



**Board meeting agenda**  
**June 14, 2013**  
**7:00-9:00 pm**  
Joanne's House

1. Approve minutes from May 18 Board meeting.
2. Treasurer's report: How are we doing?
3. Set a realistic timeline to launch our new brand:  
**Common Ground for Texans**  
Positive solutions through civil engagement.
  - a. Bylaws revised. Fiscal year = calendar year?
    - i. We agreed to change our fiscal year to Jan 1 through Dec 31.
    - ii. Teresa raised the question of whether we should remain a membership org\*
  - b. SOS application for recognition. Do we have to discontinue CP Austin as an org?
    - i. Because we are making substantial changes to our bylaws, we should dissolve Coffee Party Austin and create Common Ground for Texans. Move our assets from the one to the other.
  - c. IRS new EIN for 501(c) (4) status. Do we have to discontinue CP Austin as an org?
    - i. Because we are making substantial changes to our bylaws, we should dissolve Coffee Party Austin and create Common Ground for Texans. Move our assets from the one to the other.
  - d. Select a new logo, banner, and FaceBook design  
Accept Peyton Farrell's designs and thank Daniel Llanes for his efforts.
    - i. oblong text only logo (with multi-color options) use for website
    - ii. square text only logo sue for FB page and business card
    - iii. flag logo use for banner
4. Decide on our September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting topic. *Because Diane Miller is not available on Sept 7 but is available on Oct 5 we are switching the topics of these two meetings.*
  - a. Discuss promoting various forms of community conversations. PILOT  
Host a modified facilitated living room conversation on September 7. Purpose is to reach consensus on the wording of questions for a survey of candidates running for  
US Senate - only one seat is up for election  
Congress (for the 6 counties) – districts 10, 17, 21, 25, 27, 31, 35  
State Senate (for the 6 counties) – districts 5, 14, 21, 24, 25  
State House (for the 6 counties) – districts 17, 20, 45-51, 52, 136

from Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Burnett, Hays and Blanco Counties on the issues that we care about most. Participants will be an equal number of Republican (3) and Democrat (3) Travis County precinct chairs. Each will be ask to publicize this conversation in their districts. Precinct chairs should come from various parts of the county. Jan Soifer, the Travis County Democratic Party Chair and Rosemary Edwards, the Travis County Republican Party Chair will be contacted to ask for precinct chair recommendations.

Jan Soifer 512-477-7500

Rosemary Edwards 512-302-1776; 512-617-4168

The audience will view the process and will be given an opportunity to submit questions in writing on 3x5 cards to the panel participants. We could consider having some breakout tables to continue the conversation.

Joanne will review the National Issues Forum guide to share ideas for draft questions.  
Joanne will ask Diane Miller if she is available and willing to facilitate  
Dave will look into a system to track survey responders

**Important dates:**

- December 9, 2013: filing deadline for candidates
- Feb 18-28, 2014: Early voting period for primary elections
- March 4, 2014: Primary election
- May 19-23, 2014 Early voting period for primary runoff elections
- May 27, 2014 Primary run-off election
- Nov 4, 2014: General Election

- a. Respond to Donna Howard's suggestion - help us make bipartisan discussions acceptable. How can we do that?  
 October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting: ask Donna Howard (D) to join us – along with an (R) Representative of her choice to discuss How to Improve Bipartisan Cooperation and Participation. Audience participation will be encouraged.
- b. Pull together a panel of two or four leaders / legislators to discuss an issue with the goal of reaching common ground.  
 Use September meeting as a pilot
- d. Wait on hosting a candidates forum: primary election will be March 1, 2014; general election Nov 6, 2014. – Travis County Commissioners Court Judge. Two democratic have filed: Andy Brown and Sarah Eckhardt; candidates forum for Travis County delegation? Primary  
 There was much discussion on whether we should have a forum for candidates for primary elections since they are strictly partisan in nature. We should wait until fall 2014 to host a general election candidate forum.

5. Website posts: topic Author

Week of	topic	Author
Week of June 16		
Week of June 23		
Week of June 30		
Week of July 7		

- 6. Other business—
  - a. Wolf-PAC spreadsheet with the purpose of scaring candidates on Constitutional Amendment issues. Suggested to see if Progress Texas and Texas Tribune already have compiled individual legislators votes on SB219 and 346 bills.
  - b. What URLs are available for Common Grand for Texans?  
**CG4T.org**  
 CGforTx.org  
**CommonGroundForTexaans.org**
  - c. We need a more comprehensive mission statement.
- 7. Next Common Ground for Texans meeting is September 7 at Yarborough  
 Next CGFT board meeting is \_\_\_\_\_

*\* vote taken June 16: Unanimous – we will delete all reference to members in our bylaws.*