

New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics (NM MOP)

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General Meeting, June 19, 2017, LaFarge Library

Minutes taken by Hannah

Present:

Bruce Berlin, attorney

Valerie Stasik, teacher, ret.

Victoria Scott, art historian,
graphic designer

Herb Faling, construction

Laura Atkins, petr. engineer, ret.

David Burling, attorney, ret., sculptor

Debbie Helper, MD, ret.

Rick Sams

Gabriel Hanson, activist

Margaret Lubalin, Steering Committee, writer, communications, advertising

Charlotte (interested in 28th Amend. Comm.)

Catherine Holliday, teacher, ret.

Ishwari Sollohub, therapist

Greg Madoff, MD, ret.

John House, attorney, ret.

Robert Cordingley, website design & dev.

Hannah Burling, co-chair Issues Comm.

Mitch Buszek, co-chair Issues Comm.

Virginia Miller, Peace & Justice Activist

Nancy Cushing, human services

Issues Committee Report (Mitch):

Good news is Peter Wirth's bill, in spite of the governor's veto and the Secretary of State is instituting rules about campaign financing from her office. Mitch suggests that she speaks at one of our meetings. Quasi success—an ethics bill passed the legislature (watered down), got through, but will go to voters, so there will be dialogue and newspaper headlines.

We need to get our values and issues incorporated into parties. Mitch is working with the Democrats, the Greens are doing something and there are two Republicans in the legislature who may take that on.

Courts are backing up gerrymandering cases and the Wisconsin case is about political party not race or ethnicity.

Mitch and Hannah have developed a questionnaire for the larger group which they will use to create an agenda for the first Issues Committee meeting. Preliminary copies were handed out and this will be emailed to the group.

Laura Atkins mentioned that Maggie Toulouse-Oliver is holding public hearings on her proposed rule in four cities. There will be one in Santa Fe on July 13 at the Roundhouse, room 321 at 9 am.

28th Amendment Committee (Ishwari):

Four out of the five working groups will report. The Pearce group has yet to coalesce.

The goal is to work the legislator up the scale of Amendment support:

Opposed

Neutral

Supporter

Advocate

Leader & Spokesperson

Champion

We are all learning a lot from these meetings with legislators. What is undecided is exactly how we want to involve Ben Gubits of American Promise. We do want his support and continued connection. There is still the monthly call (Core Team Call at 11 am Mountain Time, 2nd Sat. of the month, the AP website (<http://www.americanpromise.net>) and the possibility of his involvement with Op-ed pieces and LTE's.

John House asked if a group would like to work on the wording of the 28th Amendment. Debbie Helper wanted language that all the working groups could agree on. At the moment American Promise has no preference in the language of the various bills. There are at least thirty-five versions of the 28th Amendment and they can be found on united4thepeople.org. Bruce is on a working group with American Promise with an eighteen-month horizon.

Subcommittee for Language: John House, David Burling, Laura Atkins, Debbie Helper, Bruce Berlin, Herb Faling

Outreach Committee has not yet met.

What ideas does everyone have for expanding our group and making it nonpartisan?

Miguel Barnes will be contacting the Young Republicans in Albuquerque.

Virginia Miller will contact the NAACP.

Media/PR Committee

Website is being developed. Robert Cordingley and Valerie Stasik will look at it.

Meetup for six months is \$50. Media/PR will discuss continued support. Catherine Halliday and Robert Cordingley will be on the committee. Alerts should be in subject line of emails. The committee should stay small so that everyone can meet. Valerie will chair Media/PR.

Steering Committee (Hannah Burling): Minutes were read from the 6-5-17 Steering Com Meeting

Working Groups:

David Burling reported on the meeting with Michelle Lujan Grisham's staffer. She had two years of experience, took copious notes, didn't know much about the issue. The group asked for a reach across the aisle, for Lujan Grisham to look at the language of Nolan's bill, which they would send her, for a town hall or informational session and told the staffer that they would help Lujan Grisham write an op-ed.

Debbie Helper reported on the meeting with Josh Sanchez, a field representative for Tom Udall. He was well informed. SJR 8 is in the Senate Judiciary Committee which is caught up with Comey and the Health Care Act. There is a real possibility that Senator Udall will try to work with Chuck Grassley and Jeff Flake. The group asked how they could help and Josh suggested a community survey to find out how New Mexicans feel about dark money and big money and how they contribute, themselves.

In Washington, Bruce Berlin and Jeff Clements met with Matt Nelson (Udall's senior counsel) and had some time with Senator Udall, and with Scott Stockwell in Lujan's office. All seemed discouraged. They also met with Simon Boyce, Heinrich's legislative aide on election issues, who was the most interested, took the most notes and had the most questions.

Mitch Buszek reported on the meeting with Nick Maestas, Ben Ray Lujan's local staffer. Mitch, Virginia and Nick have a long-term relationship. They asked for Lujan's support for the Nolan resolution (HJR 48). They haven't gotten feedback from the DC staff. Mitch suggested that the entire NM MOP membership write letters to Nick, Jennifer Catechis, Scott Stockwell and Chris Garcia. Ben Ray Lujan is not knowledgeable and didn't understand that the Nolan amendment isn't a call for a constitutional convention.

Herb Faling reported on the meeting with Tricia Alvarez, Martin Heinrich's staffer. Her issue is public lands. At this point Heinrich and his staff are stretched very thin. She was unfamiliar with the issue and wanted everything in writing including what language we propose. The group asked him to push for stronger language.

Debbie Helper wanted to make sure we didn't drive a wedge between Heinrich and Udall on this issue.

Greg Madoff suggested that our legislators could use the model of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus and that we could make them aware of this.

Hannah Burling asked that anyone interested in fundraising get in touch with her.

Next General Meeting will be either on Wednesday, July 19th 6 pm in the LaFarge Library; or Thursday, July 20, downtown library, at 6 PM. Which day to be determined shortly and notice/agenda will be sent out soon.