

Minutes - GPMI State Membership Meeting, Saturday, August 18, 2007 and Sunday, August 19, 2007

Elections for open offices:

SCC Whip/Co-chair - Aimee Smith - by consensus

National Committee Alternates - Priscilla Dzuibek and Joanne Beemon - by consensus
(third female alternate position still open)

Locals Liaison - Jan Mathenia - by consensus

(a locals startup pdf has been posted on the GPMI Wiki [<http://migreens.wetpaint.com>] for review.)

Clearinghouse Coordinator - position not filled - referred to the SCC

(The Clearinghouse Coordinator [CC] position requires access to the office mail, the office telephone, and the GPMI bank [for deposit]. Therefore, in practice, the CC must reside in or near Ann Arbor. If the "office" address, perhaps just a mailing address such as a P. O. Box, were moved to the Metro Detroit area, the pool of possible candidates for CC would be increased. Moving the GPMI account to a credit union which is part of a state-wide network might also be done to make this practical. The SCC should consider office and bank account location in addition to some way of splitting up the functions of the job, while discussing a way of filling this position.)

The ICC platform plank was referred back to the SCC for a re-vote, with the expectation that it should be possible to get a quorum on the issue.

In accordance with existing bylaws, the following people were approved by the SMM to be members of the Media Committee: Joanne Beemon; Randym Jones; John LaPietra; Chuck Loucks, Tom Mair, Ken Mathenia, Harley Mikkelson, Lou Novak, Aimee Smith and Fred Vitale. Other GPMI members wishing to be on this committee should apply for approval to the SCC or to the next SMM. The GPMI web site and Green Pages will be subcommittees of this committee.

A lobbying committee was formed. Initial members are: Art Myatt, John LaPietra, Lou Novak, Priscilla Dzuibek, David Newland, Linda Myatt and Fred Vitale. GPMI members wishing to join should contact Art; almyatt@earthlink.net or 248-548-6175.

The outreach letter, as revised by this meeting, will be printed on GPMI letterhead by John LaPietra, with our membership form on the back side. This shall be sent out, by first-class mail, to our contact database. Returned letters will be used to update address information.

Art Myatt will draw up a detailed proposal for GPMI candidates seeking endorsements. This will be sent to the migreens-elections list for discussion before the next SMM.

Fred Vitale proposed we attempt to convince a well-known person, not now a member of GPMI, to join and run for Senator on the GPMI ballot line. He compiled a list of such people, suggested by the meeting, to contact for further discussion of this idea.

Linda Myatt will secure a venue, potentially in the Ferndale Community Center, for our small-scale Campaign School to be held in October. She will also look into what it would take to run a booth at the Michigan State Fair in 2008, provided the national GP Presidential Nominating Convention is not held in Michigan. (It has since been decided this convention will be held in Chicago).

Fred Vitale compiled a list, suggested from the meeting floor, of future SMM dates, purposes and possible locations through 2008. As meeting manager, he will follow up on this preliminary planning.

Reports were taken from the Treasurer, the Membership Secretary, the SCC Whip, from various locals, from attendees about the national meeting in Reading, and from some individuals: Tom Bauer on Up North Progressive Democrats; David Newland on the "Healthy Lakes Healthy Lives" Initiative; Candace Caveny-Collins on Immigrant and Migrant Workers; Tom Mair on Tools and Topics for GPMI Local Actions. The Dismantling Racism workshop from the recent national meeting in Reading was discussed at length, with no definite proposals (other than continuing the discussion) resulting.

Art Myatt, Recordkeeper