

Meeting Agenda — Saturday, February 19

9:00 - 9:30am Registration and coffee

9:30 - 9:45am Welcome and Introductions [9:37]

Lou Novak emceeing

Jim Wilber announces "Overgrow the Government" fundraiser tonight at Kraftbrau

Alan Kaufman introduces Donna Baranski-Walker (lunch spkr)

David Newland agrees to take notes for the morning

9:45 - 11:00am Ofcrs' repts & discussions; SCC repts [9:49]

chair Sylvia Inwood can't be here today

treasurer Ted Hentchel has time later

JALP on Media Committee, Elections Coördinator

list of news releases during the quarter

asking for help gathering info, writing, etc.

[DNewland?] notes Detroit papers asking for bloggers

dates for May elections:

several have school elections then

Mount Pleasant has special election to fill council spot

Alan Kaufman moves, Lynn Meadows seconds

appointing JALP as election challenger for 2/22 election

in Marshall (precincts 1+2)

consensus

Jason Seagraves as Membership Secretary

e-mail check & update; info on current membership

discussion of old members, local mbrships, privacy, etc.:

JWilber stacking (alternating by gender)

archive old info? (experiences, not just members)

raising funds vs. building membership

don't archive until a certain # of contacts (not [just] time)

we can learn from past-due members; call 'em (twinkles):

big job . . . get locals to help

PayPal asking for too much info:

another service exists – more in line with our values

set up material, plan time for membership drive

anyone interested should contact Jason during break

old member (from early 1990s!) didn't know we were back:

how can we keep from re-inventing the wheel?

make keeping the "contacts list" part of someone's job

if an exit interview, standardize questions to categorize info

use postcards for contacts

K'zoo Greens are developing a new-member packet

Lynn Meadows says GPMI has an old one

we're really only active with locals in 15 counties or so:

as a political party, we need to be actively seeking folks

also, we rotate folks in positions; they get experience

but we can lose institutional memory; pay attention

sounds like we're building a Membership Committee:

David Newland, Lynn Meadows, Fred Vitale,

Aimée [Dunn?] (& others?) volunteer for it

Fred Vitale reporting on National Coördinating Committee

do changes on the national scene mean a rôle for Greens?

glad to see we sent out GPUS reply to "State of the Union"

good – but one thing missing, to him, was the economy

important resolution was passed on Haiti

some turmoil about VT not putting Cobb on their ballot . . .

two anonymous \$250,000 donations to the party:

one to Green Institute, another to a related 501(c)(3)

now they're asking for proposals on how to use it

open to committees and caucuses of the party

(things they can tell other donors we're doing)

sometimes two e-mails a day of National Voting

+ one on National Affairs list

proposal to base some action on *Don't Think of an Elephant*

an alternative to the "not left or right" approach

presumably that money can't be given to candidates?

can we access? list mostly closed . . . and it'd be like

getting the Federal Register on a daily basis

do we need to make sure the money is legitimate?

David Newland on MEA's occasional idea of a petition to

restore all education money cut due to Proposal A etc

(haven't moved because it would embarrass Granholm)

we could do that non-hypocritically . . . from our values

suggestions to look at Sierra Club model:

putting environmental "educators" into communities

local meetings at coffeehouses, etc.

Joanne Bier Beemon on the definition of "robber baron"

uplift government (of, by, and for the people)

and bring social justice together with the environment

as issues of survival and health of all the people

Fred Vitale back on Detroit school funding, etc.:

maybe we could hire part-time organizers and ask the

Sierra Club if they could work out of their office

Lou Novak reads out short report from Randym Jones

Clearinghouse Coördinator (calls, letters, Project Contact)

David Spitzley on the Finance Committee:

he's still involved with the national contributor list

GPUS got \$25,000 from someone involved in Ohio recount

so last year was a wash . . .

but the national fundraiser was fired

Alan Kaufman reports on the International Committee

Susan Odgers was elected as a representative

we need to make sure that gets implemented

we're entitled to three people from Michigan

right now, this committee is not so active (after the election)

but we will be signing onto a broad list against Israel's

occupation of Palestine

he's suggested we invite Wangari Maathai to US for a tour

first East African woman to earn Ph. D.

not to the "let's do it" stage yet, but. . . .

