



## Board meeting minutes

May 18, 2013

2:00-4:30 pm

Joanne's House

1. Approve minutes from April 6 Board meeting.
2. Treasurer's report: How are we doing?  
We have \$447.91 in our account.
3. Our rebranding  
**Common Ground for Texans**  
Positive solutions through civil engagement.  
See end of minutes for ideas
4. Texans United to Amend administrative change – we agreed that Todd Jagger or Rochelle would be excellent leaders. Q.: When will Todd be returning to West Texas? Could that cause a problem? We talked about suggesting that each member of the cTUTA group agree to mentor one other "city". We have connections with people in the following cities:

Houston – has a very strong HAACP chapter

San Antonio

Michele Petty [SA Move To Amend FB page]

Nick Lee [hagarhelga.lee@gmail.com](mailto:hagarhelga.lee@gmail.com) and Vibeke Mendonca Lee

John and Zada Courage

Cibolo (between New Braunfels and San Antonio)

JC Dufresne [jcdufresne@satx.rr.com](mailto:jcdufresne@satx.rr.com)

Marble Falls

Vern Turner [vtgolf@zeecon.com](mailto:vtgolf@zeecon.com)

Sun City, Georgetown

Kathleen To with Hill Country Progressives [kto@tstar.net](mailto:kto@tstar.net)

Billie Reaney [billie\\_reaney@msn.com](mailto:billie_reaney@msn.com)

We want to make sure that people understand that this movement is for the long term. Success cannot just be measured by whether a resolution is passed in any particular city. There is a lot to learn along the way to get there. Understand the issues; create a soap-box; be comfortable with issue talking points; get to know your legislators when they are not in session; roadmap to the 84<sup>th</sup> legislative session, etc.

5. **Disclose Act: SB 346** passes on 3rd reading with little dust-up, 95-52.
6. **Move To Amend** Regional Grassroots Democracy Convergence in Austin, October 11-13, 2013  
It is likely that MTA will rely on Austin to do their organizing like they did last time. Not committed to that.

7. Website posts: topic Author

Week of	topic	Author
Week of April 22		Mike
Week of May 5	Lawrence Lessig on our pre-election election. Letters to the Statesman Editor	Joanne/Ham Stewart
Week of May 20	Disclose Act SB 346	Stewart
Week of May 27	Immigration	Theresa
Week of June 3	Summary of 83 <sup>rd</sup> legislative session	Mike

8. Other business—

How can we increase the number of people participating in what we are going?

- a. Can we take advantage of the TUTA Progress Texas sign on TUTA petition? Yes, if we
  - send an email message with an update on progress.
  - list partner organizations with a description of who they are and a link to sign up for their mailing list – an Opt-In opportunity.
- b. Another opportunity may come from our involvement with TPJ and the Piper Foundation grant looking into the feasibility of public funding for judicial races.
- c. Have quarterly events with a social component. Ideas
  - panel discussion on an issue with members of the panel coming from a different perspectives on the issue. Vote on how the audience thinks about the issue before the panel discussion and again at the end to see which, if any, side was more persuasive.
  - panel discussion on an issue with members of the panel coming from a different perspectives on the issue. Goal is to see if common ground can be reached. Audience perspective included.
  - Money in Politics mini forums – with participants and observers
  - Living Room Conversations (small invited group) to tackle Citizens United
  - mock lobby day workshop; include a discussion of people's experience calling or visiting with their legislator.
  - film, panel discussion followed by Q&A
  - fantasy TED talks – 6 minutes each from 4 participants, one general theme for the night

9. Next CP Austin meeting is June 1– **meeting topics** –

**Donna Howard on 83<sup>rd</sup> legislative session** will confirm on Monday.

Let's hear from the media about the 83<sup>rd</sup> leg session.

Redistricting for Austin City Council – the process

Other topics

Logo ideas – response to Daniel's draft

Keep in mind that the logo should be able to be scaled down and still be discernible.

Things to incorporate:

- like the diagram of the state of Texas and the lettering Common Ground for Texans
- instead of people in a circle – how about people in two lines facing each other with arms reaching out
- clasping hands with changing colors – like a rainbow or a prism
- hands coming from five regions of the state coming together (like a lone star maybe)
- do not need to use any wording in the logo; at the most use Common Ground for Texans