

GREEN PARTY OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING OF 7-27-05

-The meeting commenced at 7:15 p.m.

Facilitator: Paricia Hiles. Note-taker: Leo Raabe. In attendance: Nancy Broyles, Bud Boothe, David Wass, Patricia Hiles, Sandy Stites, Leo Raabe, John Foran, Dorothy Boothe, John DeHerrera, George Wright, Gabriella Hodges.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the following changes: "was been" changed to "has been" in the second to the last paragraph, and correct the spelling of "Sanderson Beck."

Treasurer's report:

We have \$1356.19 in the treasury, up from \$1330.42 July 9th. We have 100 potential members, of which 34 are paid up for 2005. One new member has joined during the past month. The Council has agreed to pay the State Party dues.

John De hererra (cc2.com and cc2.org) argues that the constitutional process of checks and balances has fallen by the wayside. He is therefore pushing for a constitutional convention, since amending the constitution to restore its integrity is not likely to occur any other way.

Here's his story: The U.S. Constitution requires that a constitutional convention be convened upon the receipt by Congress of 34 applications for a constitutional convention. There are over 500 applications for a constitutional convention pending in Congress right now. A lower court has ruled that Congress DOESN'T have to obey the constitution and hold a constitutional convention. The matter is now being adjudicated with the Department of Justice in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals as Walker vs. Members of Congress. John wants to put a spotlight on this issue.

August 6 (Saturday) Noon til "3ish". Regional Meeting at Nancy's house.

Agenda: Elect a Co-Co Representative (and alternate,) county updates, Green Scene, fair wage proposition. Robert Bernstein and Tim Harding wil discuss public transportation as time permits. Potluck meal. Adrienne Prince, the current alternate, is expected to run for the position of rep, and David Wass has expressed interest in running for alternate.

Green Candidates/report on tri-party meeting (David):

Sanderson Beck is interested in trying for Lois Capps' seat in Congress. Tim Harding is interested in dialoguing with us, perhaps about a City Council seat. Marc McGinnes has also agreed to talk with us.

Filing deadlines:

City Council: August 12

Congress: some time in December(?).

Transportation: Patricia expects to work with Tim Harding on getting together a jitney service.

Planning:

Future Meetings, Fora, and other projects. The transportation forum was so successful that David wants to put on more like that, where a broad coalition makes a bigger show. We are considering making this "bigger forum" a bi-monthly event.

Upcoming fora:

Aug. 24

Living/Fair (Minimum?)

Wage

October 26

Low Income Housing

Long-term thinking (Nancy): Peak oil is impending and local food production is again at the fore. This means home gardens, and pushing the local governments to provide more community gardens. Patricia notes that alternative energy is also a big peak oil issue.

Comments by John Foran: He will bring tabling supplies and mailing material for the Green Scene. His main concern today: how to do effective outreach to involve more people in the work of this group. Developing candidates will always remain central to this, and will require some innovation. Campus outreach is also important. We've got to mobilize our membership, create another tier in the organization.

Green Party Website: David wants to invite our webmaster, Sri Subramanian, to a meeting so that we can initiate some work on the website. We can update for our new meeting and forum schedule. Sri needs minutes of meetings and a PDF of our newsletter so that he can put them on the site. We could start to see a calendar emerge on the website. In addition, Sri would like us to specify deadline requirements in our requests for postings to the site.

Water (Bud): We need to get Carolee Kreiger rolling on water issues.

Green Scene: Sandy is great at layout and a proofreading whiz. If someone can gather the articles, she can put it together. She wants to distribute the Green Scene to our entire email list in PDF form, and use the money saved to send copies out to a broader readership.

Our next meeting is August 13, 2 p.m. at the Faulkner (west?).