

## GROWING YOUR TOWN/CITY COMMITTEE

### ***Thank People For Their Participation***

- Show appreciation regularly
- Mention people's names at each meeting. Jane Blain was the greeter tonight. Thank you Jane for helping greeting folks.
- Thank people at the start of the meeting, at the end of the meeting and in between.

### ***Do Something***

- Have regularly scheduled meetings (i.e. First Monday of the month).
- Have an accessible location for meetings.
- Have Town Committee Meetings at the same locations.
- Host an annual Speaker's Forum
- Have a monthly cable TV show

### ***Tell People About It***

- Submit articles about every upcoming meeting in your local and weekly newspaper. Make friends with your local newspaper personnel.
- Post every meeting on local cable television.
- Post meetings in local blogs.
- Put up flyers on local bulletin boards.
- Use viral email. Ask all town committee members to forward the meeting notice to their email list and or prospective members that they have identified. Follow up with a phone call.
- Talk to people.
- Mention meetings to other volunteers in local elections and invite them to attend.

### ***Make Meetings Fun***

- Provide food and or beverage so people who commute can refresh themselves
- Host a networking half hour prior to meetings. One committee used to have a pizza half hour and was able to increase it's membership significantly
- Book an interesting speaker.
- Have an action item like bringing a canned good or children's book to donate.
- Nametags are must!
- If you are leading the meetings, smile and be pleasant.
- Put a smiley face on your preparation notes or agenda to remind you to smile.
- Laugh at jokes.

- Let other people talk. Have committee reports. A good meeting is when the chair does not do all the talking.

### ***Make Growing The Party An Item Of Every Agenda***

- Keep the idea of party building on all members' minds.
- Ask members to bring new members to meetings
- All notices should have contact information for prospective members to call.

### ***Make People Feel Welcome When They Attend A Meeting***

- Have pre-designated greeters at the door. The job of the greeters is to talk to and introduce new people
- Nametags are a must.
- Ask new folks if they would like to become associate members
- Invite people to join a committee
- Start all meetings with welcome and introductions and a thank you for attending.
- Follow up with a phone call to all new attendees.
- Arrange to carpool with new attendees
- End all meetings with a thank you

### ***Get Folks Involved Right Away***

- Ask new attendees to explain why and how they came to attend a meeting
- Ask for their help on a committee.
- Invite all members to be part of sub committees.

### ***Make Your Town Committee Easily Recognizable***

- Get a banner
- Use the banner at meetings, on local cable show and in parades.
- Create a logo.
- March in parades
- Have a recruiting or informational table during sidewalk sales or community events or outside a market, the dump etc.
- Have stationary with your logo.
- Have t shirts with your logo.

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## ***Recruit! Recruit! Recruit!***

- Simple strategies ask members to bring a friend.
- Kitchen Table Meetings with Super Dems list.
- Recruit from different campaigns.
- Recruit from local campaigns.
- Recruit at elections.
- Set up a Town Committee table outside of the voting area where the sign holders are.
- Network up in NH at the presidential campaigns.
- Talk to everyone about your volunteer efforts and ask them to attend.
- Invite Democrats to Speakers Forums, non committee meeting events like pot luck and cookouts.
- Target high Democratic precincts for a mailing.
- Send postcards to newly registered Democrats and invite them to your next meeting. Follow up with a phone call.
- Partner with like minded constituency groups, i.e. peace, environmental etc.

- Ask elected officials to identify and invite new Democrats to town committee events
- Meet with local high school Democratic Committees
- Partner with college Democratic groups

## ***Have Non Business Meeting Events***

- Potluck dinners
- Holiday Parties
- Breakfasts
- Cookouts
- March in parades
- Cable television shows
- Speakers Forums
- Watch a movie of interest with the group. i.e. AN Inconvenient Truth
- Comedy Nights
- Voter Outreach Drives

## ***Thank Everyone Who Participates In Your Committee***

- Thank everyone at the start of the meeting and at the end of the meeting