

## **New London Green Party**

### January 6, 2013 - DRAFT MINUTES

In attendance: Tim Hanser, Ken Hanson, Bud McAllister, Chris Nelson, Ronna Stuller (recorder), Joan Sullivan-Cooper (facilitator)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes from 12/2/12 were approved with one abstention (Hanson).

Treasurer report: Chris filed the SEEC report due on 1/10/13. Current balance is \$1,467.70.

State Central Committee - EC phone conference is scheduled for tomorrow, and SCC for 1/15. Bylaws committee has not met yet; Tim's name was submitted as member. One suggestion from NLGP is to change CTGP bylaws was to support decentralization of decision making.

#### **Old business**

##### (1) 2013 local elections

Platform - Chris shared a draft platform for discussion. The two major areas addressed are Development and Government Reform.

(a) Development: City should focus on basic improvements to public infrastructure, including repairing the street grid, refocusing zoning regulations on the built environment, and adjusting property taxes to place greater emphasis on land and less on buildings.

(b) Government Reform: Initiate a system of district representation in City Council, and examine all boards and commissions towards eliminating some, consolidating others, and ensuring that representation comes from all the city and rotates with meaningful term limits.

(c) The Education Platform from 2011 was briefly shared; no work has been done yet to update it.

Candidates - We will start brainstorming lists of potential candidates for Council and Board of Ed via email. When Mirna returns, we will enlist her assistance in the search for BOE candidates. Next month we will start contacting potential candidates for interviews.

Strategy - It would be helpful to know what the city Democrats are planning for this year's midterm elections, as there are 2 factions vying for party control; Ronna agreed to meet with Mayor Finizio to see if there is any potential for collaboration on platform or candidates.

#### **New business**

None

#### **Updates**

- a. Sustainability Committee - Will next meet on Tuesday 1/15 at the Senior Center.
- b. State of the City - 2nd quarter financial reports are due from city departments; there is still expected to be a shortfall, but the gap seems to be narrowing.
- c. Riverside Park - Conservancy has submitted a grant request for restoring bathrooms and is working on one to install more grills in the park. Considerations for the future: implementing storm water management, stabilizing feral cat population, native plants. Hodges Square and park planning meetings continue; next one is 1/9 at the Polish Club. Next RPC board meeting is Wednesday 1/16 at the Senior Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm. Next meeting will be held on Sunday, February 3, at 6:30pm.