

Green Party of Santa Fe County

July 22, 2008 Business Meeting Minutes

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, July 26, 2:00—4:00 pm: Open House at Osteria, 58 S Federal Pl to meet Public Regulation Commissioner candidate Rick Lass
 - Tuesday, July 29, 7:00 pm: Steering Committee at 212 Tesuque Drive (planning meeting for Aug 5)
 - Wednesday, July 30, 6:30 pm: Citizens Energy Board meeting to create other citizens boards at The Commons
 - Tuesday, August 5, 7:00 pm: Green Party Business Meeting at the Pyramid Café, 505 W Cordova (Guest will be Ben Ray Lujan)
 - Monday, August 18, 7:00 pm: Green Film Series at Cinema Café, 1616 St. Michaels Drive
 - Tuesday, August 19, 7:00 pm: Green Social Meeting at the Pyramid Café, 505 W Cordova
 - Tuesday, September 2, 7:00 pm: Green Party Business Meeting at the Pyramid Café, 505 W Cordova
 - Monday, September 15, 7:00 pm: Green Film Series at Cinema Café, 1616 St. Michaels Drive
 - Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 pm: Green Social Meeting at the Pyramid Café, 505 W Cordova
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Section 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order with moment of silence at 7:12pm. Roles were assigned as follows: Scott Shuker—facilitator, Xubi Wilson—actioneer, David Thompson—vibes watcher, Suzanne Otter—minute taker. July 1, 2008 Business Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted. July 22, 2008 Business Meeting Agenda was amended to add other reports.

Business meeting participants: David Thompson, Emily Franklin, John Otter, Roxxi O'Hara, Scott Shuker, Sean Knight, Suzanne Otter, Tom Knoblauch, Xubi Wilson

Section 2: Officer Reports

Co-Chair—Xubi Wilson:

Xubi reported that he went to the Green Business Networking Council and a Green Building meeting where they were glad to see the Green Party participating in their efforts. It's time to step away from the backlash on Green Party, and get in front of issues that are gaining great popularity. People want to find out more about issues that have always been Green values. It's time for us to be proud of being Green. Rick Lass' PRC campaign will benefit greatly from this attitude; it's time for Greens to take the lead on issues.

Xubi checked with Santa Fe County and they need a letter that lists new GPSF officers. Suzanne will send the letter to Valerie Espanosa.

Treasurer—Sean Knight:

We have \$307.00 Sean will be meeting with Russell Tyldesley and David Thompson to

get an accounting of how much we can expect each month from Green Party New Mexico. We haven't been paid this year. The amount for each month has declined, and we haven't added new contributors. It's time to promote making contributions to GPSF. We had some success going door to door for green supporters; now that we will be going door to door for Rick's campaign we can also ask people to support GPSF.

Section 3: Other Reports

John Otter:

John reported that he attended the City Council Finance Committee meeting for the discussion of what to do with all the gross receipts tax monies that have come available for general uses that are not restricted. He supported the effort of the group who wants to use the money for solar loans. City Council decided to set aside about 70% of their discretionary funds as a reserve for future economic problems, and to establish criteria for other projects.

At the NM Environmental Department and The Community Foundation Listening Meeting today, Secretary Curry said that they were avoiding partnerships and coalitions in order to do their good environmental work. Then, persons in the audience commented and asked questions which were collected to be answered at the end of the meeting. Greg Mello said it was a conflict of interest to have the Community Foundation joint sponsorship because The Community Foundation is supposed to independently monitor LANL.

The Citizens Energy Board efforts are moving ahead. They will be meeting with the

Santa Fe City/County ad hoc Energy Task Force on July 24, 2008. There will also be a meeting on July 30, 2008 at the Commons, 6:30pm, to broaden the scope of the Citizens Board effort. The meeting is open to people who are interested in creating other citizens boards to develop long term policy regarding energy, agriculture, food, water, healthcare, etc. The underlying value is grass roots democracy—have the citizens be the ones to make the decisions about these matters. The County Commission would establish the boards, then the membership would be open, members of the boards would be self-selected—anyone can join the board. For more information about the Citizens Energy Board contact John Otter at jotter@cybermesa.com

David Thompson:

The Living Wage Network is working on reconstituting itself—to broaden the mission on workers rights. The broader mission could include expanding living wage to the county, and collectives and cooperatives. The nature of the organization will probably change a little bit. Currently we are supporting the real estate transfer tax, and a more exciting Labor Day celebration. Labor Day celebration will include a picnic in Franklin Miles Park. For more information about the Living Wage Network or helping with the Labor Day picnic contact David Thompson dcthomp@newmexico.com

Tom Knoblauch:

Farmers Market is progressing on the building—it probably will be open for the first Saturday following Labor Day. In 2 weeks we will be testing out the grounds. The building is 95% complete. The Farmers Market Institute will be turning its efforts toward helping small farms in northern NM with micro loans to foster farming in northern NM.

