Apathy is a serious threat.

**Election of County Committee**

- Meets third Thursday of each month.
- Chair – John Knudson (Brooklin)
- We can elect up to eleven persons to the committee
  - Municipal Chair – Jim Schatz is automatically a members
  - Fran Truitt volunteers
  - Les Younker Volunteers
- Others can join by attending three meetings in a row

**Alternates to County Committee**

None

**Nomination of Election Clerks**

- Deborah Wing
- Geraldine Bragdon
- Maureen Rawding
- Cindy Blake
- Ed Snyder – Full Time
- Judith Leighton

Elected Officials: (Form 3)

**Nomination of Delegates to the Convention (Augusta)**

- Cindy Blake
- Becky McCall
- Jim Schatz
- Marcia Schatz
- Justine Schneider
- Les Younker

**Alternates** - None

Nominations approved without dissent

**Motion to adjourn** passed without dissent at 2:50 PM

Respectfully submitted, James H, Fisher Caucus Secretary