

## Woodbury Republican Town Committee Minutes – June 6, 2024

P.O. Box 255, Woodbury, CT 06798

Emergency Services Building – 7:00 PM

**Present were:** Committee members, Mike Cunningham, Paul Luchetti, Peter Perkinson, Dennis Roberts, Rob Scott, Paul Zulpa, Donna Kohanowski, Mary Connolly, John Hughes, John Lewis, and Nancy Mackey. Alternate: Bob DeLuca

**Absent:** Committee Members: Tim Drakeley, Tom Gormley, Bob Ratzenberger, and Burt Stevens.  
Alternates: Don Trella and Mike Novak

**1) Call to order by Chairman:** Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the large meeting room at the Emergency Services Building.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance:** All Stood for the Pledge.

Chairman Cunningham asked for everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for the veterans and people that lost their lives on D-Day in the invasion. Also, a special one to the veteran who passed away on his way over to France for his last visit to the grave sites.

**3) Recognition of Guests:** Chairman Cunningham recognized First Selectman Barbara Perkinson, Senator Eric Berthel, Karen Reddington Hughes, and Carl Cunningham.

Senator Berthel spoke about some of the things that went on in the Senate now that the session is over. He felt that considering the minority status of the Republicans that the Republicans came out relatively unscathed. He feels that the Democrats are running a little bit scared.

\*Senator Berthel feels that House bill #5431 that is on the Governor's desk waiting to be signed or vetoed would be vetoed. This bill would allow the comptroller to create a slush fund that would allow striking workers to be paid.

\* Senator Berthel's campaign received its full grant on Wednesday and he thanked everyone for their help. He will now start to run with the RTC's support. He also said that the person that has run against him twice before will be running for a third time this year.

\*Wethersfield refused to raise a thin blue flag in front of their Town Hall in honor of the trooper who lost his life on the highway. They felt that the thin blue line flag represents a symbol of hate and white supremacy even though it represents police officers.

\*Chairman Cunningham then recognized Representative Karen Reddington Hughes who spoke of the crazy things going on in the House of Representative one of which is a bill that has to do with the transparency on health care debt. She had hoped the Governor would not sign the bill but he did. The bill has to do with people looking for a loan or a mortgage from a bank. The bank will no longer be able to have the full picture of their debt history. She also spoke about bills that are being passed that would otherwise not be passed

which have Democratic ideas embedded in them. There was also a discussion on car tax money and the idea of a reserve fund for educational expenses where this money would be used.

\*\*Representative Reddington Hughes is looking forward to serving into the next two years.

**4) Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Cunningham entertained a motion to approve the minutes of 5/28/2024. There were no suggestions, recommendations, changes or discussion. All were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes was made by Dennis Roberts and seconded by John Lewis.

**5) Officers' Reports:**

**a) Chairman:** No report at this time as Chairman Cunningham felt that there are so many things to discuss on this agenda he would like to move on.

**b) Vice Chairman:** No report at this time

**c) Treasurer:** Treasurer Burt Stevens could not be here but did send a report to Chairman Cunningham that shows a balance of \$2,720.08 in the bank as of today. There were no comments on the report.

**Motion:** Chairman Cunningham entertained a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion to approve was made by Donna Kohanowski and seconded by Dennis Roberts. All were in favor.

**d) Secretary:** Secretary Mackey read the Town of Woodbury Voter Registration summary as of 6/4/2024 as follows: Democratic – 1893, Republican – 2,379, Unaffiliated – 2,601 and Other – 158 for a total of 7031 registered voters.

**6) Committee Reports:**

**a) Candidate Recruitment:** CRC Chairman Dennis Roberts said that the following Boards and Committees/Commissions have openings: Shade Tree & Sidewalk, (2) terms ending 12/31/2025, Board of Assessment Appeals (Alt) term ending 12/01/2025 and Zoning Board of Appeals (Alt) term ending 12/06/2027. So far there are no inquires by possible candidates to fill these seats. Dennis Roberts is actively seeking and will continue to seek new applicants. If anyone has a suggestion or knowledge of a possible applicant, please let him know.

\*On 5/28/2024 Secretary Mackey registered the Justice of the Peace endorsements with the Town Clerk's office. Chairman Cunningham suggested that those positions be posted on the website. He also suggested that all members of CRC, which include all of the RTC members, should be reaching out for possible candidates.

