Minutes of Coffee Party Austin Board Meeting 5/5/12

1. Treasurer’s report: Total funds on hand: $676.54 through 5/4/12 before expenses for convention. Reimbursed board members for expenses on 5/5/12 as follows: Ed Kopas - $150 for county convention booths; Joanne Richards $124.50 for printing expenses.

2. State Convention Project: Board approved additional expenses for booths at state Democratic and Libertarian conventions-$500. Joanne Richards will pay for booths and request reimbursement later.

3. Board Membership: Gaye & Ed Kopas submitted resignations from Board due to personal commitments that would not allow them to be active for the next several months. The board accepted their resignations with our thanks for their efforts, especially in taking the lead for the Priceless showings in Austin and at the Democratic convention in Houston next month.

4. New Board member recruitment: Discussion of need for new board members with an interest in working with Teresa Taylor on immigration/human rights issues. Teresa and Joanne will recruit potential candidates for the board to consider.

5. Status of Coffee Party Austin actions/campaigns:
   a. Joanne reported that she and Rochelle Day (representing MTA Austin) have been working to get the Austin coalition group’s agreed upon MTA resolution introduced for consideration by the Austin City Council. Waiting until after the 5/12 City elections to follow up with council members at Mayor Leffingwell’s request.
   b. Joanne has talked with Rep. Mark Strama about introducing a new judicial elections campaign finance proposal next legislative session. Will discuss this at the June 2nd Coffee Party meeting.
   c. Possible fall/winter actions:
      i. Program for September – campaign questions to ask candidates
      ii. Discussion on right v. left value system

6. Other business:
   a. Mike Ignatowski is donating Meet Up account fee we use to list our meetings
   b. Diane Owens is also listing meetings at United RePublic meet up community called “Democracy Not for Sale” as an experiment to see if we get more exposure.
   c. Tanya Tussing will chair Messaging committee and Ralph Brussard and Stewart Snider will work with her to come up with 4 key messages on Coffee Party Austin issues.
   d. David Cobb of MTA is visiting Austin on June 1st. It would be a good idea to get some good quality video of David’s presentation to post on web site. Joanne is working with other groups to find a location for this event.
   e. Tanya will look for someone with videotaping expertise or opportunities for a volunteer to learn how to do this for future events.
   f. Mike is teaching a course on civil discussion.