

New London Green Party

April 3, 2016 - 19 Evergreen Avenue, New London

In attendance: Tim Hanser (recorder), Mirna Martinez, Daniel Spurr, John Balchunas, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller (facilitator), Margarita Mogollon, Stephanie Gregerman, Bud McAllister. Guests: Jason Morris, John Steffian

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

Minutes from the 1/31/16 regular meeting were approved by consensus. Motion made by Mirna, seconded by Dan.

Treasurer's report: Deposits were \$1075. Expenditures were 1246.99. Current balance is \$638.12.

State Central Committee: At the March meeting, the annual meeting agenda was set. Meeting will take place on 4/30 at Portland Senior Center. Annual meeting includes election of Executive Committee members, GPUS representatives and serves as the party caucus for the Presidential nominee. Ballots should be received in the mail in the next couple of week. There will also be several workshops. Ronna will be running a workshop on becoming a Justice of the Peace. Mirna and Tim will be running a workshop with Baird Welch-Collins on Outreach strategies.

Old business

a) Outreach Committee

- a. Events Update: Thank you to Dan and the bands for performing at the march 19th fundraiser. Outreach committee will send out thank you notes.
- b. Green Moms: The March 20th event brought in some new people. The next event will be on April 7th at 13 Golden Street.
- c. New London Progressives Happy Hour: First event will take place on April 13th at 7PM at the Oasis.
- d. Pancake Breakfast: Details will be discussed by the Outreach Committee.

b) Town Committee

- a. Mirna nominates Margarita Mogollon to serve as the representative for the south end of New London. The nomination was seconded by Tim and approved unanimously.
- b. Presidential ballot access: Ronna distributed petitions and explained that 7500 valid signatures are needed by August 10th. If 100 people can each get 100 signature, we can reach our goal.

New business

- a) Edgerton School Purchase
Tim has petitions to challenge the City Council vote approving the purchase of the former Edgerton School property. There was a general discussion about why the purchase is not a good decision.
- b) Rich Martin has invited Greens to contribute to his new print magazine: The Cut-up
- c) There was a general discussion about the Mayor's proposed budget.

There was a discussion about the process for the Citizens Election Program. The funding petition deadline is election. Donations don't need to be from the individuals who signed.

Updates

(1) State of the City: Updates were discussed in new business

(2) Education:

- a) The schools will no longer observe Columbus Day, but rather Indigenous People's Day.
- b) The BOE approved and requested a budget increase, but that request was not included in Mayor's budget proposal. Previous BOE flat-funding was a contributing factor in state intervention of the City's schools to begin with.
- c) The BOE has entered into a contract with Brigaid to improve food offerings and quality. The program will be supported through donations and not tax dollars.
- d) There was a small restructuring in the Central office which has led to the creation of the chief academic officer and finance director positions.

(3) Riverside Park/NENL: Hodges Square Village Association Public meeting on April 21st at 5:30 to provide an update on the group's work as well as to discuss a potential collaboration with Lyman Allyn.

(4) Thinking Green:

April 5th: Cindy Barry will be on to discuss Farmers Markets including the spring market on April 9th at St. James Church. Tim will be doing a taped show about the budget that will air on April 12th.

(5) Additional Updates

- a. Re:public Ed will be hosting a movie: Defies Measurement on April 8th at 6:30 at All Souls.

No announcements

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm. Next meeting will be Sunday, May 1st, 7pm.

~~Subject to approval.~~ *Approved on May 1, 2016*