



**BOD Meeting Minutes**  
**October 20, 2013; 2:30-4:00PM**  
**7102 Coachwhip Ho**

Present: Joanne Richards, Diane Owens, Stewart Snider, Teresa Taylor, Mike Ignatowski, Dave Rawlins, Dan Eckam

- 1A. Draft 2 of our questions for the Nov 2 panel:
1. What should be done to raise the level of political discourse by candidates and by the media?
  2. What would you do to get more people informed and engaged in the political process?
  3. What kind of financial disclosure do you support as a means to ensure an honest, fair and transparent electoral and legislative system?
  4. What election reforms, if any, would you support to give voters more candidate choices?
- 1B. Choose ONE question to engage the panel into a more in-depth conversation looking for Common Ground to move forward.

What election reforms, if any, would you support to give voters more candidate choices?

- 1C. For another community conversation:
1. Do people or groups have to give money to be listened to or are there alternatives?
  2. Do you support any measures to reduce the influence of corporations, unions and non-profit organizations on our elections.

2. Schedule Yarborough library for meeting dates. **Dave** will do this
- 3 **December** general meeting topic?
4. **January** general meeting topic?

***Potential topics:***

1. **December?**: After the Nov 5 election, there may be some information on the number of voters turned away from the polls. We could use that to energize people to become poll monitors during the Primary. The data collected by the Primary poll monitors could be fodder for an interesting CG4T program and may good enough to use in court to stop photo ID in the 2014 General Election. **Joanne** will contact Ginny Ballard to ask if she is willing to come to a CG4Tx meeting to talk about the Nov 5 election cycle.
  2. **January?**: Is Justice for sale in Texas? Interim legislative study group is examining how judges are selected in Texas. Discuss information presented at Texans for Fair Courts Network discussion on November.
  2. **January?**: speaker to address the influences pressuring Texas legislators to prevent or impose another government shutdown. Jim Henson would be a good speaker.
  3. Book discussion: discuss John Grisham's *The Appeal*.
5. Old business:
- file CG4Tx with the SOS and new EIN # with IRS. **Diane** will do this.
- Bill Moyers MeetUp group could be renamed to Common Ground for Texans MeetUp. We could announce our monthly meetings; host a book discussion, etc. A more general title gives us more flexibility. **Diane, Teresa and Mike** will discuss and report back.
6. Announcements:
- topic for another board meeting: Strategies to increase our diversity.