

New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics (NM MOP)

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General Meeting Minutes, 9-11-2017, LaFarge Library, 6 PM

Present: Allen, Rebecca Álvarez, Laura Atkins, Bruce Berlin, Anna Bunker, David Burling, Hannah Burling, Robert Cordingley, Nancy Cushing, Beth Detwiler, Bob Detwiler, Bernie Frimond, Gabe Hanson, Debra Helper, Steve Lipscomb (from fixitamerica.org), Margaret Lubalin, Charlotte Schaaf, Ishwari Sollohub, Valerie Stasik, Eric Wolf

Minutes taken by Hannah Burling

Introductions; 4 new people attending.

Lively discussion of People's Convergence Conference idea of forming a Third Party. As a nonpartisan group, NM MOP is not taking a position on this - discussion only.

Eric Wolf, co-chair of the 28th Amendment Committee, proposed, based on the American Promise Candidate Pledge which can be handed to any politician on any level:

That the Amendment 28 Committee recommend to New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics that this committee proceed now to approach public officials (yet to be determined) with the American Promise pledge until such time as New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics begins a public petition drive in support of our six goals. The proposal being agreed upon, we will make this proposal to New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics before proceeding.

The actual pledge is this:

I support amending the United States Constitution to 1) secure fair, free elections by limiting the undue influence of money in politics; 2) protect the rights of all Americans to equal participation and representation, rather than overrepresentation of donors and special interests; and 3) protect the unalienable liberty of people rather than new privileges for the largest corporations, unions, and special interests; and

I pledge to use my office to advance this 28th Amendment in any and all legal ways, including, but not limited to: sponsoring or cosponsoring bills, resolutions, or other legislation advancing proposal or ratification of the 28th Amendment; voting in favor of such bills and resolutions in committee, subcommittee, or floor votes; working to build cross-partisan support; and publicly advocating for the necessity of this Amendment.

Seconded by David Burling, 14 in favor, 2 opposed; the motion passed.

28th Amendment Committee invited NM MOP members to participate in AP action on Sept. 17: House parties celebrating the 230th Anniversary of signing of US Constitution. Logistical info offered. To participate in this event, go to <http://myaccount.maestroconference.com/conference/register/3XCJ6PB4W2107E5N>

The Steering Committee put forth a slate of candidates for officers of NM MOP: President, Bruce Berlin, Vice-President, Ishwari Sollohub, Secretary/Treasurer, Hannah Burling

David Burling made a motion to support the three candidates. Bernard Frimond seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion of possible Spring Coalition Conference; Outreach Committee to form a subcommittee to work on this.

Discussion of inviting Secretary of State Toulouse-Oliver to speak at October or November meeting. Bruce will make the request of SOS office.

Discussion of inviting Miranda Viscoli to present to the November or December Gen. Mtg. of NM MOP on “The Good, Bad, and Ugly of Working with State Legislatures.” Robert C. will make this inquiry.

The next meeting will be on October 16th at an as yet undecided location.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45