

Green Party of Michigan State Membership Meeting – Spring 2008
Saturday, April 19, 2008 Quality Inn & Suites * 9555 Middlebelt Road; Romulus, MI 48174

9:00 **registration / check-in / gathering** [x:xx]

morning facilitator: **Aimee Smith**

9:10 **greeting & agenda discussion / approval** – by Meeting Manager Matthew Abel [9:22]
introductions, welcome to new faces
Matt A welcomes everyone to his first meeting as mtg mgr

9:15 - 9:30 **officer reports** [9:25]

Fred Vitale, state chairperson
his first mtg as, not mtg mgr, but chair
hopes there's a chance for us all to go forward after the 2004
kudos to the Detroit Greens, who helped get a woman back in her home after foreclosure/eviction
 MWRO, MECAWI, Central Obrero, Call 'Em Out etc there too
they've been working to bring CMcKinney to the Truth Commission on water shut-offs
 unfortunately, she's going to go to a meeting of Greens in Brazil then
American Axle strike demo canceled, but (at union's request) Greens still showed up
 Chuck L mentions Greens have been on the picket line

Aimee Smith, vice-chair / committees

unfortunately, our committees are a bit weak at this time – it'd be nice if we could work to get them more effectively
she understands the By-Laws Cmte has been working
 Elections, Media Cmtes are basically JALP (he says no such thing as Elections Cmte; Candidate Recruitment Cmte sometimes)
 Platform Cmte is basically hasn't been active lately
 Finance Cmte has had some starts
 some talk on SCC list of an Outreach Cmte . . . good if someone commits to getting it organized
she's stepping down from this office (health issues)
 hasn't been as diligent as she wanted to be in tracking down paper trail of rules/procedures for each cmte – wants us to develop some
 good that some people fill in the gap in the absence of procedures, but rules can provide transparency & inclusion

Chuck Loucks, membership secretary

he's hoping to split up the 420+ expired members among our existing/active locals
 Candace C got names from people in the Congressional district when she ran, mailed to them – but about half of them had moved
 Chuck L says we typically get names, addresses, and e-mails
 Chuck J asks what if there isn't a local in the area of these people
 Chuck L suggests that we could organize them into locals . . . but his idea was to identify what groups people wanted to contact
 Richard K asks if people can order labels from Chuck L for a particular county or other area
 what Chuck L has is a spreadsheet; he'll e-mail that
 the spreadsheet has ZIP and county for each person, too
 Fred V asks if Chuck L could send him out all the Wayne Co people
 Chuck L says yes
 Derek G[?] asks [...]
 Lou N ties this back to Aimee S's talk of an Outreach Cmte; he thinks that idea & this one should be tied together
 maybe a base script could be drafted to mention renewal of membership, candidates, etc – put some meat behind it
 Chuck L says he covered some of this in his reports posted on Web site
 e-mail or hard copy might be good ways to prepare the ground for a calling campaign
 Fred V suggests circulating a sheet so people could sign up to take particular areas
 Candace C suggests keeping our returned mail from here on – at least to keep better central track of who's not there anymore
 Aimee S said when we did a mass mailing 1½-2 yrs ago, it wasn't done with returns – would have been good to get returns from that
 Fred V says we have a list circulating now . . . put down your name and the county/area
 Chuck J asks again if there are expired members in counties where there are no locals and, if so, how we contact them
 Candace C says that's true with the five counties in her CD
 that's why Chuck J suggests making sure we have locals or contacts or somebody covering all counties

Fred V suggests that Chuck L find out who's left over (not "signed up for" today) from his spreadsheet and post that to the list

Chuck L says if there's a local in an adjacent county, that might be a way of distributing some of those unclaimed people

Candace C is volunteering for her CD's counties

Richard K asks if people can be members of locals but not of GPMI or GPUS

Chuck L thinks it might be a home-rule kind of thing; HVG by-laws don't allow it

Fred V asks what Richard K is thinking of; he talks about people who come to local meetings

Aimee S says nothig in GPMI by-laws bans that for local by-laws . . .

JALP notes that you have to be a GPMI member to be a delegate to the GPMI convention, etc

John P says TBWG by-laws don't require GPMI membership for local membership

Chuck L suggests that might raise conflicts

Chck J says you only need 3 local members who are also GPMI members

Aimee S notes you have to be a GPMI member to be on SCC, but not to vote for the local's SCC reps

Randym Jones, treasurer

JALP reports from Randym's e-mail

Political

Ann Arbor Credit Union 10444.89

Administrative

Bank of Ann Arbor 1668.60

PayPal 299.49

 subtotal Admin 1968.09

Total all funds 12412.98

Fred V proposes \$500 allocated for cand-recruitment ads in *MI Citizen & MI Chronicle*

JALP unclear at first that the ads were for recruitment rather than promotion of candidates

Lou N asks if that's based on known ad costs; Fred V says no . . .

so Lou N proposes up to \$1,000 as a flexible

Aimee S starts

 consensus on delaying decision

John Anthony La Pietra, recordkeeper / elections co-ordinator

Candace C is running again for CD10; says she hasn't gotten vetting Q'aire

Richard K running for SH025 (incumbent term-limited)

 will also file for charter commisson

Lloyd Clarke aims to run for Saginaw County Commission – but part of his plan is to not file until he knows who else has

Derek Grigsby running for SH/007

[...lotsa stuff – also reporting as Recordkeeper]

Art Myatt, vice-chair / SCC whip

doesn't have anything to add to his written report – but it wasn't distributed here

we've had unresolved issues on the SCC list

 some people think we should have maybe a dozen at-large members on SCC because more than half the members have no local

 he'd be interested in hearing what people think of that idea

 Chuck L's proposal to re-recruit lapsed members discussed on list, but came in later

resolved issues:

 a statement on energy

Matt Abel, meeting manager

we're here today, no schedule on other meetings yet

 maybe another meeting before the GPUS convention – the weekend of June 14, maybe around Okemos

 though he's open to other sides

 maybe the post-GPUS meeting July 19-20 in Jean Klock Park if we can (practically speaking) meet there

Art M wants to know if caucuses can be held after the convention . . .

Chuck J suggests Jean Klock Park isn't conducive to a meeting

Fred V notes we met at the library

JALP raises the possibility of a simulcast multi-site convention
Art M wants to make sure it's within the library's rules – it wouldn't be at the Ferndale library
Chuck L suggests there are lots of motels around
Matt A wanted to highlight the park
Richard K suggests a picnic
JALP notes: existing BH event July 19 / two-day meeting / night-before welcoming party?
Harley M says BH is too far away from the population centers
Mark Crandle says we could turn Harley M's argument around – our presence in BH could draw attention
Matt A suggests maybe we could bring the nominee to BH
Karen S suggests we need to meet in BH **before** the GPUS convention
Harley M has been looking on line for coverage of events there – but none
Priscilla D says there is coverage in *Critical Moment*, the *People's Tribune*, etc
Richard K says that, if we're interested in coverage and cheap lodging, how about holding at (say) MSU?
remember, MSU State News endorsed our MSU trustee convention
JALP mentions the MTPC idea of a combined 3rd-party
Matt A says Brad Wittman told him Libertarians and others had set other/earlier dates already

