

SGGL Membership Meeting Notes 2-18-21

Ken presented the Executive committee and board of officers that will serve for one year per the bylaws at which time they will be elected by the membership.

Eileen Cummings, President
Patrice Johnston, Vice-President
Nicole Hartman, Secretary
Dale Jarvis, Treasurer
Shenna Younger
Vicki Lowe
Education & Training – Janine Bocciardi
Membership – Lori Van Cleeve
Public Outreach – Lowell Rathbun
 Get out the vote
 Letter writing
 Rallies
Communications - Vacant
Elections – Kristina Holtrop
Legal/Finance – Ken Stringer

Elections/Kristina – Through a poll the meetings are every other Sunday at 6 pm starting this Sunday the 21st. Purpose and structure to be discussed and what work will look like after candidates declare. Anyone interested in working on campaigns, running or mentoring are invited to attend.

Education /Janine – Has had about three sessions with neighborhood groups. She is happy to do those – just email her. Her goal is to end up with a list of subject matter experts in various areas. Also contact her if you are a resource for a skill.

Legal/Ken – Working on forming the organization. First there was a charter that formally organized SGGL. Then transferred to an incorporation. Have filed and were accepted as an incorporated nonprofit in Washington. Thinking of ourselves as 501c4 to apply to the IRS which is more of a social welfare organization promoting the public good rather than an educational organization. Working on bylaws to be approved by the executive committee. Once that is in place then legal will be focusing on the day-to-day issues surrounding good governance from a legal perspective.

Get Out The Vote - Shenna reported for Lowell that Get out the Vote committee will be boots on the ground grassroots getting the community registered to vote and informing them about the elections. They will help support education in the community about candidates that support good governance.

Nicole will get documents to PJ who offered to post to the website and fb group so others can access. She will connect with Ken regarding draft vs approved status of documents.

Tim Wheeler brought up a proclamation that he wanted to be made by the city council recognizing the Jamestown Tribe. Shenna responded that the exec committee discussed and she and Lowell will connect with Tim.

Dale Jarvis introduced himself. Having gone to two executive committee meeting he is excited about the people involved.

Candace asked the Get out the Vote committee if when door knocking they will be endorsing candidates or just registering. Shenna said she believes the message is the importance of local elections, working with the high school etc. Under the elections committee there will be campaigning. In spring get registered. In fall it will be the candidates that believe in SGGL values. Candidates will also have their own campaigns we could participate in.

Jennie talked about targeting households – she can help with knowing something about the households.

Bruce Cowan commented that as a 501c4 can do independent activities. Needs to be registered with the PDC. Can be on behalf of the candidates but has to be separate from the campaign. Expenditures have to be independent as in not coordinated with the campaign. He will look into the PDC. His wife is very experienced with the PDC and offered to work with the Treasurer. Steve Burkett mentioned he is available. Right now Charisse and the rest of the staff could use a lot of support. There needs to be trust and respect between staff and city council. Patrice asked what support would be useful for staff. Steve said if you know staff individually send messages of support, letters to the editor that Sequim has a professional, dedicated and competent staff and should be supported by the community.

Tim commented regarding the resolution that Lowell said the simplest is the proclamation because it is handled differently and a proclamation can be written by citizens. Steve commented that that is correct but a proclamation is not automatically added to the agenda.

Diane Flynn – Martha Reudersdorf and she have taken on canvassing. Lowell would be working on mapping 60 voters per canvassing team. She is working on how to connect. Doesn't believe teams are interfacing with the candidates. Their job is to wake up voters as to the importance and connect them with resources. What they are trying to do is figure out how many teams they need trying to recruit team leaders willing to create their own team. Needs to be somebody on the team who has doorbelled before. People willing to connect with voters whether it be postcards or email. Early on late May early June starts with a postcard introducing themselves – “why I'm involved and soon I'll be coming to your door.” Build the relationship. So by the time ballots drop they have seen real live Sequim people who care about elections. They have created a timeline based on their experience with campaigns. They will develop a training to support the teams. Need to interface with elections and communications committee for cohesion and continuity.

Ron Richards thinks you can coordinate with a campaign but there might just be different reporting requirements. On the proclamation he feels whatever proclamation needs to be written with the question of will it help get people elected?

Ken Stringer – one of the things the legal committee has as its charter is to help the other committees navigate any legalities involved. If anyone here wants to be part of that or has experience please join the legal committee. What he is hearing indicates the depth of experience in this group. We're getting there really fast.

Sue Erzen – She had contacted Lowell to be on his committee thinking it was going to be supporting candidates and having had experience in that she is aware of the huge task it is to doorbell. She thinks people power needs to be considered. Prioritize what our organization is trying to do and think about the voters you are contacting. What is it they really want to hear from us.

Ken – Exec committee is in the process of brainstorming and coming up with a strategic plan. Clarifying mission and vision. Make sure everybody is on board and has a clear understanding. By the time we meet again as a general group we'll have that to present to the general group. We are not a political party. We are nonpartisan. That is the main guiding theme in whatever we do. It doesn't mean we do not support one candidate who is for good governance. It just won't be about whether they are Democratic or Republican.

Meetings will be every other week at the same Zoom link.