

SGGL Membership Meeting Notes 2-4-21

Mike Flynn/Karen Hogan Communication – three areas: Media relations, social media, and community relations. Develop messaging to deliver the mission. Currently working on a plan. Developing guidelines for exclusion/inclusion in the SGGL fb community group. Going to be recommending screening questions. Sequim has been in the news lately. We're trying to promote the positive. It is important that people don't just associate Sequim with QAnon. Planning to host a Meet the Candidates night on February 9 at 6:00 p.m. for the applicants to Sequim City Council. Have a website up right now and are finding a web designer.

Ken Stringer/Legal Committee: On February 1st the charter was adopted by 6 of the existing members of the Executive Committee (Committee leads and Shenna) Today was the first meeting of the exec committee. We are now formally organized. Now we need the officers. At present we are just an association with a charter. Soon will have bylaws. We'll be a legal entity but not a nonprofit. This will be the foundation for a future decision as to whether we need to go further into a nonprofit form or PAC or both. Also focusing on where to best put our energy. More information will be forthcoming as to the officer roles and responsibilities.

Get Out the Vote Committee/Lowell Rathbun – we have three appointees on CC. The Mayor ran unopposed. The two other members also ran unopposed. We want to fix that. On top of that the City Manager was fired and certain councilmembers don't know why. We have turmoil. We're going to recruit, train and elect our representatives. The Independent Advisory Association snuck their candidates in. We need to build a relationship with the Sequim voters. We need to listen to their concerns. It's a long-term and unglamorous process. We'd like to train volunteers for activity this summer. Phone banking, going door-to-door safely, postcards. Door-to-door is the magic. That's where you listen and talk and build the relationship. Our volunteers will have talking points and literature. We are going to organize a training session. The committee is going to adhere to Public Disclosure Commission rules. We must maintain the proper separation from our candidates. One of the suggestions was there are a lot of high school students that are going to turn 18 – find a way to reach out to them. Perhaps recruit some interns, also from the college. Another suggestion to work with the League of Women Voters. We would assist in recruiting voters themselves. Getting voters registered to vote. They would be key in sponsoring forums for our candidates. He is setting up a Google Drive account for documents.

Elections Committee/Kristina Holtrop – their first meeting is this Sunday at 7 pm. and an email with zoom link will go out prior. The purpose is to be a support network/training/education for people who are considering running for City council. We have folks willing to speak on different training subjects. The second part is for when folks do decide to run, helping with strategy and campaign management.

Education Committee/Janine Bocciardi – has a couple people with extensive experience in running for office. The Education Committee will be a service on many potential things to help connect questions with resources. Going to be working with Lowell on FAQ sheets. Beyond just the SGGL, they will help answer questions about interacting with city government. Where to find info, how to access. Think of the committee as a clearinghouse of resources to connect people.

Rally committee – no update right now but be watching email for another item Courtney will be sharing.

Membership – will be working on the smartsheet to maintain it (Laurie Van Cleve)

Letter Writing/Tim Wheeler – We need to win the battle of ideas and keep our organization in front of people, in the public eye. Writing letters is a very good way of doing this. There was a good turnout at the rally supporting Charlie. There has been a steady stream of LTEs in favor of good governance and against the Mayor. He drafted an appeal for LTEs to be sent out. He is in favor of hosting a zoom if people would like a committee meeting.

Question – what are we trying to convey in LTE's? Ken responded that we are not pursuing recall because of the time and money involved. There are others who are pursuing. Because it is an important policy that the exec committee is about to adopt that everyone understand organizational representation. While everyone is encouraged to write and post, as long as you are doing it as an individual. If you want to present on behalf of SGGL, has to get authorization from exec or Communications Committee chair. This is essential for messaging consistency. Mike said we want to make sure anything we do cannot be held against us in some way.

Discussion ensued in the open forum. Questions about whether to pursue the legal issues.