\*Chairman Cunningham officially seated Bob DeLuca as a Committee member of the RTC and apologized to Bob for not doing this sooner.

\*Karen Redington Hughes suggested that the RTC have a little gathering to let people know what is required of them in different positions in the town government.

**b) Scholarship:** No report at this time.

**c) Fund Raising/Events:** John Lewis, Chairman of Fund Raising/Events, went over the various Fundraising events that are being held as follows:

\* **Tickets:** The money from the raffle tickets sold so far totals \$1,420. Future dates for the sale of tickets are on 6/15, 6/22, 7/21, 8/17, and 9/14 at LaBonne's'. Dottie's Diner also said RTC could sell tickets in front of their diner just about any Saturday or Sunday that the Committee would like.

\* Ana dot is finally up on the website. John would like to get a direct link to Ana dot where people can just click on the link and buy a ticket.

\* **Picnic:** The site of the picnic has been moved to the Hollow Park Pavilion on September 21st. from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. People can bring wine or beer if they want to.

**Raffle and Comedy Night:** This is all set for September 28<sup>th</sup>.

**d) Party Building:** There is nothing right now. When the website is up and running advertising for Party Building can be done. There will be a table at the 9/21 and 9/28 events for people to ask questions.

**e) Media – Public Information - Technology:** Paul Zulpa and Donna Kohanowski explained Face Book Statistics and Semantics using a Technology Report they put together and handed out to everyone at the meeting. This information was discussed by members of the committee.

\* Paul Zulpa asked to have any updates for the web pages sent to him.

\* Also discussed was Face Book and Instagram and how they can help let people learn about the RTC

\* Mike said he is concerned about the Bios and suggested that everyone just include a little something about themselves and what they are doing currently in these Bios. They should then be sent to Paul Zulpa along with a selfie.

\* The rules of ticket sales and other things sold should be checked with Burt Stevens before going forward.

\*The Face Book feed was discussed and Paul said he would be ready with that in three weeks.

**Please see a copy of the Technology Report, which is included with these minutes.**

The website does not look good and needs to be fixed. Chairman Cunningham asked Donna Kohanowski and Paul Zulpa how that can be fixed and Paul said they are working on that now. Completion of the website with everything that is needed is important and Donna and Paul were asked if they can give time to do this. Donna assured everyone that things will be moving forward starting today and she will send out a Website Content Submission Form for all committees to fill out. She asked to allow 24 hours for processing.

#### **7) New Business:**

**a) 32<sup>nd</sup>. Senate District Committeeman/woman vacancy:** There was a resignation in Southbury and there is a position available.

**b) Selection of Delegates, Special meeting between 6/17/2024 and 6/21/2024:** A special meeting is not required and It was decided to do this with a Zoom Meeting.

Chairman Cunningham asked if anyone was interested in being a delegate and Dennis Roberts, Rob Scott, John Hughes, and Mike Cunningham said they would. One more person is needed.

**c) Convention Monday 7/1/2024 at the Woodbury Emergency Services Building at 7:00 PM:** RTC member John Hughes would like to run as a delegate for this position. The rules for the convention were explained by Rob Scott and John Hughes.

#### **8) Old Business:**

None at this time.

#### **9) Privilege of the Floor:**


First Selectman Barbara Perkinson said that there is a new vote scheduled next Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup>. from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM on the Town Budget. She explained how dissatisfied she is with the Board of Finance and what they did on the revised Budget. She went on to explain the various cuts in the Budget including money for snow plowing and sanding, sanitation and waste, Building and Maintenance, hours for employees and the Pay Plan among a few. Copies of the revised budget can be seen in the Library, Boyd Building, Selectman's Office and on the Website.





**10) Adjournment:** Chairman Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,





Nancy Mackey Secretary

# Facebook Statistics

 Woodbury CT Republican Town Committee

-  Post reach  1,280
-  Post Engagement  379
-  New followers  6

## Interactions

-  Reactions 138
-  Comments 12
-  Shares 13
-  Photo views 98
-  Link clicks 7

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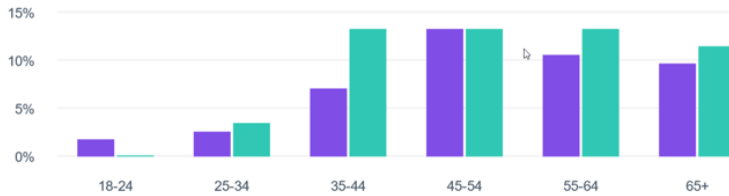
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# Facebook Statistics

