

New London Greens Regular Membership Meeting

Sunday, April 11, 2010, 6:30 pm, at Homeward Bound Treasures, Golden Street, New London

Present: Art Costa, Andy Derr, Ronna Stuller, John Russell, Ron Suresha, Bud McAllister

Guest: Mike Hatt, unregistered (potential) Green

1. Minutes. March meeting minutes submitted by Ron. Andy moved to accept, Ronna 2nded: passed. Still need to approve January mtg. minutes from Chris, will post.

2. Treasurer report. Chris absent, no report.

3. State Central Committee report. Andy. Annual meeting 11-3, Sat April 24th, Portland Senior Center: state candidates will introduce themselves, followed by election of state GP officers. Mike de Rosa, Barbara de Rosa, Charles Pilsbury, Tim McKee. Possible candidates for statewide offices. Platform discussions.

4. Old business

a. **Land Value Tax**, Art. Citizens LVT Action Group formed, will propose new strategy to city council administration committee. NLG support of petition drive past month has helped. New committee formed to provide education to gather local support.

b. **Scott Deshefy**, campaign for Congress, update.

c. **Regional chapter.**

Was earlier intention for SE CT Greens to maintain regional chapter activity; Andy wants to use Deshefy campaign to develop regional chapter, esp. promising in Norwich; needs support for this over time. Ideas discussed.

d. **Town Committee.** 4/27 at Andy's. Still looking for candidates for 39th and 40th. Art Costa, Lindsey Blank, Connie Hightower, Cathy Zall. Discussed possibilities for filling slate.

5. Reports from elected Greens.

John R: Explained responsible contractors ordinance. Budget process, start zero-based financing. Tree-cutting issues, moratorium.

Ronna S: BoE Budget is big issue, still many problems to resolve. Children First NL, new group submitted community action plan.

6. New business

a. **Fundraising.** Tag sale is our biggest fundraiser, but Ken is not interested in hosting without much greater support. Ronna suggested having a plant sale. New fundraising drive strategy needed.

b. **Vacancies on City Commissions.** Ronna presented a list of current vacancies for city commissions. Greens (and non-Greens) are encouraged to apply for positions. Ron questioned committee selection process in view of LVT committee failure.

c. **Meeting dates** for upcoming year: 2010: 5/2. 6/6. 7/4. 8/8. 9/5. 10/3. 11/7. 12/5. 2011: 1/2. 2/6. 3/6. Continue meeting location at HBT; need key if John is away.

c. **Town Committee** meeting. ~~3/28, 6:30pm, Andy's house (location tentative).~~

d. **State Representative candidate.** No prospects at present, but still interested in finding motivated candidate.

7. Updates

a. **ReNew London Council.** RNNL: Art explained economic leakage factor. Reconnecting New London, some movement forward, workshops planned. Greater NL Farm-to-City Coalition, report on recent activities. RNNL, NL Local First, and GNLFTC have table at Conn. College Earth Fest this Saturday.

b. **Thinking Green.** Ronna: has tentative schedule. Starting 4/8, show start time switches to 8:00 pm Thursday. Merrick Alpert has agreed to do a taped show.

c. **Sustainability Committee.** Ken absent. Ronna mentioned his and Ken's discussion of energy use at Magnet School; discussion ensued. Art suggested cost analysis, presence of NLG at solar panel event on parking garage.

8. Announcements.

New whale bike rack dedication. Culkins Park, new community garden. Partners in Healthy Community has scheduled cleanups around city.

9. Next meeting day and time: 5/2. Potluck, 5:30 pm; meeting, 6:30 pm.

John moved, Art 2nded, to close meeting: passed. Adjourned 8:03

Submitted,

R. Suresha, Secretary