



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
June 25, 2016, 2:30-4:00 PM  
at Joanne's house**

**Attendees:**

Joanne Richards (president)  
Mary Patrick (board member)  
Diane Owens (treasurer)  
Dan Eckam (secretary)

**Discussion items:**

**1. Minutes approved.** We confirmed that the minutes of our last meeting were approved by the board via email.

**2. Treasurer's report.** Diane mentioned there were some printing costs for the Democracy Awakening (which I think were also mentioned in the previous month's minutes). Current balance is \$1067.43.

**3. Report on anti-corruption organizing.** Joanne said that there's been movement on reforming the anti-corruption coalition between multiple Texas groups for the upcoming legislative session which starts in January. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 6, which will include representatives from Common Cause, Public Citizen, Clean Elections Texas and Texans for Public Justice.

Also, a new "dark money" ordinance amending City Code Chapter 2-2 relating to campaign finance reporting and disclosure requirements associated with direct campaign expenditures was passed by Austin City Council on June 23. Joanne expects to receive a copy of the ordinance from Fred Lewis soon; she will distribute it to other board members. (Note: Lewis plans to help develop city regulations for lobbying, next.)

**4. Sept. 10 general meeting:** We'll host a railroad commissioner forum. Mark Miller (Lib) and Martina Salinas (Green) have accepted our invitation; no response yet from Wayne Christian, the Republican candidate or Grady Yarbrough, the Democratic candidate. Public Citizen Texas is co-hosting this event. We'll notify the Citizen Climate Lobby, League of Conservation Voters and League of Women Voters about this event and ask for their help in promoting it.

**5. Other meeting ideas:** Need to pick topics for Oct. and Nov., but we can make final choices next month. Ideas discussed:

- . City council forum? (For Oct.; but might be too many candidates.)
- . County commissioners Precinct 1 and 3 forum? (alternative for Oct.)
- . National popular vote (NPV) pros & cons

- . Economic models: “Hayek vs. Keynes”, e.g. Possible speaker David A. Kendrick, faculty Dept of Economics, UT Austin
- . Federal, state, local and me: which level should control? [May provide a framework for a series of discussions over several months]
  - . Gun control & gun rights
  - . Immigration
  - . Environment
  - . others....
- . Campaign finance reform modelled after Seattle’s new voucher program

**6. Next group email:** We should ask if anyone would like to apply to be a board member -- ideally to join before Dec., when we have our annual board retreat. Later, if we get no response, we’ll reach out to other groups, or try the OnBoard online service.

**7. Board member leave of absence:** We approved Teresa Taylor's request for a leave of absence from the board (not to exceed 6 months) by a vote of 4-0.