

New London Green Party

May 1, 2016 - 19 Evergreen Avenue, New London

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

Minutes from the 4/02/16 regular meeting were approved by consensus. Motion made by Mirna, seconded by Bob.

Treasurer's report: Deposits of \$25. Current balance is \$663.12.

State Central Committee: The April meeting was the annual meeting and election of officers. Co-chairs are Mike DeRosa, Barbary Barry, and Emily Garfinkel. Treasurer is Chris Reilly. Secretary is David Bedell.

Old business

- a) Outreach Committee
 - a. Pancake breakfast fundraiser will be held on 5/15 from 9-11AM at Spark Makerspace.
 - b. Green Moms: Next event is Thursday, May 5th at 13 Golden Street from 9-10AM.
 - c. Waterford Greens are hosting a bazaar on 5/21 at Waterford Beach. NL Greens will have a table at the event.
 - d. 3 new registered greens in April.
- b) Town Committee
 - a. No activity.
- c) At the annual meeting, Mike DeRosa reported that the presidential ballot access efforts have netted roughly 1000 signatures. 7500 valid signatures are needed by August 10th. Ronna is working with Vic from Middletown to get forms signed and to check birthdates. Strategy is to get people to get 50 signatures as a starting point. State party has funds to pay petitioners. There was a discussion of getting signatures at Conn and Three Rivers.

New business

- a) No new business.

Updates

(1) State of the City: The city budget was discussed. As currently proposed, the budget will lead to deficit spending. There was also a discussion of the \$40 million development proposal at the former Edgerton School site. The project would build 125 residential units for \$40 million. Ronna pointed out that this amounts to \$320,000 per unit, which seemed high and suggested infill opportunities as a better alternative.

(2) Education:

- a) There was a discussion of the City budget, which flat funds schools. Flat funding is effectively a cut due to contractual increases as well as the schools taking on more of the maintenance costs of the facilities (due to insufficient funding on the City side of the budget).
- b) Public hearing of the budget is on May 10th. People are encouraged to support the BOE's proposed budget increase and should not that previous flat funding contributed to state intervention.
- c) The curriculum committee was appointed by the chair and is currently only made up of board member.
- d) The policy committee has been active and their actions have been well received by the BOE.

(3) Riverside Park/NENL: There is a park cleanup scheduled for May 7th from 9Am-noon. There is a Hodges Square Village Association meeting at Sun Turtle on May 9th at 5:30 PM. The newly hired parking director is invited to speak with the group about parking in Hodges Square.

(4) Thinking Green:

Upcoming schedule: 5/3: Lauren Shaw, GP candidate for 38th district.
5/10: Flock Theater or Tim Hanser. 5/17: Stephanie Gregerman, CT
Commuter Rail Council. 5/24: Roger Benham. 5/31: Vets for Peace

(5) Additional Updates

- a. none.

Announcements

There is a cleanup at Bates Woods on May 14th at 9:30 AM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm. Next meeting will be Sunday, June 5th, 7pm.

~~Subject to approval.~~ *Approved by consensus on June 5, 2016.*