national representatives

Matt A's frustrated – doesn't even read the NC list anymore; less than 10% of what's on it is substantive work
he's the only remaining co-chair of the National Meeting Committee
Richard K asks if the flap with Elaine Brown & GPUS has been resolved
Aimee S notes that GPMN passed the same resolution we did – someone there says they'll put it up before SC, but no action so far
Aimee S also says there was a proposal to have an outside group attend as mediators just in case (MI Peace Team, for example)
but they'd need their expenses paid, & GPUS doesn't have that money
Aimee S will propose putting herself on the GPUS International Committee – we have either one or two more slots
Matt A asks whether we didn't approve her for that separately
Aimee S says the committee is claiming its internal rules require state parties to
Matt A proposes that we approve Aimee S as a member of the GPUS International Committee
twinkle for consensus
Derek G says it sounds interesting
Lloyd C nominates Derek G for the committee too
John P asks if Susan O wasn't appointed to that committee a while back; we'll
Aimee S says the only one on the cmtc records is Alan K and he's not active (Matt A confirms)
Matt A suggests not putting Aimee S up alone on the committee
twinkle for consensus on both
Aimee S notes some people still feel alienated because of how they see that Nader was treated
we'll still have to take that into account in dealing with other state parties (and to avoid any splitting here)
Karen S is concerned by an authoritarian bent at GPUS – one of two factions in the party is in charge
example: moderators (or "net nannies") who moderate people off the list
almost all of the GDI people have now left . . . we never hear from the Steering Cmte anymore
those of us on her side have tried to put through proposals to make GPUS more democratic, but get stopped every time
so she'd like us to propose that we either stop having moderators or require that moderators come from all factions
Richard K asks if the GPUS convention would be the place to change things; Aimee S thinks not
she was hoping to bring a proposal here, but hasn't managed it yet
what she finds most problematic is that complaints to and responses from moderators are anonymous, not transparent
the Steering Cmte appoints these people, with NC only approving or not
she's been given a warning for talking about someone's behavior
Art M resigned a while back as a national alternate – but he's still on the list, so he's been monitoring
and he disagrees with Karen S's presentation of what happens & why
we don't (and, to him, shouldn't) have a national-membership party
as far as he knows, there's only one organized faction . . .
but he thinks there's no way to resolve these issues here
Aimee S notes these are all reps' opinions
Karen S thinks the democratic thing to do would be to vote on whether we're concerned enough about GPUS dissolving to discuss it
Aimee S thinks there may be another time to discuss that
Carl A asks if GPUS has anything like Howard Dean; Aimee S says there's a Steering Committee with 7(?) members
bi-weekly teleconferences
and there are staff people who work 9 to 5 (so they have to make some decisions)
the 180-or-so-member National Committee takes 3 wks or so to deliberate & decide things
Fred V looks at agenda, sees organization up until lunch and more free-form then

Art M, Aimee S agree we're now an hour and a half behind the morning agenda

9:30 - 9:45 **committee reports**

[x:xx]

Media Committee

JALP reports there are vetted members and a media list – but nobody's used these things, or tried to update the list (he also notes that SCC was going to decide how to use GPUS & other-state releases)

Platform / Issues Committee

Art M thinks the committee needs to meet to discuss possible new flyers & possible changes to platform

Chuck [L] has update

JALP has updated the 2006 platform summary to say 2008 (and now mention the single-payer platform change)

Fred V is concerned about a disconnect between the committees and the candidates

Candace C notes that, if you run for Congress, you get interviewed . . . she got 7-8 or so interviews and 20-30 questionnaires from different groups

[Aimee S asks Art M if there are any rules]

Art M says we can also look at the situation as candidates not paying attention to the committees

Karen S suggests conference-call meetings for all committees, with candidates participating

Finance Committee

the committee hasn't done anything, but Karen S doesn't understand why

By-Laws Committee

chair Ken M isn't here . . . nobody else has things to say

Lobbying Committee

Art M is moderator of the list, not chair;

other groups

Lou N notes SE Mich Greens gathered in Ferndale in March, decided to put together a candidate-recruitment group they'll probably have a breakout session this afternoon

9:45 - 10:00 **adoption of delegate-selection process**; discussion re: convention subsidies for low income/diversity

[11:06]

discussion of balloting results & problems of tallying

[...] including discussion of the two definitions of membership – just sign on or dues/waiver

Lou N suggests considering a signature on a ballot as signing to the 4P or 10KV

Fred V proposes that – accept all ballots submitted (notes original mailing list & signature)

Aimee S asks for clarifying Qs

Chuck L had proposed to extend expired memberships to May – adopting that first would solve this problem, too

Fred V declines to table his proposal or accept

Mark C suggests that we might, as Greens, have to take a position about how other elections are held

the idea of having to show driver's licenses is offensive to him; he'd suggest broader rules

Matt A asks if there's anyone opposed to this

Aimee S isn't sure signing the ballot equals signing onto the 4P or 10KV

but might stand aside on the logic that the mail-out list is reliable

Chuck L re-raises the "delinquent member" issue; discussion of voting rights, etc in GPML by-laws

Richard K points out we don't have to decide actual membership to count ballots

Fred V accepts as friendly amdt to count ballots for the purpose of the Presidential preference poll

twinkle for consensus

delegate selection by locals:

Huron Valley Greens

Flint Greens

Detroit Greens

Van Buren County Greens

Traverse Bay Watershed Greens

(GH Outreach? Richard K says not active; Lou N suggests Robert Wicke had contacted JALP . . . but only with local-status info)

(Hillsdale Greens is organized & meeting, but also didn't ask about getting a delegate)

JALP proposes allocating 1 delegate (& 1 alt if desired) to each of the 5

twinkle for consensus

electing delegates:

begin gathering delegate-candidates now . . .

