

Chapter Meeting

Sunday, September 3, 2006

Present:

Andy Derr (facilitator), Jason Ortiz, Rachel Chase, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller (recorder), Bud McAllister, Sheila Herbert

State Central Committee

(1) 2006 Campaign

The Hartford office is being used as headquarters for all the state candidates.

Cliff is keeping Ken Krayske on staff; the state party is covering half Ken's pay (\$2,500) for the next 5 weeks, and the Thornton campaign is covering the rest. The state will consider later whether to continue contributing towards Ken's salary for the last month of the campaign. Max Wentworth is Cliff's new treasurer.

Richard Duffee had not achieved ballot access as of the SCC meeting. He has since gotten on the ballot.

Jason West and Pat LaMarche are coming to Connecticut for fundraising; 50% of the money raised will go to the Thornton campaign, 50% to the other candidates.

Replacements for the placeholder candidates for Lt. Governor and Comptroller are being sought.

(2) A Budget Committee has been formed with Andy, Tim McKee and Michael Westerfield as members; additional members would be welcomed.

(3) Campaign finance court challenge The CT Green Party has joined the CCLU, Libertarian Party and others to challenge the new campaign finance reform law in Federal court. The new law strongly favors the Republican and Democratic Parties by limiting PAC money while allowing unlimited financial support from the state party organization, and by making it very difficult for third parties to qualify for public funding.

(4) Margaret Cramer Bequest follow-up The New London Green Party is entitled to 30% of the \$12,000 bequest. Because the state party does not have the resources to pay us the entire amount, we discussed other options of what to do with these funds. Andy proposed that we donate \$1,000 to reduce the Hartford Chapter's deficit with the state party. Sheila moved that we donate \$1,644.02 to completely retire the deficit. The motion passed. We will consider in the future how we would like to use the remainder of the \$3,600 gift.

(5) Andy is resigning as representative to SCC; he has been invited to serve on the NL NAACP Board. Chris will continue to represent our chapter at SCC meetings. We are entitled to several representatives per CT GP bylaws.

Thinking Green CATV

Our timeslot will be Thursdays at 7 PM during October-November-December, first show on 10/5. We want to have at least 4 hosts, so that each will be responsible for one show per month. Andy and Ronna are in the fall rotation. Rachel expressed an interest in hosting programs with a focus on the environment. Sheila and Jason may want to host in the future, but is not available on Thursdays. Ronna will email everyone who has been involved with T-G to see who else is interested in hosting this fall.

NL Greens Logo Development and T-shirts

Stephanie's friend Maria Reagan has agreed to create a draft logo; initial design is expected this week.

Tag Sale was canceled yesterday due to rain; we may reschedule for 9/30. Ken is organizing this event.

Southeast CT Peace and Justice Network

(1) 2006-07 Film Series begins next Sunday with "The Future of Food." Films will be shown at 5:30 PM on the 2nd Sunday of each month at Flavours of Life.

(2) The P&J Network is participating in the Global Call to Nonviolent Resistance, which Danny Malec from Voluntown Peace Trust is organizing locally. Legislators and candidates are being asked to sign a pledge for peace which outlines specific steps for withdrawing from Iraq. This effort is being supported by a walk for peace by Fr. Emmett, Eric Swanfeldt and others between 9/9 and 9/23.

(3) Peace Education, including counterrecruiting in NLHS, needs the involvement of younger people. We are considering alternative means to get the word out on disclosure of information to recruiters under NCLB, and the ability to opt-out up to an October 1 deadline. Rachel expressed interest in becoming involved.

Riverside Park

Tim and Stephanie are working on forming a non-profit organization - tentatively named "CARP" - to promote and maintain the park, and are pursuing some ideas to increase utilization, such as community gardens and a dog park. Monthly clean-ups are continuing through October. Bud is trying to work with the Neighborhood Alliance on community building and shared information about the "Tea Horse" that Tom Clark is planning to build.

Campaign

Cliff is promoting and helping to schedule a CT tour for Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP). Ronna has spoken to Fr. Michel Belt, NL Rotary Program Chair, and other venues - including First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, NAACP, All-Souls UU - were discussed.

We are planning a house party for Cliff in New London. Andy has spoken to Sue Phillips, who may be willing to host a party, but we are looking at other potential host homes as well. We anticipate about 50 guests, so the host home will have to be quite large.

Andy suggested weekly meetings for campaign planning; the first one will be held at his house next Sunday 9/10 at 8 PM.

Outreach

The Conn College OCVS is holding its annual volunteer fair on Wednesday, 9/6. We are planning to have a table, perhaps in conjunction with the SECT P&J, and need at least 2 volunteers to staff it.

Next meeting

To be held on Sunday, October 1, at 19 Evergreen Avenue (Bob & Ronna's).