

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: The #MeToo movement was founded in 2006 by Tarana Burke, a civil rights advocate, who began using the phrase “me too” to raise awareness of the pervasiveness of sexual abuse and assault in our society; and

WHEREAS: The phrase “me too” has developed into a broader movement in more recent years; and

WHEREAS: The #MeToo movement has lifted the curtain on what was an open secret in our nation, and has forced us all to engage in a long overdue conversation about the severity of sexual harassment, sexual assault and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS: Women of every age, race, background and profession have faced sexual harassment, sexual assault, and domestic violence and too few perpetrators have been held accountable; and

WHEREAS: according to the National Women’s Law Center, at least one quarter of all women have experienced workplace sexual harassment and in federal fiscal year 2015, almost one-third of all charges filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission involved harassment and nearly a quarter of those involved sexual harassment; and

WHEREAS: according to the Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network (RAINN), 1 out of every 6 American women has been the victim of an attempted or completed rape in her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the U.S. have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Saratoga Springs Democratic Committee (SSDC) to promote the principles of the Democratic Party in the open and inclusive governance of Saratoga Springs for the maintenance and continued improvement of the well-being and quality of life for all city residents; and

WHEREAS: SSDC is grateful to the brave women and men who have awoken our collective conscience to the magnitude of the #metoo crisis and empowered people to speak up and fight back;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: SSDC declares that survivors of sexual harassment, sexual assault and domestic violence must be heard and respected. We condemn these reprehensible crimes and demand the perpetrators be held responsible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: SSDC is united in endorsing Democratic candidates who are dedicated to ending sexual harassment, sexual assault and domestic violence and support action to hold perpetrators accountable.