"Green Defeats Bush & Blair" press release

motion to urge GPUS to invite her . . .

x and set up a committee to make the tour happen

x make sure they know we want her here, too

x let's get her up to the UP, too

is this eligible for the funding noted earlier?

use as part of membership recruitment/drive

if they won't, we will . . .

direct our national reps to work to make it happen

Alan's review:

she's in national gov't, so GPUS should be the inviter

review of the motion [see the Xs]

consensus

Lou Novak notes

next SMM is Detroit in May (probably 5/14-15 or 5/21-22)

11:00 - 11:15am BREAK [11:24]

11:15am - noon **GPUS Peace Action Committee** [xx:xx]

Aimée Smith from Massachusetts:

now moved to Michigan, would like to be one of our 3 reps
(we don't have any now)

some discussion of her approach to peace action:

Lynn Meadows, Alan Kaufman

continues after lunch (& that speaker)

noon - 1:30pm **LUNCH with**

Donna Baranski-Walker of The Rebuilding Alliance [xx:xx]

hard to hear her or her movie over the splashing in the pool;

moved back to the main meeting room

session 2 of **GPUS Peace Action Committee** [xx:xx]

Aimée Smith from Massachusetts:]

[more long discussion . . .]

consensus to appoint her:

others interested may talk with her (2 more seats)

Art Myatt wants \$200 for GPMI to sponsor Huntington Woods
Peace Citizenship & Education Project teach-in (with Tom
Hayden); we'll decide about this later

1:30-2:30pm **GPUS Rural Caucus
Organizing Committee** [2:32]

Linda Cree & Aimée Dunn from northwards (Marquette?)

back to Art Myatt's proposal

the event will be held Sat 4/9

do we have \$200? we have \$6,000

consensus

break before. . . .

2:30 - 3:00pm GPMI Financial Review [3:33]

re-announcement by Jim Wilber

of fundraiser concert at Kraftbrau

Ted Hentchel

60 new sign-ups in the past 40 days

(at least, not listed at the time)

most of non-member revenue was from people coming to SMMs
he estimates we lost about \$540

from understated membership fees in trifolds, on Web, etc.

moves that we change phone services

would have to change # (old one would endure 6 months)

there's an electronic phone service, says Jason S

we'd get an e-mail

\$7.95 a month toll-free (+10¢/call over 300 minutes)

Dana says give Huron Valley Greens option to take it back
consensus on moving forward;

Jason may bring proposal on "his" service tomorrow

meeting costs – the money they make on us is on food

of course, room often comes cheaper if you buy food

but we do lose money sometimes on the food:

we usually fall shorter the more the food costs

tomorrow, Ted will bring figures for "food-to-cost ratio"

not a difference if people pay for food thru GPMI or directly?

Ted repeats: the more food costs, the shorter we fall

can we see balances for each event?

could we have tickets to track meals?

[Ted asks George Corsetti if he'd handle that?]

assorted discussion about how to address this

better(/farther ahead) planning . . . when possible

brown-bagging is possible, too

meals close by help keep the meetings from dispersing

<more talk on meals issues; to be discussed more>

printing: boxesⁿ of envelopes (if you need some, tell Ted)

elections expenses:

need to let candidates know money is available

candidates need to ask for the money

GPMI treasurer should get a copy of each candidate's

Statement of Organization (to get committee #)

we should have spent our \$3,200 instead of sitting on it

miscellaneous expenses:

local groups, tax ID #s, committee registrations, & laws

much discussion of what reporting is required on what \$\$\$

three other things before "the monster":

we have an eBay account(!?) . . . it's spam/spoofing

we have a Green candidate fund (\$25!); ask Pete or Marc

also a Green education fund (also \$25)

Lou Novak said Pete says we never applied for 501(c)(3)

AWOGs

lots of controversy on this

he has eight boxes of them, mostly from last year

goes through the financial numbers for both years

he only got one AWOG back-page application last year

as a member, he'd like to keep AWOG for the members

but it's not working to raise money or get memberships

<assorted discussion: what's it for? how measure worth?>

<best to look at net cost/subsidy>

<need to distribute & use it better>

<money situation is better than in past years,

when "paying for stacks" started>

Priscilla D's motion to continue AWOG & look into doing it better

Art has a blocking concern:

it's tied in with whether or not we try to open an office

we agree to table AWOG until we talk about office tomorrow

[Kalamazoo fundraiser]

Meeting Agenda — Sunday, February 20

9:00 - 9:30am Registration and coffee [x:xx]

9:30 - 9:45am Agenda Review [10:00]

Art Myatt suggests possible discussion of AWOG & office
Tim Birch notes “stand for peace” at the Federal Building noon-1
Peter Ponzetti III & JALP remind about dove-hunting petitions
Jim Wilber announces over \$300 raised at fundraiser:

½ each to GP of K, GPMI

Art Myatt understands Labor Party working on ballot initiative for universal health care – if they do, we should join 'em:

suggestion that we combine this with Jane Jarlsberg

Doug Campbell was in an accident, can't be here

David Newland reminds us of his school-\$ initiative

Lynn Meadows has flyers on events at Friends Ctr in Chelsea:
next Sun – Dr. Kevin Bales on 1st Annual Anti-Slavery Day
“Making Peace Happen” conference 3/19

