

## COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING 7-14-04

Minutes of last meeting, corrections: Also in attendance, but not listed, was Arthur Schwartz. Location of Saturday Farmer's Market amended to Corner of Santa Barbara and Cota Streets. Approved as corrected.

Additions to Agenda:

Dave: Long Term Planning

Nancy: Water.

John: Stewart Bechmann's request for list of registered voters. For free if he has letter from us.

John: Request for a copy of our bylaws, to be sent to State.

John: Will we pay \$80 for our next 8 meetings?

John: Money to delegates for convention expenses.

Treasurer's Report::

\$1100.00 in Treasury, unless we owe delegates something from the National Convention.

Membership: (as per current account, however accurate it may be) 138 members in 114 households, 24 of which have two members.

Also, we need to do fundraising for the remainder of the year.

Announcements:

Bud:

-Tomorrow 9 a.m. Dennis Apfel will be arraigned at the Bankruptcy Court.

MacGregor Eddy's trial has been postponed until December.

-Highway Cleanup completed again with only 4 people

-Next one 9-11-04. Meet across Avenue of the Flags from Pea Soup Andersons in Buellton.

-Next protest at Vandenberg Saturday 7-31-04 1 p.m. at the main gate, some will walk starting 11:30 a.m. from Vandenberg Village with MacGregor Eddy, as a protest against their claims that we don't have access to that roadway.

-Women in Black meets every Wednesday in Lompoc from 5a:30 AT Ocean and H Streets in the center of old town Lompoc.

-Bud still needs tabling apprentices to help out when he goes for his upcoming medical procedure.

John:

-Green Focus, a state publication, is asking for pieces on local issues/events.

They are soliciting articles for the September issue. Pictures can be used.

Mail: Space Alert!, and solicitation of financial support from Planned Parenthood.

Bud:

-Hope Dance film schedule for next two months.

-Petitions: To Impeach Bush, Repeal the Patriot Act, Put Nader on the Ballot.

Time Sensitive Matters

-Endorsement of Prop 66--Amendment of 3-Strikes Law. Includes two additions to existing law, which will apply retroactively to people already convicted. Unanimously approved.

-GPCA will both place David Cobb on the ballot as the Green Candidate, and endorse the petition drive to put the independent Nader-Camejo ticket on the State Ballot for November.

Discussion: John opposes the Nader endorsement, but admits its complicated, and that its important to think through this. Paul wants to look at the scenarios, how will things unfold. Bud supports Nader, he has for several years, but doesn't support his placement on the State Ballot. Art sees Nader's strong name recognition and the connection that exists in the popular mind between this name and the Green Party, observing that Nader's issues need to be kept in front of the public, and that he's the only one that can do this. Consuelo points out that Cobb has no intention of being elected, Leo clarifies that this is primarily because he doesn't want to throw any support to Bush. Bud tells of Cobb's speech at the Convention, where he didn't articulate this position, although he made it clear that there were those battleground states where he would not campaign aggressively for votes. John observes that he's coming around, and can see the value of the Nader candidacy. Art thinks we're arguing for no reason, California's going to go Democratic on the Presidency, so are we dividing the party (he doesn't think so,) and we need to think about whether we are going to be comfortable with today's decision later on. Bud feels strongly that Nader could force Kerry to take a better stand, and that Cobb can carry the party in the future, as Nader gets older and older. Dave keeps changing his mind, and asks John if he feels that he's done his duty for Nader if he signs the petition. He then asks why Nader has always strived for the top, never considering anything but the Presidency. Art notes that when Nader tries to get into the debates, they may be able to say that the Greens wouldn't even let him on the ballot. Art says that he heard that the National Convention was a rigged deal. Dave says that he studied up, and went through training in Sacramento, being expected to behave accordingly at the Convention, but explains that there was no way of telling where to go at the convention. He asks why it wasn't better organized--either it was disorganized, or it was meant to be that way. Peter Camejo called a caucus of the California group, and he recalls Camejo saying that the Cobb delegates had promised to throw their votes to Nader, and that their failure to do so constituted treachery on their part, well he got an earful for that. David's not sure if that's what happened, but Bud agrees with this account, in particular that California was so disorganized that the other states had a much stronger pull at the convention as a result. Bud thinks 70 of the 130 California delegates voted at the second round. It appears to have been a mess. The plane broke down, they took a bus after midnight, and on and on. We need a complete report on this. Dave will send a piece to Green Focus. John says both sides are attacking one another on the Nader-Cobb discussion. He notes that our poll made it clear that nobody favored a spoiler, and that locally there is not much Green support for Nader either. The County Council agreed that we'd support either Cobb or no all-out candidate. (?) There is a strong Nader constituency in the middle to upper Green echelons in the state,

and these are the Camejo people. John supports the proposal, and wants to, sometime soon, poll the party on how many of us will support Cobb.  
-The proposal passed 7 in favor, 1 against and 1 abstained.

John: GPCA By-Laws Standing Committee is compiling local bylaws to put on record. We currently have a proposed revision that we haven't looked at yet. Nancy concurs. We'll read up on it and look at it next meeting.

Meeting place? We agree to keep meeting here at the Upper Westside Community Center. 8 more meetings for \$80. Art wants us to do things together, carpool out to his place.

Request from Stewart Bechmann for mailing list to facilitate a mailing for his campaign mailing. We've got one that's current as of February, we could send him that. Agreed.

Paul: Restorative Justice and Therapeutic Jurisprudence. Paul wants us to hold an event at the Faulkner, invite some knowledgeable people to speak on these issues before November. Tie this in with Proposition 66 for obvious reasons. Paul wants us to work with WILPF on this. If funds are lacking, let's do a remote video meeting, as per his earlier suggestion. A related issue is nonviolent communication, as articulated by Marshall Rosenberg. Marshall would be a good presenter for this, so perhaps we'll have 3 different people.

-Discussion: Nancy: Rosenberg gives annual seminars on this issue. He uses his technique in mediation between national leaders. Perhaps we can get him when he's here in town. Dave has a panelist on his TV show, Dennis Rivers, who works in the same area. He doesn't favor stretching our resources on new untried ideas, but favors working on single payer health care. Leo notes that Paul's not trying to spend more money, and that because these are new and powerful ideas, we should be behind them. John agrees, and says something I didn't write down. Discussion continues, and Patricia and Paul agree that we should keep it down to the first two issues, with the proposition 66 tie-in. One potential speaker is Bruce Winick. Nancy notes that Rosenberg is always in town in October. She will ask him to do something with us this October. Art says that the soldiers in Iraq are being equated with prisoners, that they are victims of a de facto draft, and that these issues are intertwined. The group seems to find this a stretch. Paul relates the story of a Green Judge who uses therapeutic jurisprudence.

On 9-9-04, Reigning In Corp Power is doing a Faulkner event on pharmaceuticals and HMOs.

Paul: Buying an Electric Bike. He wants us to get bikes, electric or not, and to put a calendar on the web site, where people sign out the bikes. This will do two things: get people on bikes, and get the word out. The bike(s) will carry advertising on a rear carrier: Green Bikes, or something. Bikes are probably around \$500. People pay for the bikes when they sign up on the calendar. How

would this work? Where would the bikes be based? How would riders get there?  
Dave: There are possibilities here, but the details of the system need to be worked out. Issues: insurance, how many bikes are needed? Art: pedicabs carry advertising, and they're going to start a new pedicab service for residents at Friendship Manor, where they only work for tips.

Dave: Long-Term Planning. Its simple and hugely complex. We need to get together on a list of local issues, a list small enough to manage, get our natural allies in on it. A committee should make up the list, prioritize items, bring them back out to the council, and get them out to the community. Instead of being a debating society, we should take this energy and put it into the community. Paul: make S.B. the center of the world, by modeling and creating ripples. Art: that's what veterans for peace just did, and we can do it for single payer health care. We can get this to be the shining city by getting some of the city people involved, and making it into something real in Santa Barbara, based in City Hall. Patricia: we had something like that. Dave: Yes, and it slipped away. We need a critical mass, we need that economy of scale to get it off the ground. Nancy: We're working on that with a potluck at Stowe Park this Saturday, 7-17. David proposes that a committee form to write a list of local issues, to be presented to the Council in one month. Next newsletter out around September. Nancy says that this committee has already been formulated, proposes to meet at her house.

Nancy: Water. What are we going to do about it locally? We have 4 very fine local speakers that we can use once we agree on it. She proposes that the Green Party endorse and work on a public event on water, soon, with her as coordinator. It is endorsed.

Patricia: remainder of agenda items shelved for next meeting.