

Chapter meeting August 6, 2006

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Attendance:

Cliff Thornton, Ron Suresha, Rick Buell, Bud McAllister, Stephanie Gregerman, Ronna Stuller, Bob Stuller (recorder), Tim Hanser (facilitator), Ken Krayeske.

Tag Sale:

The sale made \$350, and Ken would like to host another one around Labor Day.

Campaign Update:

About 9,200 petitions have been turned in, and another 3,800 will be submitted before the August 9 deadline. There will be a party to celebrate the end of the (successful) petition drive on August 9 in Hartford. A calendar of future events is being compiled.

The Thornton campaign is committed to raising \$50,000. New London will be a major focus of the campaign. Ralph Nader was recently in Connecticut and donated several cases of books for the Greens to sell to raise funds.

Thinking Green:

We have been receiving DVDs from Nick Pasquariello in Bridgeport to air on Channel 24. Our fall (October, November, December) live time slot will be Thursday at 7 PM; we're seeking people who would like to share hosting duties. Ron would like to be a guest & will consider hosting.

Logo, T-shirts & branding:

Chris, Stephanie and Bob have held a couple meetings to examine prior materials, demographics, etc., and to discuss how to develop a more consistent look and message. We'll have some ideas for new materials around the middle of the month.

Fort Trumbull:

The Day had the headline "This Sold House" after the last owners' settlements. Efforts continue to try to save some of the buildings.

Riverside Park:

There continue to be rumors of the sale or lease of all or part of the park to the Coast Guard, under Dept. of Homeland Security. Councilor Charles Frink toured the park with Tim & Stephanie, and he recommends that people keep speaking out at Council meetings to raise the issue's profile. Because this is a real estate issue, its disposition is discussed in executive - not public - session. Monthly cleanups continue to help improve the

maintenance and utilization of the park; registration of voters residing in the Riverside Park neighborhood was suggested.

Impeachment:

Ron is working on placing an impeachment motion before Council and handed out petitions to gather evidence of public support for such a motion. Since New London passed a peace resolution prior to the Iraq War, we believe an impeachment motion could find support among the Councilors. Once passed, the motion would end up at the Judiciary Committee in D.C. We discussed strategies to support this effort and hope to find a couple like-minded [probably Democratic] Councilors to spearhead the initiative within city government.

Announcements:

Writers' Block InK, a program that empowers youth to write and perform poetry and plays about the issues in their lives, is performing at NLHS next weekend. Stephanie will touch base with director Clarissa Beyah-Taylor to see if Cliff can speak to the students, either at the Saturday, 8 pm event or the Sunday, 4pm.

New London Youth Organization (YO) is reorganizing & has openings on its board.

The Books, Brushes, Jazz & Blues Festival will be held September 8-10; Ron is an organizer the literacy piece, New London Voices 2006.

Next meeting:

To be held September 3 at Bob and Ronna's. Facilitator and recorder to be determined at start of meeting.