

New London Green Party

Sunday, January 3, 2021 • Zoom online conference

In attendance: Frida Berrigan, Sharmaine Gregor, Andrew Lopez, Daniel Spurr, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller, Kris Wraight. Guest: Maggie Redfern.

Start time: 7:13pm

1. Meeting minutes: Kris moved to approve the minutes from August 2, 2nd by Bob; passed by consensus. Mirna moved to approve the minutes from the August 31 nominating meeting, 2nd by Frida; passed by consensus.
2. Treasurer's report: No activity; balance remains \$275.44.
3. Green Party of CT updates: The next State Central Committee is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 26. The officers have been reaching out to community activists interested in becoming involved in this year's municipal campaigns, and have received good responses in Manchester and Waterbury. A committee is working on updating the bylaws, and another is taking on criminal justice reform advocacy.
4. Old business
 - a) 2020 election review and debrief: Our Green candidates for 2nd District Congress and 39th District State Rep received enough votes to hold the ballot line (both Cass and Erycka received over 3% in New London); however, Connecticut lost its Presidential ballot line, so we anticipate petitioning in 2024.
 - b) Ongoing issues and actions
 - People's Budget - reallocating funding to meet human needs: Kris reported on the work she's been doing with a coalition, led by Hearing Youth Voices, to prepare a budget proposal to present to City Council in early March. The group could use assistance in (1) building the budget, (2) completing their survey (and spreading the word), and (3) signing onto their letter advocating repeal of the ordinance (Sec 16-52) setting a minimum of 80 police officers. Kris read the draft of the letter, and the group discussed potential goals, as well as strategies and framing, for the creation of a "People's Budget" based on human needs. Danny moved that the NLGP sign on as co-sponsor and request that the final version be shared with us before submission to City Council, 2nd by Ronna, passed by consensus.
 - Community Choice Energy and Ranked Choice Voting: There are current efforts to pass town resolutions supporting action by the state legislature to move both these issues forward.
 - Medicare for All statewide bill: In light of the medical and economic crises brought on by the COVID pandemic, several bills will be brought up this session, to provide emergency relief as well as systemic change. "Medicare for All" will hopefully get a public hearing (for which we will ask individuals to share their stories) and an economic study authorized this year, while the offering of a

expanded Medicaid and/or public option may help more people access care in the short term (and help make the economic case for a single payer system).

5. New business

a) Town Committee elections: Ronna moved, 2nd by Frida, to re-elect the following officers and district representatives: Meeting chair - Mirna Martínez, Records chair - Ronna Stuller, Treasurer - Bob Stuller, 2nd district - Daniel Spurr, 4th district - Sharmaine Gregor, 6th district - Andrew Lopez. Passed by consensus. The remaining officers are elected in odd-number years, but we have vacancies for 1st district, at-large, and alternate representatives that can be filled on an ongoing basis.

b) 2021 municipal elections: We hope to run candidates for both City Council and Board of Education this year, but have not yet started the process. Please send suggestions for potential candidates and campaign issues to the town committee.

7. Updates, announcements and upcoming events

Nuclear Ban Treaty entry into force: On January 22, 2021, Nuclear weapons will become illegal, per terms of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and public actions are being planned nationwide to spotlight the TPNW. A meeting will be held on Friday, January 8, to help plan local action, like to take place outside the Subase on 1/22.

8. Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 7. Bob moved to adjourn, 2nd by Sharms; passed by consensus.

End time: 8:31pm

Approved on February 7, 2021.