

# **NEW LONDON GREENS**

August 7, 2011, 6:30 pm  
at 19 Evergreen Avenue, New London

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

In attendance: Andy Derr, Ken Hanson, Bud McAllister, Dan Spurr, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller (recorder), Kris Wraight, Jessica Cartagena (guest), Chelsea Cleveland (guest)

1. Minutes from the July 10 meeting were approved.
2. Treasurer's report: Chris Nelson was not in attendance, but had reported prior to the meeting that there was no activity this month.
3. State Central Committee: Ronna reported on Jill Stein's visit with CT Greens in New Haven on July 16; Dr. Stein gave a thoughtful presentation on strategies the Green Party could use in the 2012 Presidential race, including the possibility of joining a progressive coalition in support of a high profile candidate. Several SCC members are attending the national meeting this weekend and will report back on their experience. New London has been invited to host the October SCC meeting.
4. Old business
  - a. Municipal elections 2011
    - Candidates
      - (1) Jessica introduced herself and described her involvement with FRESH-NL and her other activities related to food security, health, and empowering youth. She was excited about the prospect of running for office, and had several questions about what would be involved in campaigning, as well as the role of City Councilors. We will continue to provide her with information about the Green Party as well, so she can make an informed decision about running.
      - (2) Ronna has also reached out to Mona Harmon-Bowman, who is interested in meeting with us to learn more about the possibility of running for Council. Andy and Ronna agreed to follow up with Mona and will try to schedule a meeting for Friday 8/12.
      - (3) Bob moved, and Andy seconded, that we endorse Ronna Stuller and Mirna Martinez for inclusion on our slate for Board of Education. Motion passed by consensus, with the understanding that nominations will also be accepted from the floor at our nominating meeting.
    - Campaign calendar and planning:
      - (1) We scheduled our nominating meeting for Sunday, August 28, at 5pm. Location TBD; Ronna will check Captain's Pizza for availability.
      - (2) Bob moved, and Ken seconded, that we budget up to \$2000 to hire a campaign manager. Motion passed by consensus; we will start seeking a manager ASAP. Suggestions are welcome.

- (3) We briefly discussed the possibility of looking for office space in the Hodges Square area, where prices are likely to be low, and where we could be supportive of the East New London neighborhood.
- (4) Mirna and Ronna have been working with Sara Chaney on education platform and plan to meet with Anne Scheibner, Laura Burfoot and Joanne Sheehan later this month to continue the process. Chris Nelson has been working on mapping the rebuilding of the road grid as is described in our city government platform statement.
  - Riverside Park referendum: Friends of Riverside has formed a political action committee, with Kathleen Mitchell as chair and Ronna as treasurer. The PAC will accept donations for the purpose of campaigning against the sale of the park, and will try to ensure that there is some coordination of events planned by the various individuals and organizations currently raising awareness about Riverside Park.

5. New business: no new business

6. Updates

- a. RNLC: Has met with Jamie Lee to discuss possibilities for supporting her opening of a wellness center in New London. Is submitting a letter of endorsement for the Housing Authority's grant request that incorporates many "Re-Connect" ideas in its housing improvement plan.
- b. Thinking Green: Will return to the air on October 5 with a Wednesday @ 7:00 time slot; Sam Fritzsche has expressed interest in hosting some of the shows.
- c. Sustainability Committee: Looking for members; more and more, it is becoming a working committee.
- d. Shore Line East/1 More Stop: The Central Corridor rail line will be bringing a self-propelled Budd Car to visit stations along the proposed route (New London to Brattleboro). This project will support efforts to to increase and expand Shoreline East service to (and beyond) New London.

7. Announcements: Bud recommended the book Genius of Place: The Life of Frederick Law Olmstead; an NPR interview with author Justin Martin can be heard at <http://will.illinois.edu/focus/interview/focus110718b/>.

8. Next meeting day and time:

- Special nominating meeting – Sunday, August 28, 5:00pm
- Regular monthly meeting – Sunday, September 11, 6:30pm