

County Watch



2011 Officers

Rae Capen, Chair
Amy Mercado, Co-Chair
Lew Oliver, Co-Chair

Member at Large:

Lou Treadway, Republican at Large
Doug Head, Democrat at large

June 3, 2011

Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2011

Call to Order: May 7, 2011 County Watch meeting called to order at 8:08 by Chairman, Rae Capen.

Salute to Flag. Led by John Harris

Self-Introduction of those present.

Greeting by Chairman: Greeting by Chair Capen followed by brief introductory comments to introduce the many topics of interest to “watching” County members.

Secretary’s Report: Approved and accepted with typo correction. Also corrected E-mail address for sending articles, comments to our web-site: ***cw.todd.catella@live.com***

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer, Bill Peters, not present.

Report from Democratic/Republican representatives: Doug Head (Dem) reported briefly that organization is underway.

Sylvia Rice (Rep) advised of continuing work on Presidency V, the Lincoln Day dinner plans, and District organization.

Web site review: Todd reviewed our web site, www.CountyWatch.org. He demonstrated the many areas available. Todd again requests “digital” reports and articles be sent to him at : cw.todd.catella@live.com for the web site.

Congratulations: Chairman Rae Capen congratulated County Watch member, John Harris, for his Public Services Award.

Committee activities:

Orange County Charter Review: (CW Committee: Doug Head, Fran Pignone, Yvonne Upfell, Louis Treadway, Sylvia Rice and Rae Capen. The committee presented their opinion opposing appointed officials.

Rae Capen and Doug Head reported on the Charter Review Com’s opening meetings and advised that progress will be “revving” up.

Doug moved that County Watch take a position opposing “mayor-appointed Charter Officers, such as, Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections, Comptroller & Clerk of Courts” Motion seconded and approved.

Motion by Ken Dwyer to time limit Charter Officers died for lack of a second.

Redistricting Committee: Note was made of the dissatisfaction of Puerto Ricans with the membership of the redistricting committee. A County Watch committee to continue monitoring re-districting includes: Doug Head, John Harris, Jerry Waxman, Justin Paquin and Rae Capen.

Ethics Committee: (Lou Treadway, Fran Pignone, Doug Head, Sylvia Rice and Rae Capen) Doug proposed a need to follow up on our past proposed and approved Ethics recommendation that visitors to the Commission offices be required to electronically sign in and state “purpose”. He quoted statistics indicating that “purposes” were being rather vaguely stated.

It was agreed that Doug would accumulate accurate documentation, that he & Chair Rae Capen would make such a report at County Commission meeting; appropriate notice would be given to the Mayor of such issues.

Suggestion made to get access to the County Commission’s “log in” terminal for our web site to monitor the visitors’ sign-ins.

Doug suggested that the “appointment” policy, such as selection of members for the Charter Review or the Redistricting committees, might need “review” and advised that he has requested records dealing with appointments. Justin, Rae and Doug volunteered for a committee to study the “appointment process”.

Lou Treadway remarked on the suggestion that Mayor Jacobs might set up a Chairperson to monitor Ethics concerns; he moved that we take a stand opposing an “Ethics Czar”.

Ken Dwyer seconded and motion passed.

Venues Committee: Mike Walzak advised that he will have a report for next meeting.

Rail/ Transportation issue: Nelson Bettencourt volunteered to report on the ongoing issues next meeting.

Old business: None

New Business: None

Meeting adjourned 9:46 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Rice,
Secretary