

**POLICY FOR
PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL ELECTIONS
OF
GROTON DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE**

Adopted October 30, 2005

Preamble

The Groton Democratic Town Committee has great respect for the traditional non partisan nature of local elections. Our commitment to the non-partisan aspects of local elections means we will not vote to endorse any candidate, not donate as a party to a candidate for local election, and will continue to co-sponsor with the Groton Republican Town Committee a candidate's right to encourage questioning of all candidates.

However, we know that candidates for partisan elections are drawn from the ranks of local boards and commissions. This is where candidates learn the ropes and become seasoned and prepared to participate in partisan elections. As the local arm of the State and National Democratic Party, it is our responsibility to recruit and support qualified Democrats to run for office. We expect candidates to adhere in general to the agenda of the State Democratic Party. Recruiting Democrats to run for office and establishing a process whereby they may ask individual members of the Groton Democratic Town Committee for support is consistent with our purpose and our respect for non-partisan local elections.

Policy

Any candidate is welcome to attend a regularly scheduled meeting of the Groton Democratic Town Committee and ask for support of individual members.

Registered Democrats running for office are welcome to attend a regularly scheduled meeting of the Groton Democratic Town Committee to request support from the committee.

Committee support may include communication and organizational support. The committee may designate a liaison to the candidate's committee. The committee will provide a copy of our "friends of" mailing list for outreach. However, the committee shall not endorse or provide financial or in-kind support to candidates for local election.

Election Subcommittee

The chair shall appoint an Election Subcommittee whose function will be to recruit well qualified Democrats to run for office and to meet with potential candidates to provide advice and counsel. The committee shall be prepared to recruit on short notice candidates for various office to fill mid-term vacancies.