



**Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2012
3:30 – 5:00 pm
Austin Diner [5222 Burnet Rd]**

1. No meeting in October – approved September minutes unanimously.
2. Treasurer’s report:
Current balance of \$565.99 with expenditures of \$82.02 and \$75.00 not posted.
3. Reports:
 - Progress report from Texans United to Amend – Diane Owens
 - Expect more information after the Elections
 - 541 petition signers from Central Texas area
 - Had a good session at Sun City showing of “*United States of ALEC*”
 - Should be a follow-up Sun City showing of Pricele\$\$ in Feb. or March
 - Should consider offering Legislative Seminar to Sun City group
 - Central Tx Council of Communities HuRAH meeting Oct. 16 – Teresa Taylor
 - Esther Reyes drafting rules to expand Council of Communities members
 - Declaration being re-drafted to include later suggestions
 - International Human Rights Day is December 10th
 - Suggested Windsor Park location at Berkmann Methodist Church
 - Possibly arrange for potluck dinner with drinks
 - Structured discussion groups to review Declaration draft
 - Current Members of Austin HuRAH Council of Communities
 - Esther Reyes – Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition (AIRC)
 - Alex Caceres – AIRC and Texans United for Families (TUFF)
 - Jeff Valdez – TUFF (planning a trip to a detention center in Houston)
 - Miguel ____ de la Frontera (does education and visits about/to the maquiladors across the border)
 - Ken Rippinger-Suhler – MoveOn
 - Peggy Morton – Unitarian Universalist Church
 - Teresa Taylor – Coffee Part Austin
 - Joanne Richards – Coffee Party Austin
 - RITA HuRAH meeting November 10– statewide meeting being held in Austin to prepare for the statewide conference on Human rights.
 - Yarborough Library room reservation – Dave Rawlins
 - First Saturday each month from 1:30 to 4:30 requested on date due
 - Should get confirmation within week to ten days
4. Coffee Party Austin’s support of the Texans United to Amend strategy
 - As you are aware it has been strongly suggested by both Progress Texas and Common Cause that Austin’s City Council should not be the first local government to adopt a resolution to Move To Amend. Tom Smith (Smitty) of Public Citizen Texas has suggested an alternate strategy for passage of a state-wise Move To Amend resolution.
 - Rochelle Day the Austin representative on the statewide group said:
 - Smitty says non-binding resolutions brought before the legislature are typically not scrutinized. Many resolutions have passed that were ridiculous or redundant, just

because no one pays attention to non-binding resolutions. He says if someone does pay attention it will stimulate a debate, which will put reps on record as taking one side or the other. And THAT is what he thinks will help in the long run. And if we are able to sneak one past, that's on the record too. He suggests that we meet with state reps and get one of them to introduce the resolution. These are principled conservatives.

Smitty also said he would look into why Public Citizen has not sent our resolution to their membership in Texas zip codes.

Suggested TUTA approach these Republican politicians the week after the Election (assuming they win their election):

Dan Branch: <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=108>

John Carona:

<http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/members/dist16/dist16.htm>

Glenn Hegar: <http://www.hegar.senate.state.tx.us/>

Debra Medina: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Debra-Medina/95669721909>

Jason Issacs: <http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=45>

Donna Campbell: <http://donnacampbell.com>

Joanne agreed to draft a list of action items to present to CenTex TUTA group

Diane suggested and agreed to oversee offering maintenance of overall Constant Contact email list to TUTA groups in other cities in Texas.

Should create a website for Texans United to Amend for Central Texas

Ham & Dave and create site and Dave will maintain website

Stewart suggested that it be a static website; low maintenance

5. MeetUp on Thursday Nov 15 – Mike agreed to facilitate meeting
Appropriate clip will be determined after Election to highlight Money in Politics
6. Suggestions for topics for our December 1 and January 5 meetings:
December 1 is the last meeting at Carver Library
Social event at last Carver Library meeting
Invite Congressional and State Legislators to highlight their legislative agenda
Board can report on status of our various projects
January 5 First meeting at Yarborough Library
Panel discussion with local reporters with their view on Legislative Session
Texas Tribune: Ross Ramsey, Ceryta Lockett or Evan Smith
Austin American Statesman: Kate Alexander or Mike Ward
Austin Chronicle: Jordan Smith or Richard Whittaker
7. Should Coffee Party Austin consider joining with Texas Common Cause?
We should see how we work together on common projects first
8. Stewart: Board should be consulted with opt-out timing before sending emails solicitations to our Constant Contact list to advance their cause.
9. Lawrence Lessig will be at UT Law School event some time in January
Coffee Party Austin should get involved when more details are known
10. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM