



Happy anniversary to us!

Just two years ago, there was no formal Democratic Committee in Mendham Township. All we had was a handful of citizens who, inspired by the outcome of the 2016 election, knew they needed to “do something.” No one was quite sure what that “something” would entail.

That all changed on January 29 when a group of residents met at the home of our would-be leader Laurie Pettine. Many of us met that day for the first time and there was a feeling of surprise that there were so many Democrats in Mendham. We weren’t really sure where to start but by the end of the night, we had set up a Twitter account, set a date for our first Democratic social at the Community Club, appointed officers, and planned to meet again a month later.

Reflecting back on the past two years, we have much to be proud of. We made our presence known at the 2017 July 4th parade. Later that year, we helped elect Amalia Duarte to the Mendham Township Committee, the first Democrat ever elected to serve Mendham. In 2018, we held additional social events and we ran two outstanding candidates last fall—Brenda Grant and Trish O’Brien. While they did not win, they received more votes than any other Democratic candidate in Mendham ever.

Most notably, Mendham played a strong role in flipping New Jersey’s 11th Congressional seat – long held by a Republican – blue by electing Mikie Sherrill to Congress. Not only did many Mendham residents actively work on her campaign, she actually won Mendham Township in votes!

As we turn the corner into 2019, we have a lot to look forward to and much to do. We’ll have new candidates to support in municipal county, and state races. We want to do more community outreach and have formed a Social Committee to help coordinate that. As always, we’ll need your help and support to maintain the great momentum we’ve built. If you’d like to get involved—even in the smallest way—we welcome your support. Simply reach out to us at chair@mendhamtwpdems.com and let us know.

Let’s keep the Blue Wave rolling!

MTDC people news and announcements

The Mendham Township Democrats would like to thank Laurie Pettine for serving as our Chair for the past two years. Laurie has stepped down and we wish her the best. Michael Merritt is serving as interim-Chair, but if you would like to get involved and help keep the momentum going by serving as Chair, [please reach out to Michael](#).

We also want to thank Michael Thompson and Pandora Thompson for serving as co-Treasurers. Michael is stepping down as required as he has entered the race for Morris County Surrogate. Pandora will be serving as the Treasurer for his campaign. We of course wish Michael the best in the race—[please consider supporting his campaign](#).

Many thanks to Monica Smith who has agreed to pick up the role of Treasurer. We are looking forward to working with you, Monica!

Lastly, we are in the process of interviewing and vetting candidates to run for Township Committee. There will be two open seats up for grabs on the Committee this November. If you or someone you know is interested in running, please reach out to [Diane Dinklage](#). Candidates must file by April 1.

The MTDC has also formed a Social Committee to focus on events and community building. Please let us know if you'd like to get involved.

Upcoming Mendham Democratic events:

- **Feb. 10**, 1-6pm - MCDC Candidate Training. [RSVP by February 9.](#)
- **Feb. 20**, 7pm – general meeting: Morris County Democratic Women's Caucus, Parsippany Library.
- Feb. 24, 5-7pm - [Morris Dems Victory Gala](#) at Minado.
- **Feb. 27**—Tentative Mendham Township Democrats social. Details to come but save the date.
- **Feb. 28**, 7pm Mendham Township Democratic Committee Business Meeting, 31 Washington Valley Road
- **March 13**, 7pm Mendham Township Democratic Committee Business Meeting, location TBD