

Sunday, September 12, 2004

Attended by: Andy Derr (Facilitator), Kenric Hanson, Laura Cordes, Tim Hanser, Lisa DeVito, Ronna Stuller (Recorder), Bob Stuller

Minutes from the August meeting were accepted as submitted.

Local and regional elections Andy spoke with John Russell, who is interested in meeting with the Greens. Andy, Bob and Tim are planning to meet with John to learn his views on a variety of issues. No meeting is planned with 40th district candidates Ed Moukawsher and James Cavasino. Ronna is sending a questionnaire to the four State Rep candidates in preparation for her October 27 TV show and will share responses with the rest of the Greens. Candidates for the 2nd Congressional District seat - Rob Simmons and Jim Sullivan - will debate at The Garde on September 20; tickets are free but must be reserved in advance.

National election Andy proposed that the NL Greens host a house party for Green candidates Cobb and LaMarche to raise money for the campaign. He has ordered materials, including a videotape. Tentative plans were made to hold the party Friday, 9/24, 6-9 p.m., at Bob and Ronna's house, after (hopefully) Pat LaMarche makes a lunchtime stop at the New London soup kitchen. Andy will contact field organizer Jason to complete arrangements.

Voter registration There was a discussion about the purpose of the voter registration proposal on the NL Greens website; since the proposal originated with another group and is not currently being pursued, the group decided to remove it. It was noted that the League of Women Voters includes the Green Party on its list of US parties. Tim expressed interest in registering residents of public housing and plans to speak with Rick Leco about the details. Bob stressed that election day follow-up is important and may include transporting voters to the polls.

CT Green Party Ralph Ferrucci has withdrawn as Green candidate for the 3rd Congressional District. Joyce Chen is running in New Haven against Toni Walker, who has no Republican opponent. Elizabeth Horton-Sheff has formed a non-profit arm of the Green Party that can bid for social service contracts. The Green Party annual mailing will be sent out soon, and there is a fundraising drive to find 100 GP friends to commit to donating \$100/year. The application is available at <ctgreens.org>. The Cobb-LaMarche campaign is also seeking funds. A change in the bylaws - related to local chapter representation at state meetings - was submitted for approval. The change to Article 4-2.3 would provide 2 representatives for each chapter with up to 100 members, plus 1 representative for each additional 100 members. Bob moved to approve the change and Kenric seconded; passed unanimously. The proposed budget for the CT Green Party was shared and discussed. Andy explained the arrangement between the State and Hartford Greens sharing an office, in which the state party pays \$100/month toward rent expenses. Our group recommended amendment stating that if Hartford doesn't pay its share of the rent for 3 months in a year, the state will pull out of the office. The advantages of having an office as well as the need for it to be more accessible to locals were discussed.

Candidate selection in local races There was a discussion of problems with candidate selection in last year's local election, most notably related to candidates dropping out of the race. The group agreed that we need to create a process to assure that Greens will run appropriate and committed candidates; at Laura's suggestion we will devote a future meeting to this process and will place the issue on the agenda for our November 7 meeting.

Thinking Green Ken will host the inaugural show on October 6. Sile will host on 10/13, Andy on 10/20 and Ronna on 10/27. Proposed topics for October are tax reform and the upcoming elections. The public access schedule for the first quarter of 2005 will be determined at ECC's October 11 meeting.

Love Makes a Family A canvass in Niantic is scheduled for Sunday , September 27. Polling voters on election day is a strategy that is being considered here.

Voting machine check Bob received notice for checking the voting machines for the primary but not for the budget referendum. Bob will follow up with Kate Moran for information about New London's plans to comply with state voting statutes.

Charter Revision Tim is interested in serving on the committee; his particular areas of interest are district representation and ballot reform. Proportional representation is another area which could be relevant to Greens.

Transportation issues and events I-95 plans - Public meeting in Groton 9/15; meeting in Waterford 9/22 National Corridors Initiative - Annual meeting at the Radisson 9/18; fundraiser train ride 9/19 CT Coalition Against Millstone (CCAM) The CT Green Party has aligned itself with CCAM; Andy is currently the NL liaison, but is willing to pass that role on if someone is interested

Next Meeting Sunday, October 3, 6:00 p.m., at the Stullers' house Ken will facilitate; Bob will record Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ronna