## Age and Gender

-  Men 45.10%
-  Women 54.90%



## Location

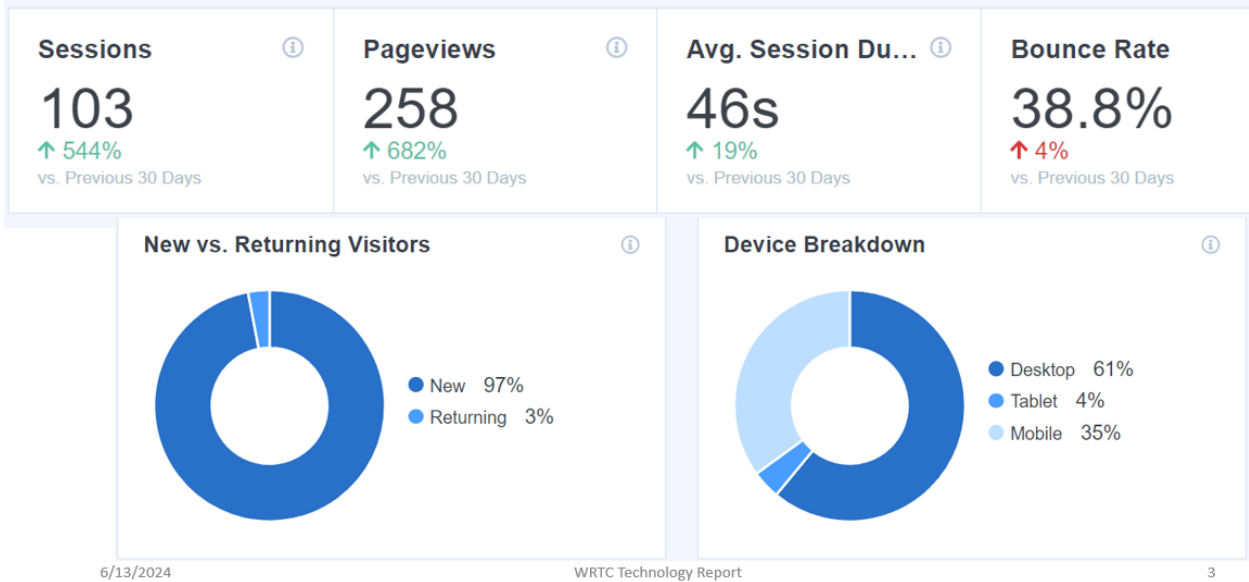
Woodbury, CT	60
Bethlehem, CT	6
Naugatuck, CT	3
Oxford, CT	3
Branford, CT	2
Bristol, CT	2
Southbury, CT	2
Thomaston, CT	2
Torrington, CT	2
Waterbury, CT	2

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# Website Statistics



## Web Page – Get Involved Page

### Get Involved



Here are some of the ways the Woodbury Republican Town Committee can assist you if you'd like to get involved in your community.

#### Running for Elected Office

The Town Committee begins recruiting candidates for local office in the January prior to the election. This process normally continues right up to the Caucus which is usually held in July. Candidates should plan on attending at least one WRTC meeting to introduce themselves and to meet with the Candidate Recruitment Chair before requesting the endorsement of the Town Committee.

#### Requesting Appointment to Office

Serving as an appointed member of a Board or Commission is a great way to get involved in our town. The Woodbury Town website posts all open positions on their web page - <https://woodburyct.org/boards>

Here are some of the questions you may have before you apply to fill a vacancy.

When do the boards and commissions meet? How often?  
What does each board or commission do?  
Should I have a specific background to serve effectively?  
What will be expected of me? What else is involved?

All Republicans interested in serving on a Board or Commission or are interested in running for an elected position must be endorsed by the Woodbury Republican Town Committee. The process starts with filling out a short questionnaire and sending it to the Candidate Recruitment Chair. You will then speak with the recruitment committee. You will then meet with the town committee.

We are available to answer any questions you may have regarding your potential service. Send your questions to [crcchair@woodburyctgop.com](mailto:crcchair@woodburyctgop.com) or [info@woodburyctc.org](mailto:info@woodburyctc.org)

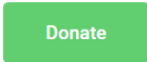
[Click here to download Candidate Interest Survey](#)

# Web Page – Contribute Section





## Contribute

Help your local GOP. Your contributions allow us to spread our message and support our Republican candidates. Thank you for your generosity.



