

New London Green Party  
October 1, 2017 – 243 State Street, New London

Attendees: Mirna Martínez (facilitator), Erick Carrión, Mark Robel, Bob Stuller, Ronna Stuller, Margarita Mogollón (recorder)

The meeting was called to order by Mirna at 7:05pm.

- 1) Minutes from 9/10 meeting - defer to next month
- 2) Treasurer's report: The SEEC report was filed Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. Activity last month:  
Income: \$2473  
Expenditures: \$1813.54  
Current balance: 1293.24  
Upcoming Obligations: approx. \$2400.  
The Treasurer's Report was accepted into record unanimously.
- 3) State Central Committee report - The October 25 State Central Committee meeting will be held at our New London campaign headquarters, 6pm.
- 4) Old business
  - (a) Outreach and fundraising: Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 7 pm showing the movie Milk at the office. Also see "Campaign" below.  
MLK Dinner 6-9 Thursday Oct 19<sup>th</sup> Candidates should go to do outreach.
  - (b) New London Green Youth: No report. It was noted that NL Green Youth have over 100 likes on their Facebook page . They will post on Facebook some gathering times/events. Discussed possibility of a Halloween Party. Also put forward was that Green Youth can use the campaign office whenever it is available.
  - (c) 2017 Municipal Campaign:  
Started phone banking today. Mirna felt they got a better response than door-knocking. Jason made calling lists of people who voted past elections and there are also Republicans to contact on the list. Thursday Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> will be additional phone banking with at least 3 people 6:30-8:30. Ronna will post this event on Action CT web site. There are undone and done call sheets in baskets. "Undone" can be called again.  
Mirna is down to a few lawn signs. Eric has 20. Should order 50 more for Mirna with or without wire stands depending on what we already have in stock.

Upcoming Campaign outreach events:

Sunday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> Lit. distribution and campaigning at the Spanish Speaking service at Church of the City.

Monday Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> 6-8 House party meet and greet by Kris & Laura, 137 Ocean Ave. Also includes Regina Moseley. Funding table can be there.

October 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Ed debate at the NL Sr. Center at – set-up? At 5 pm. Sponsored by Neighborhood Alliance and League of Women voters; the latter is moderating.

NL Food Stroll, Wed. Oct. 11 – Campaign office will be open, with chairs and table outside. Candidates will be out to talk to the strollers.

#### Messaging & Publicity:

1. Campaign Video Ads not out yet. Are over 7 minutes in length and need editing. Mirna will look at where to cut. Snippets from the candidates on Thinking Green with the candidates will also be put on the Facebook candidates' pages.
2. Eric noted we are still looking for more volunteers. Social media has been pretty active. Jason has linked the candidate pages to donation pages. Every action is charged to us. Party members should not “like” posts because that is considered an action. Please let the public do that.

5) New business: None

#### 6) Updates

- (a) State of the City: Ronna noted that the City and Bd. of Ed budgets were revoked because the State did not pass a budget. Eric mentioned that people keep telling him they feel like the city is a mess - not functioning well.
- (b) Education and the Board: The Superintendent search continues. Hiring a search company was voted down. Mirna stated Dr. Tracey is likely to be asked to extend the contract due to timing when qualified people are looking for jobs. There is work on consolidating the Board of Ed and City Information Technology (IT) Depts. The MOU from a long time ago to consolidate never went through due to lack of agreement on how to do it. There are problems with City website compatibility and ease of search and navigation functions. Ronna noted having a non-lapsing fund was attempted in the past so that at end of year if monies remained in Bd. Of Ed coffers, the City could put in an account for Bd. Of Ed. use the following year or potential maintenance issues, etc. Council's proposed language that it “may be possible to put in such a fund” was rejected as there was no incentive to save if City did not guarantee a non-lapsing fund. There is a hiring freeze now due to lack of State Budget and uncertainty w/city budget.
- (c) Riverside Park/NENL: Paintings from Riverside Park are on exhibit at the Garde. Many are very nice and some artists are willing to sell. They can be viewed free of charge at times when there is not a Garde event occurring.  
The Stairs remain a big issue. Ronna spoke to the Mayor recently and said he believes the project should have gone through the schools (as a State project).

Irrespective to which agency dropped the ball, the stairs are greatly needed. Of the 2014-2015 infrastructure bond still sitting in a city account, about \$800K is still available to be used for the stair project. The NL Pedestrian advisory committee members said they would support the project because the stairs would significantly reduce the risk of a pedestrian traffic accident as there is no other pedestrian access.

(d) Environmental Actions and Social Advocacy:  
Recycling: No update

Housing: A group is trying to look into affordable housing in the area. The proposal is that low wage workers with family incomes of \$40-60K per year, but may be strapped with educational and/or medical debts, should be able to own homes. A discussion of how Community Land Trusts can facilitate homeownership by buying properties and selling them for less monthly mortgage cost than renting, and including "green" provisions within the contracts. Supporters of the concept purport that homeowners are more likely to take better care of their properties and be more involved citizens. More details to come on this later. Ronna mentioned this concept to the mayor who seemed to think it was a good idea.

(e) Thinking Green:

Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> - Waterford green candidates will be guests. No bites for other shows. Mirna talked to Rob Funk and he said he thinks Dr. Tracey may be open to joining him to talk about the EDU budget. Ronna will invite them for one of the Tuesdays 7 pm in October shows. This Tues., Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, will be Eric and Mirna together. Then later they can each be guests separately.

Announcements/Upcoming Events:

Wednesday (date?) the Conflict Resolution Committee meeting at the NL Campaign Office at 5 p.m. Note: There was a question on whether the Ethics Committee has vacancies. Ronna agreed to find out.

Oct. 22 is the FRESH Member Annual Meeting at All Souls UU Congregation, on J Street from 3-6 p.m.

Next meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017 at the NLGP Campaign Office, at 243 State Street.

Motion to adjourn by Bob, 2nd by Erick; adjourned at 8:35 pm.

*Approved on November 5, 2017.*