Matt Abel
JoAnne Beemon *
Ellis Boal *
George Corsetti *
Linda Cree *
Priscilla Dziubek
Diane Feeley
Derek Grigsby
Margaret Guttshall
Sylvia Inwood *
Richard Kuszmar
John Anthony La Pietra
Jan Mathenia *
Harley Mikkelson
Merry Mikkelson
Lou Novak
Bill Opalicky *
Wendy Thompson *
Fred Vitale

* = not here & interest not otherwise confirmed

delegation is better gender-balanced than we thought we might get: 10 M, 9 F

discussion of money to subsidize people to go . . . deferred, but first:

Matt A says they've already negotiated a \$200 rate at the Palmer House (with extras)

Richard K proposes to nominate the then-existing list of 19 by acclamation & let SCC fill vacancies

Matt A[?] amends to say they have to confirm within 30 days

we may have to pay registration fees for proxy votes, too . . . but we'll talk about that later

Chuck J notes that the GPUS convention vote is Saturday, so delegates are committed to being there for that day at least but it's only Chicago, Matt A points out; theoretically, we could drive there & back on Saturday

10:15- 11:45 **Presidential candidate presentations / forum / Q & A** [x:xx]

11:45 - noon **voting for delegate allocation / delegates to national convention** [x:xx]

*afternoon facilitator: **Richard Kuszmar***

noon - 1:30 **lunch break** [about on time]

1:30 **afternoon program** [1:21]

report on poll results

<report.

Fred V proposes allocating the rounded-off vote to big winner Cynthia McKinney (so 13 vs 3 for Nader; 1 each for Swift/Mesplay/uncomm) no objections/concerns

****twinkle for consensus****

now, what to do about subsidizing delegates?

Fred V wants to decide separately what to do if we have to pay for proxies

for discussion, he proposes to pay up to \$1,000 for proxies but no more

JALP proposes allowing donations targeted to that on top of the \$1,000; Fred V accepts as friendly amdt

Art M suggests \$1,125 to cover five proxies at the current presumed \$225 rate

let's make it up to five proxies? how about \$1,000 or enough for five proxies, whichever is greater? . . .

John P asks clarifying Q on proxies as compared to local delegates or alternates

Lou N wants to suggest covering six proxies (half of our allowable number of proxies)

Harley M doesn't suppose the rules are finalized yet; are the proxies important?

Matt A confirms the rules are still at the BRPP . . . but the fallback is maximum one proxy per delegate/alternate present
discussion of how the proxies would work

Harley M follows up: what if not enough delegates show up – is there a quorum required to nominate?
further discussion . . .

Fred V notes we're both closer and wealthier than many other state Green Parties – if we don't go, what do we expect of others?

Derek G wants to know if there's a general idea of what the national convention will do?

Linda M agrees with Fred V that we need to have our full complement of 24 delegates – and we don't have any alternates yet

Aimee S thinks our current procedure allows for SCC to fill vacancies, including alternates
thinks Cynthia McKinney will win, but we can't be certain

twinkle for consensus on \$1,000 or enough for six proxies, whichever is greater

on to

Art M moves that the \$2,000 previously voted as allocated for early registration be allocated now and split among all delegates

Lou N wants to eliminate mention

Richard K wants to make it a round \$2,400; Art M accepts that as friendly

Linda M wants to have delegates say they need the money, and if they're willing to pay their own way the money should go back into the pot

Fred V doesn't want to make people ask for it; we've had problems with that before

if they want to turn it down, that's fine . . . he's not in favor of putting money back into the pot

Art M will accept that, too

Aimee S is concerned that the cost of the meeting will act to exclude some folks

she hopes we could arrange to allow people who need more than \$100 to ask for more

Fred V would accept that – as a separate motion or with an application process

maybe authorize the Steering Committee to spend up to \$2,000 on those applications

JALP asks if it's okay for people who don't need the \$100 to put that back into the pot

