

Meeting Notes February 5th, 2006-

Attending: Marily MacKay, Pete delaRosa, Chris Nelson, Tim Hanser, Laura Cordes, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller, Hillary, Bud MacAllister-

Democracy for America-

Marilyn McKay reported on the activity of the SE CT chapter of this group. They are working to unseat Simmons. Joe Courtney appears to be the Democratic challenger. James Patton was a wonderful candidate, but the state party had no interest. There will possibly be a primary challenge to Joe Lieberman from Ned LaMont, an affluent Greenwich businessman who will run as an anti-war candidate. Bob mentioned there is a movement to draft Amy Breenerman, an actress of Judging Amy fame, to challenge Lieberman.-

State Update-

There is an opening for state officers. Chris will check with Jean deSmet on deadline for mailing out ballots. -

Thinking Green -

Will air on Thursday at 6:00 pm through March with current crop of rotating hosts. Ronna is looking for hosts for March 16th & 30th.-

Charter Revision-

Public hearing this Wednesday at 6:00, City Council chamber, followed by special City Council meeting. Council may appoint second charter revision commission.-

2006 Elections -

Governor-

Cliff Thorton has started collecting petition signatures to qualify for the ballot as Green gubernatorial candidate. He has shifted gears from his advocacy work at Efficacy to electoral work. He would be a substantial candidate and the first African American candidate for governor. We should invite him to winter forum. He has been endorsed by numerous chapters, including New London & New Haven.-

39th State Representative Race (Ernest Hewitt's seat)-

Allyn DeVars has contacted both Republican & 1 New London town chairs and received no response. If we don't run candidate we have no ballot access. Laura Cordes suggested we have special meeting to see what we should do. The petitioning deadline is August 10th.-

Broadwater (Laura C) -

Forum will take place at New London High School Auditorium. It will feature a press conference with Geoff Kaufman, Attorney General Blumenthal, and State Senator Andrea Stillman. There will also be a panel discussion featuring Lonnie Reed, CT Fund for the Environment, Adrian Esposito from New York anti-Broadwater group, and others. Broadwater has submitted proposal to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The goal of forum is to spark anti-Broadwater organizing. New London has not yet passed a resolution against Broadwater. -

Forum (Chris, Bob & Tim) -

Topics and presenters will be Smart Development (Chris), Charter Revision & Good Government (Tim), Energy Independence (possibly Ken) and Drug Policy (Ronna). Laura expressed concern about turnout and offered to do phone calling to volunteers from campaign.-

Web Content-

There has been some updating of the site following the campaign. It would be good to add an archive of past campaigns and press clippings.-

Housekeeping & Logistics-

Next meeting set for march 5 @ stullers. Andy will facilitate. Ronna will record.-

Announcements-

Bud spoke about action on the state level regarding tax reform, including a local options sales tax. He wants to start grassroots campaign for local options sales tax and put together group on economic diversification.-