

Sunday February 29th, 2004

Treasurer's Report -- No financial activity

Elections

Local

New London State Representative

Discussion of how to support Lloyd Beachy (D) in his primary race to become the Democratic nominee to represent New London in the State Legislature.

Several options were laid out:

- 1) Greens could support him as individuals
- 2) The New London Green Party could nominate him as our candidate. (He would appear on both the Democratic and Green Party Lines.) We would need to petition to gain ballot access for this race. Andy and Chris agreed to follow-up on both state election laws regarding fusion and to check with the state party by-laws regarding cross-endorsements.

6th District (New London) & Groton City - State Representative

- 1) Chapter agreed that whoever enters this race should live in Groton as New London represents such a small part of it that it would be nearly impossible to be competitive as a resident of the 6th District.
- 2) We should make contact with Groton Greens to see about the possibility of recruiting a suitable candidate. This race could serve as a springboard for reinvigorating the Green Party chapter in that area.

Congressional - 2nd District

We discussed the need to ensure the defeat of Congressman Rob Simmons, especially because of his stance on the war on Iraq. Does it make sense to recruit a Green candidate who would take him on vigorously, in a way that the Democrats might not be able to as they are engaged in a primary fight that might not be over until August. A Green candidacy could serve to grow chapters throughout the eastern half of the state and raise issues and then throw its support behind a Democrat provided they were halfway decent and had a chance of beating Simmons.

State GP Convention

Andy will attend this Saturday.

Brief discussion of the candidates for state steering committee. Two different slates are running for co-chair. Six candidates total.

Ballots must be postmarked by March 9th or cast at the convention.

National Convention

June 15th in Milwaukee, WI

CT has 15 delegates.

State party members will be polled regarding their preferences for Presidential candidates and strategy (if any).

State GP News

Process committee for resolving dispute between two GP members (Vas Nunes & Batista) needs an alternate member from New London. Bob volunteered.

Openings for CT Representatives to National Committees

CT has open slots on the following: Diversity; Coordinated Campaign Committee

There is an exchange program with European Greens that would provide the opportunity to travel and work on campaigns in Europe

Contact Andy via nlgreens@nlgreens.org if interested.

Quorum Reduction

State party has not met quorum requirements at last two state meetings. Currently there are 12 chapters and representatives from 3/4 must be present. Andy will propose reducing the quorum requirements to 2/3rds at next state meeting.

Discussion of changing local chapter meeting to dovetail better with state meetings ended with the feeling that they were fine where they are, falling on the last Sunday of each month.

Earth Day Report

All active local parties (Democrat, Green & Republican) are being invited to Earth Day (Saturday, April 24th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in Bates Woods). Chapter members agreed to help staff a table to register voters and discuss Green party take on environmental issues.

Love Makes A Family

Andy reported on training he attended in Boston on identifying voters who are supportive of Gay Marriage. Love Makes A Family has received a grant to ID voters in Groton. They need volunteers.

SE CT Peace & Justice Network

Buses will be leaving from New London to New York City for protest on March 20th.

Cost is \$25 per person.

Chapter Web Site

Should be expanded to include meeting minutes, chapter by-laws and archives of relevant newspaper articles.

Andy and Chris will work on the web site and check into the possibility of posting articles from the New London Day.