Matt A says there are diversity waivers to bring more diverse delegates to the convention, but there's no process in place

he'd like GPMI to send a delegation that's diverse in various ways

Fred V suggests adding a sentence that encourages diverse members to apply

Matt E says maybe phrase it as "priority will be given" on the application process

Art M says it's already up to the Steering Cmte

twinkle for consensus

Art M has one additional proposal:

wants to empower the delegation in Chicago to accept as members of the state-party delegation the alternates from the locals
even if the local delegate for whom a person is a local alternate is there

Aimee S suggests that SCC use a preference system to rank alternates so there's no dispute as to who gets first choice of votes

Art M's concerned that his idea was addressing what the delegation did in Chicago

Richard K suggests making the local-selected alternates top priority

John P clarifies comparisons between alternates and proxies

twinkle for consensus

9:40 - 9:45 **proposals**

[1:56]

start with 10 minutes per proposal

re-endorse Medical Marijuana referendum

Matt A points out we voted to approve this before . . . it'll definitely be on the ballot

twinkle for consensus

May 3 Liberation Day – Paul Pearson (tabling?)

also marijuana-related . . . a/k/a the Million Marijuana March

endorsement and possible tabling

Doug C notes that Paul Pearson isn't

Grand Circus Park in Detroit, starting at noon

twinkle for consensus on endorsement; take up possible tabling later

resolution on GPUS positions (on human-rights abuses and violence in other countries)

Aimee S speaks as proponent

thrust is to make sure GPUS stmts focus attention & energies on US govt abuses/violence

keep silent on abuses/violence in other countries unless requested by legit grassroots source w/ broad-based support in country

have Media Cmte submit all releases mentioning abuses/violence to Int'l & Peace Action Cmtes for sign-off by both b4 send-out

Fred V asks about approval processes now in place – this isn't that much more burdensome

Priscilla D asks what criteria the other cmtes use

Aimee S hasn't gotten on the Int'l Cmte yet to find out how they do it

Peace Action Cmte review is relevant to track the possible use of the peace movement for other purposes

Chuck J asks for a precis of the purpose; Aimee S wants to be sure we're always raising our own problems to avoid deflection by others
e.g., claim of "protecting the women" in Afghanistan

Diane F is very much in agreement with the idea behind the proposal

Priscilla D wonders about this; seems PRs are time-sensitive; any time limit for cmte reaction? Aimee S answers

in the Platform Cmte, only the chair has to sign off – and is expected to reflect the will/sense of the committee (& feeding back to cmte)
the idea is to do the same for this

Art M opposes this particular resolution

he'd rather have some problematic PRs over which there have been fights rather than the kind of doctrinaire rule that's here . . .
over the next 2-3 yrs, we may want to speak out on lots of issues w/o US involvement

[extension]

Aimee S notes that the Media Cmte isn't democratic – the chair often does what he sees fit
(not bad guy, but in doing his job he takes on a lot of authority)

Linda M says Platform Cmte represents the whole NC & GPUS; the Int'l & Media Cmtes don't (nor does G-PAX)
the reason the Platform Cmte has its oversight role is that PRs aren't supposed to go outside the platform

Fred V is on the Media Cmte . . . this proposal only means a PR would get voted on by more people
and he thinks it would help the Media Cmte – give it more feedback

Art M makes his concern a blocking concern . . . vote:

yes	12
no	8
abstain	5

candidate-recruitment ad in the MI Chronicle & MI Citizen

Fred V notes that Michigan is the only state Clinton & Obama haven't been to

there are Dem caucuses meeting today . . . and NAACP is bringing Rev. Wright to town

he's very open to friendly amendments . . . such as ads also in *Arab-American News* and *El Central*

\$1,500 ad[s] to invite people to be candidates, discuss our main issues/etc

JALP asks about size; 1/8-page in *MI Citizen* is about \$700 . . . but he thinks we can get a deal

Linda M remembers her days in advertising – but thinks running it 3x is best

Fred V agrees that 3x run is a good idea; suggests working

Frank H asks what the circulation of the *MI Citizen* / *MI Chronicle*; Fred V thinks 50,000

Frank H suggests printing & distributing a flyer would be easier

Lloyd C suggests this is outrage – and that's what we need to do . . . likewise with our flyers