& a book *Inside the Bottle* (exposé of bottled-water industry)

9:45 - 11:00am Candidate Recruitment/

Election Timeline [10:06]

Harley Mikkelsen

we need to get started now on candidates for 2006 & 2008:

cf. Dean as new DNC chair, spokesman . . . visibility

probably most of us were disappointed in Milwaukee:

by the process, not the result

we need to recruit visible people – and women in particular
we also need to recruit local candidates . . . and young people
when David N looks back at Milwaukee, he likes what he saw:

building spokespeople from inside

it's not hard if you believe in the issues in your heart

anyone in this room could stand in front of a room and do it

he's gonna be “the world's first evangelist progressive”

Aimée Dunn & Linda Cree would be perfect candidates

wouldn'ta been here if he hadn't talked to them last yr

he'll be at any speaking engagement up north he gets

Linda M agrees we need to develop nat'l candidates internally
send 'em on speaking tours

start *this* year

there was very little coördination & support from GPMI

JALP & Pete S did well keeping us straight on laws

David Spitzley

one problem with 2004 process was it didn't start until 2003

now we're starting to review/revise with no sides to take

but we need to take a look at 2006 first

start beating the bushes for candidates

Stephanie Frizzell is wondering about wanting a spokesperson
the first name she thinks of is Carol Moseley Braun

(general presumption is that

Jim Wilber will second a lot of what's been said

hard to rely on finding a “superstar candidate”

he'd be happy if Martin Sheen would join Greens & run

one thing we can do is recruit candidates from grassroots

one daunting thing about being a candidate is finding help

if you know you're not going to be a candidate, what else?

for 2006, he'll volunteer to be a fundraiser for any candidate

Laura Strehlen (sp?) from Van Buren County

(her 2nd meeting – could everyone ID themselves?)

agrees that candidates should be within the Green Party

seems a bit dishonest to find someone from outside

Lou Novak agrees with David S:

this group should focus on state elections now

Presidential process starting 2½ years earlier than last time
we need to look for candidates from both inside & outside
we can't fill all the ballot lines with just our members now
in Detroit, many otherwise-friendly groups are tied to Dems

Joanne Beemon agrees with Lou that we need to do both:

41% of voters in Charlevoix voted straight-party
many of the rest didn't vote down ballot as far as her, Ellis
it behooves the big Two to have complicated ballots:

encourages people to vote straight and/or top only
good to have people running in teams to work together
need to run at the top and bottom of the ticket
need different strategies in Presidential and non-P years
also need to decide what we're running for
to win or to set an agenda

we got a park, & we kept Wal-Mart out of Charlevoix
she won “serendipitously” in 2000:

the write-in Republican lost all the straight-party votes
got stonewalled and abused – no power behind me
we need to analyze what happened and why:

my perception of Mike Feinstein's list is that 95% of
our wins were wins in non-partisan races

so maybe we can try to get people in that way first . . .

JALP goes through matching-funds rules:

Jim Wilber would help run a fundraising drive if & when

David S asks if it must be for a specific candidate? yes

Dana Cunningham suggests a candidate school

Tim Birch agrees 2 strategies for local and national/top-ticket:

he's running for City Commission this fall

and once people find out what he & Greens stand for, they

can move up to county, or state rep/etc.

build up credibility for selves and the party

Linda Myatt

we can't just have an election coördinator & school

we need to provide more support:

statewide organization for volunteers, fundraising, etc.

Harley Mikkelsen agrees with about everything that's been said

Stephanie Frizzell doesn't want anyone here to get wrong idea:

doesn't want D infiltration; Braun just popped into her head

Ted Hentchel notes 4 openings on candidate-recruitment cmtte

he & Jason Seagraves will avoid gaps in listings that kept

Richard Wunsch from connecting with a member in his
special-election district

he never heard about Joanne Beemon's race

wants to create interlocking committees

need to find out what organizations everyone belongs to

to arrange speaking opportunities

no D/R signs said D or R; we should reinforce party identity:

look bigger than you are

Carolyn Dulai reminds us of appointed boards:

some state boards must by law have Ds and Rs only

she was appointed to a local board

suggests sunflower, “Green Party” as unifying elements

David Cobb has lots of money left over (from OH recount)

Art Myatt plans to run again in 2008

nationally, the Green Party kind of took a beating

we're in better shape than a lot of states

maybe one reason Nader didn't want GPUS nomination

is that we only had ballot access in 20 states going in

coming out of this election, we don't have access in NY

or in IL, IN, & OH

we need to help other states get/keep access if we can

as far as recruiting candidates, . . .