We have started up Green Film Night again with the film *Do It For Uncle Graham* on July 21. Approximately 40 people attended. Thanks to Emily Franklin for getting this program started. The films will continue on the third Monday of every month. To help with selecting films for Green Film Night contact Tom at greenpolitix@hotmail.com

Section 4: Discussion Items

Decision about Ben Ray Lujan's request to address the Greens:

Xubi reported that Ben Ray Lujan is requesting to meet with the Greens at our next business meeting on August 5, from 7:15-7:45. (The request came through Rick Lass, though we don't know if this is an endorsement.) Discussion about this request included the following ideas:

- It's a great opportunity to ask for Ben Ray Lujan's endorsement of Rick Lass.
- Since the Greens don't have a candidate in this race, we could have a debate between him and Carol Miller on the question of whom or whether the green party of Santa Fe should endorse. This would be good exposure for Carol, would get progressive opinions out there. Would we invite the Republican also?
- A debate is a good idea, a pitch to the Greens and a public debate are not mutually exclusive.
- Have him come by himself and so we can communicate to him what the Greens would like to see in a congressional representative, a way to measure his performance and expectations.
- I don't want to see another all-candidates meeting, there is not chance the Greens would support a Republican for this race. We can be selective, we are no under no obligation to invite candidates. The press would be interested in a 2-way debate; it would be good for us and Carol Miller.
- The two-candidate model works best, we can ask what we want, a good debate with a good moderator can be a very lively thing, as opposed to deadening candidate debate.
- In a broad public form it is harder to expect candor. Having him here with just us is an opportunity to hold him accountable. Let him know what our positions are. A lot more would be gained by him having an understanding of the Green positions.
- The issue of logistics, is getting ready for a form in two weeks, this might be a challenge.

We agreed to invite Ben Ray on August 5, 2008 from 7:15 to 7:45, with the idea that a debate or forum will be considered in the future. Xubi will invite Ben Ray Lujan to our meeting.

A steering committee meeting will be held to prepare questions for Ben Ray Lujan on Tuesday, July 29, at 7pm at Emily Franklin's house, 212 Tesuque Drive in Santa Fe. The

meeting is open to everyone. Call Emily 690-4828, or Sean 660-8835 for more information.

Rick Lass Campaign for PRC

Xubi reported on Rick's campaign. In 10 weeks, early voting will begin. 50% of people in Santa Fe County voted early in the last election. Rick's campaign needs help with significant voter contact in Santa Fe County. It's time to identify voters and precinct captains, develop the door-to-door campaign, put up yard signs. Make it a decentralized campaign. Door to door campaigning needs a good piece of literature that communicates that Rick is serious about this campaign.

More media coverage of the campaign is needed. Scott will contact reporters at the Reporter to start covering Rick's campaign. It's time to stop talking about the past, and move on to who will be the best candidate. We are encouraged to send letters to the editors. Emily Franklin promoted Rick while she was on the Living Juicy radio program. Upcoming events for Rick's campaign include:

- Mora County Fair
- Fiesta Days in Chama, August 8, 9 and 10
- Everyone is invited to an open house at Osteria, 58 S Federal Pl. on Saturday, July 26, from 2:00 till 4:00 PM for Public Regulation Commissioner Candidate Rick Lass. Rick will be speaking about the importance of the Public Regulation Commission in all of our lives and why it is critical that we elect an independent commissioner who will protect the interests of consumers, small business owners and working people.

To help with Rick Lass for PRC contact Xubi Wilson xubi@newmexico.com

Discussion of Action Agenda for 2008-2009

We agreed that the priority for GPSF is supporting Rick's campaign *and* building the party. Ideas with the most support are as follows:

1. Localization/Re-Localization Campaign: Promote localization through an educational campaign on pending global crisis of water/food/energy. Other issues can easily be tied to this. We can create a framework to get people involved. Tom will send out his thoughts on this.
2. Forums on Fossil-fuel-free Santa Fe County: Invite Al Gore to Santa Fe. This could build Rick's campaign because energy issues tie in to the PRC race. Sponsor a forum to discuss

transportation, the built environment.

Carbon-free cities is a well funded campaign we could link with. The effort could easily continue in the Spring 2009. Xubi will send out an outline of this.

3. Buy Local campaign with the Santa Fe Alliance. This is different than buy nothing day, which is about not supporting consumerism and global corporations. The idea that we stimulate the economy by buying things only stimulates growth of big powerful corporations. We need to take a stand against this. We could oppose the Governor's tax holiday. We are not going to tax things that we believe is basic, like health care—take away the tax on this, and increase the tax on other things. Buy local day happens right after the election. It would provide momentum; we could work with the Alliance, especially for new people who could get involved in something beyond the election.
4. Nuts and Bolts Conference: Begin organizing in January for a June 2009 event.

Section 5: Action Items and Adjourn

We agreed to table the following items until the next business meeting:

- Updating GPSF Brochure
- Tabling opportunities
- Discussion of actions to take regarding Federal Solar Tax Credits that will go away in 2008.

Action Items:

- Suzanne will send a letter to Valerie Espanosa to provide GPSF officer names
- Xubi will invite Ben Ray Lujan to our meeting on August 5
- Sean will meet with Russell and David about getting money from GPNM
- David will work on lists for Rick's campaign
- Tom will send out his thoughts on re-localization
- Xubi will send out an outline of Fossil Fuel Free Santa Fe

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm with a moment of silence. *Minutes Submitted by Suzanne Otter*