**WOODBURY REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE**

**EMAIL US**  
info@woodburyrtc.org

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
PO Box 255  
Woodbury, CT 06798

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# Web Page – Nested Navigation



## Food Fuel and Fix it Raffle

The Woodbury RTC is sponsoring a Food Fuel and Fix it fuel or car repairs, and third prize \$200 at Ace Hardware. Watch for the next dates that we'll be out and about!

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# What's Next

- Pictures – looking at a new plug in that does a better job displaying pictures
- Facebook feed – plugin that will display the last 1-10 posts (number set in the plug-in)
- Events Feed from Facebook – set up events in Facebook and have the website automatically updated as well
  
- NEED CONTENT
  - Should have a mission statement.
  - Should have a short bio of who is on the RTC – with pictures
  - <https://westbrookctrepublicans.com/about-wrtc/wrtc-members/>

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## Dinner/Movie Page (In Draft – Needs content)

The screenshot shows a website draft page with a dark blue header. The header contains navigation links: 'ABOUT', 'EVENTS', a circular logo, 'GET INVOLVED', and 'CONTRIBUTE'. Below the header, the main content area has a title 'Dinner and a Movie - Meet the Candidates' in blue. Underneath the title is a paragraph of text: 'Come on down to the Woodbury Senior Community Center, 281 Main St S, Woodbury on Saturday February 31 for a Hum-dinger of a time. Come see Paint Your Wagon with the Duke himself'. Below this text is a small image of a ticket and a green button that says 'Click here to Purchase your tickets online'. At the bottom of the page is a dark blue footer with the text 'WOODBURY REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE', social media icons for Facebook and Instagram, and contact information: 'EMAIL US info@woodburyrtc.org' and 'MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 255 Woodbury, CT 06798'.

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# Anedot Dinner/Movie Campaign

**WRTC**

\$25 One Ticket

\$50 2 Tickets

\$75 3 Tickets

\$100 4 Tickets

\$225 5 Tickets

\$150 6 Tickets

**Email Address \***  **Phone \***

**Name \***

**Residential Address \***

**Employer:** If multiple employers and one is a state contractor, list the state contractor. If self-employed, provide Name of Business. (Example: Dave's Painting. Other Examples: Retired, Unemployed, Student, Homemaker) \*

**Principal Occupation:** If self-employed, provide Job Description. (Example: Painter. Other Examples: Retired, Unemployed, Student, Homemaker) \*

**Are you 18 years of age or older? \***

- Select One -

**Are you a communicator lobbyist? \***

- Select One -

**Are you the spouse or dependent child of a communicator lobbyist? \***

- Select One -

**Are you a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor? If yes, please indicate which branch or branches of government the contract is with? \***

- Select One -

**Are you an elected public official? \***

- Select One -

**Are you a principal of a holder of a valid prequalification issued by the Commissioner of Administrative Services? \***

- Select One -

Use Credit or Debit  WRTC

WRTC  WRTC

I hereby certify and state that all of the information disclosed by me and set forth above on this contributor card is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I certify that I am either a United States citizen or a foreign national with permanent resident status in the United States.

I certify that this contribution is made on my personal debit or credit card for which I have a legal obligation to pay and intend to pay from my own personal funds, is not being reimbursed in any manner, is not being made as a loan, is not an otherwise prohibited contribution, and that payment on this card is not made from the funds of a corporation, labor organization or any other entity.

[Click here for the definitions of terms](#)

Pay

By submitting your contribution you agree to the Anedot Terms of Use and Privacy Policy

NOTE: Campaign needs approval by the WRTC Treasurer before publishing

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# Anedot Dinner Movie Receipt template

Preview: How automated email receipt will appear in most email readers.

Anedot

Hi {{first\_name}}, thank you for your ticket purchase. Please print this receipt and bring with you. See you at the Movies

\$25.00

to WRTC

**Donor Name**  
1234 Street  
Donor City, ST 12345

**Employer** Donor Employer Input  
**Occupation** Donor Occupation Input  
**Referred By** Donor Referral Input

MC \*\*\* 2194      06/06/2024 01:21PM  
#151113422286

View this receipt in your browser

Paid for by Woodbury Republican Town Committee

A \*WOODBURY RTC will appear on your billing statement.

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