he's getting the local Huntington Woods peace group thinking about running against Stabenow & Levin
Richard Kuzmair (sp?) on the idea of a campaign school have three workshops in various parts of the state open to the general public;
ask them about running/fundraising/managing/etc.
Carl Archambeau thinks we need to consider party discipline: felt we made a decision at the convention – good doesn't feel loyalty to that candidate was strong the Dems at least have that
Chuck Jordan thinks we need to make sure we know how much money is available – there was a lot of confusion last time
Jim Moreno suggests the importance of zoning officials township officials, etc; lots of ways to express Green values we did have a two-year pressure campaign to get people of color (& of other parties) to state boards (e.g., CMU) he worked on four local campaigns last time
JALP on coordination
Bill Opalicky advocating for a committee willing to win elections: need to start thinking out of the box, go to the middle class party needs to change its image, its tack (not its values) he thinks we can get a couple hundred thousand votes: not for governor, but for Senate
but need to focus on more issues important of most people
article in AWOG on surrendering politics of "fear to win"
Harley summarizes . . . we have a great opportunity to grow

lunch buffet is available (\$10.95, or \$12.15 with dessert)

11:00 - 11:15am BREAK [11:07]

11:15am - noon ***Being Green in Office:***
Kalamazoo City Commissioner Don Cooney [11:18]

Jim Wilber introduces . . .

noon - 1:30pm LUNCH [x:xx]

1:30 - 2:30pm ***Water as Commons –***
Water as a Right [1:33?]

Joanne Beemon

2:30 - 3:00pm ***Renewable Energy –***
A Timely Focus for GPMI [2:35?]

Maynard Kaufman

3:00 - 3:15pm BREAK [x:xx]

3:15 - 4:00pm Statewide Initiative [x:xx]

Jane Jarlsberg

Joey Tom Marogil disappointed by Rs' success w/ initiatives but it was heartening how Colorado got renewable energy it's not so hard here . . .

if we can get one passed, why not try for several?:

use the same people power for more than one

and the three he thought of overlap with GPMI concerns:

15% of MI's energy renewable (no-nuke) by 2015

health care for all:

(she now understands someone else is working on this, and there's a court case as well)

don't spend or invest money in institutions supporting human-rights abuses abroad (e.g., universities)

she thinks we could add IRV

it's people power that makes this work
he wanted to be here today, but personal life got in the way
she goes from last page copied (p. 2) on into pp. 3-4, points 4-7:

- 4) by doing everything at once, keeps attention off the specifics of each bill & onto the overall effort (would also connect the issues philosophically)
- 5) if the public is signing one, might as well sign more
- 6) bigger impact; could shape progressive movement nationwide
- 7) act of getting signatures educates & engages people while offering significant gains on policy goals

he's a student, but is willing to put his energy into this for the next 1½ years

Lynn M suggests posting on groups:

Jane J will provide to me

she also has a few copies of the full text of the

Colorado renewable-energy initiative

she disagrees with earlier speaker; GP__ is electoral arm of Green/progressive movement

Jim Wilber glad to see this idea

put Greens at center of coalition passing real-life initiatives

disagrees with multi-petition strategy

if he had to pick one issue cutting across party lines, UHC

JALP notes accurate figures:

8% of governor votes = 254,206

10% of governor votes = 317,757

Dana says it's a strategy to be careful of, at best

Carolyn notes the hard work in Ferndale just to get IRV through the third one may be illegal

Jane notes you wouldn't want to have 1 person doing 3:

set up a table with multiple people

better to tie into an existing drive?

Lynn M shares some of the earlier concerns . . . :

as a political party, our key issue is IRV to get power

Jane talked with him about it; he doesn't know the issue yet on UHC:

Carolyn says what's being asked for is a committee to study

Art being "a bit long-winded" on IRV

was at an event with Dave Woodward (term-ltd. legislator)

he insisted on raising spoiler, Art re-raised IRV

DW loves IRV, would've introduced it in rump session

his successor Marie Donegan could do it now

could make us look like working on the Dems

but might be a good way to go with it

he'd far rather go petitioning on one issue . . .

& if one issue, UHC levels playing field for autoworkers

Dana raises Dave Newland's issue of initiative:

to force state legislature to restore to education

the money diverted by Proposal A, etc.

foundation grant now based on pupil "head count", too, and

urban systems getting less and less money that way

does it need to be an initiative? double-check the wording

Jane thinks we're all aware petition drives are person-intensive:

but better to have these on the ballot than the frivolous stuff

we've been seeing there. . . .

Art wants all the AWOGs gone

Lou thanks all the speakers, and all of us who've stuck it out
hopes to see us all in Detroit 5/14-15 or 5/21-22