John P is concerned about spending up to ¼ of our money on a non-statewide paper

Mark C wonders how much of the ad is to motivate candidates to run and how much is to motivate people to vote for us

Fred V thinks it could help both

Mark C has heard of want ads recruiting candidates to "run as a Democrat in your/this district"

Fred V agrees that, to be a good ad (& reach good, honest people), it needs to emphasize GPMI issues/interests

Derek G wonders about using that \$700 on a mailing & spread it statewide

Chuck L notes we have 5,000 names in our big contact list

Chuck J says, "if you're for X, Y, and Z, join us – run for office"

also thinks we could talk about this in a breakout session

Fred V agrees that this does have overlaps with outreach, but he wants to separate it from other outreach activities

up to \$2,500; working thru Media Cmte . . .

no blocking concerns . . . so

twinkle for consensus

wait . . . John P has a blocking concern – too much to spend on a non-statewide

Derek G also has a blocking concern

Lou N asks if reducing the budget back to \$1,500 would resolve the concerns

[extension]

Art M asks is there some way to track the results of the ad

JALP suggests have responses contact someone/someplace other than the normal Ann Arbor PO box

Derek G thinks a mailing would be cheaper and more direct

MECAWI has put articles in the paper, but mostly it's activists who read them

Chuck J wonders if we could reach consensus on doing both or half-and-half or something

Matt A thinks we're on the right track; maybe the Outreach Cmte should decide how to spend the money

but he doesn't want us to mail to the same people we're mailing already

Derek suggests targeting an area; he has registered-voter lists
we need people to recognize our logo and our views

Linda M loves the idea of a mailing, but they're not cheap . . . Art spent \$12k mailing to 35k households in his StRep district
vote:

yes 24
no 1
abstain 2

adopted by 2/3

10-minute break

breakout groups: Outreach / Organization / Fundraising

[2:50]

outreach/abling, finance, and campaigns

30 minutes for each, then 5 minutes' break, then trade if you want

re-convene and report back from breakouts

[4:04]

campaigns (Lou Novak)

first session concentrated on themes (elaborating on the 5 adopted back in January)

[he'll send me his notes – or give them to me]

- * ending the Iraq War
- * universal health care
- * the global environment
- * the economy
- * the energy crunch . . . encourage cities, conservation; dump nuclear and coal

we have about 20 of our target of 67 candidates – want:

at least 1 in each of the statewide ed boards

recruitment: reach out to friendly groups, use online & other free media

finance (Lloyd Clarke)

we need a budget & a marketing plan; many suggestions of things to try & do:

50/50 drawing . . . if legal

silent auction (or not-so-silent)

gathering with a celebrity (author, celebrity from peace & justice community/Muslim community/etc . . .)

gathering at a restaurant with a private room . . . 2-3 hours of social time

raising money with items: stickers, pins, T-shirts, etc

do a comparative analysis with other states – what works for them?

house parties set up for candidates to step into

SMMs can cost money (esp when you're coming from Traverse City, Frankenmuth, etc) – so let's set up carpools

Doug C spoke to Rich Whitney, who's willing to be a fundraising speaker on a weekend

he ran for Gov in IL and got most of a million votes

Karen S notes that Erik S did a Webcast of the previous SMM . . . Marquette people took part last time; why not this time?

(Doug C says maybe for the same reason they don't want to be involved in person?)

Richard K is a Sierra Club member (30k pd mbrs in MI, 6k in area, but they draw about 30 to pot-luck meetings)

people who show up do the work & get the positions (Doug C suggests that's true for all organizations)

outreach (Chuck Loucks)

first session was mainly a request for money to pay for flyers for Detroit Freedom Wkd

can they use GPMI money for promoting candidates? yes, if it's out of the political account

proposal to allocate \$300 for that purpose . . . to Derek & Erik

JALP asks if they plan to use the platform summary?

Fred V says the plan is to focus on candidates who might be attractive to the Detroit audience of the event

John P asks whether other candidates have been offered the same level of support?

Chuck L says you have to ask – and these folks have

Fred V says he'd thought of offering each local candidate \$50 and each state-level candidate \$100

but he's not sure we're ready to do that at this point this afternoon

John P is also concerned that one candidate didn't have a campaign committee in place yet; is it legal

Art M says to leave the production of the flyer to the

Chuck J asks if the candidates in question have been vetted

Lou N notes that Derek G has been
the others are Cynthia McKinney and Frank H
no concerns

****twinkle for consensus****

idea from the second session: showing a video [____] at a booth at the State Fair

Art M says it costs \$800 + insurance to have a booth . . . and the deadline is pretty soon

other ideas: outreach in general – to churches and other groups . . . we have lots of literature lying around unused

Chuck J notes old trifolds have the wrong membership dues rates on them – recycle

we don't have a link on the GPMI Web site to the Wiki . . . Chuck L will do that

election of officers

[4:26]

vice-chair / SCC whip

no takers

locals liaison

Harley Mikkelson is willing . . .

Aimee S is concerned that he didn't do much in his previous position (SCC whip)

Art M doesn't see how it could possibly be worse to have someone in that position

Aimee S thinks that, if the position's open, it's not occupied until next January – and can be filled at any time

Harley M joined all the committees he could – frankly, we don't operate under the committee system, and he feels we should

on things like by-laws changes, we hashed things out first on the committee and then again in the SCC

he suggested several by-laws changes, but they didn't go anywhere

Chuck J asks what Aimee S has done as SCC whip

Doug C says she kept proposals moving & on track

Aimee S agrees that committees and locals aren't working as we'd like them to . . .

but her concern is that we put in the effort to live up to the by-laws rather than rushing to change them

(e.g., supporting locals before shifting to more heavy SCC representation for at-large)

****twinkle for consensus****

vote on Harley M as locals liaison

yes 13

no 3

abstain 4

(Doug C wants us all to make sure of the proper spelling of "liaison")

recordkeeper

nobody volunteers

future SMM dates and locations

June 14: **SMM** – (location TBA)

July 10-13: **GPUS national convention** – Chicago

July 20: **GPMI nominating convention** – Jean Klock Park, Benton Harbor

Matt A reports that this room cost \$110 for the day; breakfast foods he brought cost \$160

\$200 for political, \$351 in other income (including at least 2 new memberships & 3 renewals)

he has dates

USTaxpayers convention is 5/3

Libertarians & USTaxpayers 5/10

Lib convention 6/7

Matt A proposes 6/14 SMM & nominating convention in the Lansing area (Okemos?)

latest possible convention/nomination is August 2 (if Saturday)

discussion about caucuses vs conventions

Richard K mentions the Macomb Co Charter Convention . . .

****twinkle for consensus**** on nominating him

discussion of caucusing/convening with other third parties

DougC says Nader may be on the Natural Law Party ticket here

Matt A offers spare DougC T-shirts (contributed to GPMI, stuck in that big tub he inherited as meeting manager)

possible presentations by state & local candidates

[x:xx]

announcements

[4:55]

Karen S notes her son Erik S is protesting lately; he's going to be around the Fieger trial every morning 8-9am

Lou N says Th 5/1 (Int'l Workers day) there'll be an International Workers' Rally
Sa 5/3 . . . CMC-Detroit will hold a Water Rights Truth Commission hearing
right across the street from the Million Marijuana March
also a McKinney house party at Lou N & Priscilla D's house Sa 5/10

Aimee S announces this is the 4th year in a row Ann Arbor has held Israel Day celebrations
Palestinians call it the ethnic cleansing – displacement of Palestinians by Europeans
nobody should be
HVG has endorsed an action against it
Su 5/4 a bit south of Eisenhower at Stone School Road

events should/will be posted on the Wiki

Fred V says Critical Moment is holding a fundraiser tonight 8pm at the TrumbullPlex (Trumbull & Willis)
showing a movie about the newspaper strike

JALP reminds everyone to tell him if they want the post-SMM PR to say something (or if they want to say something in it)

Richard K making another pitch for Cynthia McKinney – to help her to matching funds
(she doesn't have a job since leaving Congress . . .)
call him old-fashioned, but he's impressed with the power and ability of organizations to do things
he thinks Greens should be able to raise \$5k x 20 states = \$100k for her (and for the other three recognized candidates)
Fred V notes she has made the \$5,000 nut already in 5 states

JALP asks for okay to include three poll ballots of which he got word on line (they don't change the delegate allocations at all)
twinkle for consensus

open discussion

[x:xx]

adjournment

[5:05]