

NEW LONDON GREENS
Draft Minutes of the Chapter meeting,
August 10, 2008, 6:45 pm
at 19 Evergreen Ave, New London,
Bob and Ronna Stuller's house

Members present

Art Costa
Bob Stuller
Pat Bolles
Pete de la Rosa
Ronna Stuller, chair
Rick Buell
Diane Ruhmshottel
Andy Derr, Secy
Bud McAllister
Sheila Herbert

Note that a quorum of over 50% of the active members, required to amend the bylaws, has been reached.

1. Minutes

Correction to the minutes of the July 6, 2008 Chapter meeting- the location was 242 Ocean Ave, the home of Ken and Ashley Hanson. The meeting began at 3 pm. **Art moved, Bud seconded, that the corrected minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.**

Rick moved, Bud seconded, that the minutes of the July 24, 2008 special chapter meeting and nominating caucus be approved. The motion passed, 8 in favor, 2 abstentions.

2. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer was absent, so there was no Treasurer's report.

4 Old Business

a. Amending the bylaws to permit the formation of a Town Committee.

We began by a discussion of some typographical errors in the bylaws. **Andy moved, Sheila seconded, that the Chair be empowered to correct typographical errors or gross errors in the Bylaws. Such changes shall be reported to the chapter. The motion passed unanimously.**

Bob moved, Art seconded, that the Bylaws be amended as proposed to permit the formation of a Town Committee. This motion was passed by the chapter last month on July 24 at a Special meeting; this vote is the ratification required by the Bylaws to amend the Bylaws. **The motion passed, 8 in favor, 2 abstentions.** The Bylaws are now amended. The text of the amended bylaws is attached to these minutes.

3. State Central Committee report

Ronna attended the most recent SCC meeting. There was no energy at the state level for the McKinney campaign petition drive. Everyone had given up. McKinney will not be on the ballot in CT.

Cliff Thornton, National Green Party co-Chair, was very enthusiastic about the VP candidate, Rosa Clemente.

Cliff, Tim McKee (National Committee rep from CT), and Mike DeRosa, CT Green Party Co-Chair, were in agreement that there was a serious rift in the Green Party nationwide, between McKinney supporters and disgruntled Nader supporters.

The question was raised by Andy if the SCC has ever passed a budget. The NL Greens passed a motion urging that action last year. Ronna stated that no budget has been passed by the SCC. There has been some discussion in the SCC about hiring a PR person. Ronna said that if we have an employee, we will need a budget. **Andy moved, Bob seconded, that the NL Greens believe it is imperative that the SCC pass a budget. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Old business continued

b. 2008 Elections. Ronna handed in over 100 signatures for Ken Hanson for State Rep. There was not enough time to get the 400 signatures needed for access to public financing. The 100 signatures should be more than enough to get him on the ballot.

Scott Deshefy turned in over 4100 signatures, which should be more than enough to put him on the ballot.

c. NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. Our ad is in, the scholarship money is mostly in, and several Greens will be attending.

d. Homeless Hospitality Center Fundraiser. Their event is Friday, September 5th, at Port and Starboard, Ocean Beach. Tickets are \$20. 1/4 page ads are \$125, 1/2 page ads are \$200. **Andy moved, Bud seconded, that we approve a 1/4 page ad for the HHC fundraiser, and invite Scott Deshefy to share a half page ad with us. The motion passed unanimously.**

6 Updates

a. ReNew London. Art reports that the next ReNew London meeting is Tues., Aug. 19th, at 5 pm, at the Public Library of New London. Their two main area of interest are Building Community, and Sustainable Economics.

They sponsored a meeting at Conn College last month on the local food system, linking the farm to the city. It was well attended and very successful. The next meeting is Wed. Aug. 20, 6 pm, at the Public Library of New London.

Gus Jaccaci spoke here on Communiversity, and will be back in early October. Art attended a large Communiversity conference in Maine.

Land Value Tax- New London is looking into the costs of a tax structure assessment. ReNew London will work on two fronts- building knowledge and enthusiasm locally, and getting enabling legislation passed in Hartford. There will be a statewide forum on LVT coming up.

New London First is a local network of businesses, urging New Londoners to shop in New London. Decals have started appearing in stores.

d. Charter Revision Commission. Art is disappointed that some of the proposals he has tried to bring in to the conversation, such as a Town Meeting, District representation, and Instant Runoff Voting, have not received much support. The next meeting is Wed, Aug 13th, at 6:30 pm, in the Council anteroom.

No reports from the NLSCIC or Thinking Green.

5. New business

The IAM festival will be Sept 13 on City Pier. We can get a free booth for voter registration and candidate meet and greet. **Andy moved, Pete seconded, to authorize Ronna to arrange a booth.**

7. Announcements.

Pete talked about his work with Molly McKay and others to arrange a transportation forum in November.

Bud announced that there will a beach cleanup at Greens Harbor Beach, Mitchell Beach, and Riverside Park on Sept. 20, 10 am to noon.

Also, an event at Bates Woods Park to kick off a fundraiser for the Sports Complex that same afternoon.

There will be march across the Gold Star Bridge, Hands Against Hate, on Sept 27. Meet at 10 am at the sub monument on Thames St. in Groton, and march to Williams Park in New London.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Sunday Sept 14 at 6:45, at 19 Evergreen Ave., Bob and Ronna Stuller's house. Potluck supper before begins at 5:45. Please note that supper ends and the meeting begins at 6:45 sharp.

The next meetings agenda will also include a discussion of potentially moving the meeting night to a week night. Ronna asks that everyone send her a list of all of their regular meetings and which nights they are on, so she can try to identify which night of the month will work best.