

NL Greens Meeting - 2/4/07

In attendance: Tim Hanser (facilitator), Pete de la Rosa, Laura Cordes, Ken Hanson, Bud McAllister, Sheila Herbert, Ronna Stuller (recorder), Bob Stuller, Ron Suresha, Stephanie Gregerman

Meeting was brought to order at 6:40 . The agenda was reviewed, and items added.

State Central Committee Report

Chris attended the January 30 SCC meeting, which focused primarily on an amendment proposed by Caleb Kleppner and Patricia Kane of the bylaws committee, which eases and clarifies the process of amending the state party bylaws. The New Haven chapter is formally requesting that the amendment be placed on the April agenda. No vote is necessary at this time, but NL Greens are supportive of the changes.

Treasurer's Report

Chris has transferred the funds our chapter raised for the Thornton campaign. He will post details to the NL Greens listserv.

We need to register our local party PAC with the state; it is currently registered with New London only. There are no fees, but an additional form will need to be filed.

NLGP Chapter Structure (tabled from January meeting)

Nominations were taken for the following officers (per NL Greens bylaws): Meeting Chair - Ronna Stuller, Treasurer - Chris Nelson, Records Chair - Tim Hanser. All were voted in unanimously. It was noted that our local bylaws should be revisited and revised.

Charter Revision Resolution

Tim summarized the main changes of the proposed NL Charter changes - establishment of elected executive Mayor, elimination of City Manager, elected Board of Finance - as well as its shortcomings - no district representation or IRV. He recommended that the Greens endorse the revision, while continuing to work for reopening the charter in the future to address these issues.

Voter turnout is seen as essential to passing the changes, and Greens plan to work with diverse allies in order to publicize the issue and get out the vote. Tim and Chris agreed to work on building a coalition; Ken and Sheila are available for specific duties; Ronna will help get TV access on local shows.

Logo Update

The draft logo was presented in 2 variations, and response was positive. A few suggestions were made, which Stephanie will bring to the designer. Once approved, we will have a consistent logo for all our materials. Stephanie is also looking into sources for no-sweat, well-designed shirts.

Thinking Green

Our time slot will return to Thursday at 7:00 in April. It has been quite easy to find guests for our shows, but it would be good to have more people sharing the hosting duties. Ronna will send out a schedule so that anyone interested can sign up.

2007 Goals and Elections - tabled, to be placed on March meeting agenda. Tim and Andy are interested in working on these issues, and more volunteers are needed.

Outreach

Jason Ortiz, who sent regrets that he would be unable to attend today's meeting, sent an email to our listserv with suggestions for outreach, particularly on college campuses. There is a strong Green Party presence in the Willimantic/Mansfield area that would seem to be much more accessible to students at UConn and ECSU, and we can provide contact information for that group. More detailed discussion can be held with Jason at a later date about student outreach in the NL area.

Bud suggested several possibilities for outreach: (1) the Tea Horse (being built by Tom Clark for community outreach); (2) April 14 - Global Warming Awareness Day event at Riverside Park; (3) Forum on drug policy and violence. The group expressed concern that our (human) resources are too limited at this time to take on additional large projects.

Impeachment

Ron is planning to bring an impeachment motion to the next City Council meeting, which has been rescheduled to Tuesday, February 13. We had a brief discussion about other New England towns that have passed resolutions. People are invited to write letters to the editor or contact our Councilors to voice support.

Announcements

The Regional Multicultural Magnet School is hosting a conference for New London Environmental Educators on March 3. Hugh Birdsall has invited us to have a table during the lunch break. Ken will follow up with Hugh.

SECT Peace & Justice film series is showing "Seeds, Hope and Concrete" on February 11, 5:30 PM, at Flavours of Life.

The folk duo Magpie is performing on April 1, from 2-4 PM, at All Souls UU.

Next meeting

March 4 at Bob and Ronna's house. Tim volunteered to facilitate; Chris volunteered to be the recorder (Thanks to both!)

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM