

Green Party of Santa Barbara County
County Council Meeting 10-13-04

Facilitator: Bud Boothe. Note-taker: Leo Raabe.

Present: Bud Boothe, David Wass, Nancy Broyles, John Foran, Patricia Hiles, Leo Raabe, Dorothy Boothe, Sandy Stites, Consuelo Delgado.

Minutes were approved, following correction to note John Foran's absence.

Treasurer's Report:

Account balance after paying current bills: around \$390.00. This is an all time low, at least for this treasurer. We've been holding steady around \$1000 for the past few months, but David Cobb campaign materials, our Bulk Mail permit (around \$150,) and other expenses have cut into our savings. The good news comes from Thea Howard, who's offered to pitch in 15 or 20 dollars a month.

Announcements:

Bud reports that the third party candidates were on Bill Moyers' show, the Libertarian, Independent, Constitutional, and Green Parties. David came across heads above the rest. The following show on CNN looked much the same. Patricia concurs that when Nader and Cobb speak at these events it's like someone turned on the sunshine, while the other candidates maunder on interminably.

John: Peter Camejo spoke yesterday at UCSB, giving a great talk, the first official event for the fledgling Campus Greens, whose first meeting is scheduled for next Monday at 4. Looks like they're really taking off!

Nancy's Party, Sunday the 17th: Everybody bring one thing for the main course, an appetizer, and a drink.

Art's Party, Friday the 22nd. Targeting students, involving the Campus Greens. Art prefers organic food, no GE or junk food, and recommends trying the I.V. Food Co-op.

Restorative Justice Event: Postponed due to inadequacy of Web interface at Faulkner Gallery. Rescheduled to sometime in November at UCSB, to be among the first collaborations between the S.B. Greens and the Campus Greens at UCSB.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report on Proposition Forum. About 25 people attended. It went well, could have had more people, but those who attended were well informed and asked intelligent questions.

Reigning in Corporate Power: The October event has been canceled. The next event is on November 9. Titled the Good and the Bad, with regards to corporations. Two speakers are planned. They will dialogue, not debate, with David Wass asking questions.

Tabling. We're still working towards getting a crew together to run the tabling operation currently run by Art Schwartz.

Candidates for political office. We've got some time, since its 2 years before the next election. There is a glaring absence of Green candidates this current election cycle. We need to focus on this, as it is our ostensible reason for existence. We need to have candidates identified by next summer.

Local Issues. This is the first step, adopting goals. As part of this process we also need to develop a budget.

Bud: We can also write letters. Here's one letter idea: You don't have to choose between the lesser of two evils. We can all promote Green values by voting for green candidates. This will increase the spotlight on those values, those candidates, and their issues.

Paul asks what the official Green position is on Nader. The State Green Parties of Vermont and Utah have endorsed Nader rather than Cobb, but other than that, Nader has no official standing as a Green candidate.

The Draft. Paul reports that there is a bill before congress, which, if passed may initiate a draft as soon as 2005, for both males and females. There is an agreement with Canada and Mexico to turn back draft evaders. Bud says that it failed overwhelmingly in the House, and never came up in the Senate. Patricia reports that the bill was presented before the election so that it would appear to be a dead issue. We are not convinced that this is the case. Wait till after the election.

Peak Oil. Due to the diminishing amount of new oil discoveries, coupled with the increasing difficulty in extracting the oil already discovered, we face a decreasing petroleum supply. Projections range from 4 to 50 years for the crunch. This situation signals the need to redefine community, to work towards sustainable ways of being.

It's more complicated than that, since the people who own the oil also own the coal, and they stand to gain by stretching this out as long as they can, and suppressing alternative technologies; i.e., any effort at sustainable activities.