

GPMI State Membership Meeting * June 6, 2009 * Hopewell Baptist Church / 756 Highland / Benton Harbor
"Raw Minutes" (Outline from Proposed Agenda)

9:30 - 11:00am **Officer Reports**

[10:07]

Fred V asks if we're okay with this agenda . . . a few people have to leave at 6pm
talk about Detroit campaigns? maybe during officer reports, suggests Lynn M
Richard K suggests People's Summit for that, too
People's Water Board

issues can be carried over to dinner time

introductions around – including 2 "new to us" folks

Leanna Losey (sp?) – one of the litigants in the Federal suit

Luanne Cosma (sp?) – from Novi; joined GPMI today – with Defense of Place, has been helping SJKP

JALP/Elections Co-ordinator

nothing but the Detroit elections this year – city clerk says petitions short, challenge filed (JALP says he'd help if time works out)

Chuck L/Membership Secretary

right around 200 members

Harley M/Locals Liaison (on list?; read by Lou N)

can't attend himself . . . wants Website updated; it's time to update info again too

Allegan County may submit by-laws (Lynn M says she expects Pat Foster to be here later today)

Lou N/Treasurer

arrangement to handle mail, membership applications, etc seems to be working

accounts: political (at U-M Credit Union) \$6,604.xx

admin 896.74

total \$7,501.xx

but there are bills to pay – \$942.00 for CMcK pollworking + \$100 for other video rendering (State of the State, etc)

\$6,459.55 net total

Richard K asks if we know how much GPUS owes us . . . getting that

Lynn M has been paid for the banners

we raised almost \$800-900 from previous round of fundraising letters; he'll do another one before end of summer

Lynn M (Meeting Manager)

talking with Tom Mair about having the summer SMM there – better after the high summer rate's over; maybe Ellis B can help, too
our UP people have suggested looking at St Ignace next spring . . . maybe close to Memorial Day?

probably winter 2010 should be in Detroit, or Ann Arbor – or Chelsea? a venue for 75-80

JALP points out one of the meetings next year has to be a convention . . .

by-laws say 4 meetings . . . Lynn M wonders if 3 might be more doable (Richard K amends to minimum 2 as mandatory)

Fred V says other state parties have only 1-2 meetings

Lou N suggests possibly 3x in even years, 1-2x in odd years

Fred V asks if we feel comfortable deciding this here

Chuck J notes we do use SMMs for outreach & networking, too

Fred V notes his Green Party Tour in April could help with some of that function

==> *consensus* on having SMM strongly recommend to SCC at least 2 mandatory SWMs

Fred V/Chair – reported on *Green Light*

talked about trying to get something on line **and** at least one printed – but GPUS reduced hard-copy *Green Pages* at about same time
is there a place for distributing hard copies?

Richard K thinks we shouldn't spend as much energy on in-house type publications not aimed at our public

also, by the time we can get a hard-copy edition out it's usually old news

likes the general economic brochure; we could do more position papers on anti-war, etc (should also put in Spanish, Arabic, etc)

Art M/Vice Chair-SCC Whip (file saved; read by Lynn M)

review of actions since the March SMM

bailout 2009/program for the economy brochure with membership form (Y/consensus)

\$300 for as many GPMI banners as can be got (Y/consensus) . . . Lynn M still checking to see if we're due another banner yet

3' x 8' vinyl, 3' x 6' recycled plastic . . . we need to discuss where the banners need to "live"

support Clean Energy Coalition (Y/vote – 8 Y, 4 N, 4 abstentions)

pay \$100 for table at Michigan Policy Summit at Cobo Hall (Y/consensus) . . . Richard K went – & paid the fee for the party

match 1st \$1,000 each raised by Derek G & Clyde S campaign cmtes before primary election (Y/vote – 13 Y, 6 N, 0 abstentions)

approve admitting MI Objectivist Party to MTPC (Y/consensus) . . . Richard K clarifies we support their right to try getting on ballot

Fred V says there's time to talk about what members are doing in other ways

he talks about candidates for Detroit City Council, "Green Detroit Now" TV show . . . every W 6-7pm

even if GPMI candidates' petitions fail, we may be in a coalition to support 18 good non-corporate candidates for the primary
JALP mentions strategy . . . only 9 votes in primary in August as in November; if coalition can't find 18, maybe try "plunking"

Richard K checked the official list: only 167 candidates certified – and some may withdraw

Ellis B asks about our candidates – Derek G talks about his campaign . . . economy/bailout, etc

TV show has had Diane Bukowski, Abayomi Azikiwe & Sandra Hodges, Quentin Williams on as guests

some parts are on line (WHPRTV33.com & YouTube)

Richard K notes stab in the back over the city incinerator as another issue

Derek G advocates for TV show as a good way to get folks involved; needs support

Lynn M suggests putting out the TV & YouTube links on the Biz & Updates lists

Derek G on People's Summit (see flyer)

alternative to the National Business Summit (sponsored by Detroit Economic Forum – which claims to "define America's future"[!] . . .)
event has permits for both sides of Grand Circus Park

Richard K asks: do we have a reservation for a GPMI tent? yes; do we have a tent? yes (from Lynn M)

he has a 4-person tent but no instructions on how to put it up

Ellis B wonders if any one day is a focus for a rally; Derek G suggests looking at tentative schedule at event's Website

in 1991 he was involved in defending some homeless tent cities – City didn't grant permits *then* . . . amusing change of attitude

Derek G, Fred V say the City initially said no this time, too

Lynn M wants to talk about how we're going to encourage people to attend – we were going to hold this meeting there, remember?

she plans to come at least one day

Fred V says we can caucus later about what GPMI can/will do . . . who will do what

Lou N on People's Water Board

GPMI has been involved in water issues for a long time – MCWC/Mecosta County, MWRO & Highland Park & all . . .

so we were invited to join a coalition to set up a People's Water Board

like People's Summit, to address the people's issues with the Detroit Water Board – privatization openness, transparency, etc

he lists coalition members, reads mission statement [sounds familiar]

4-5 meetings so far, basic organizing – most recent meeting 09/05/26

before that meeting, called for nominations for the 9 members . . . had 10 nominations, but one person stepped back

Derek G & Priscilla Dziubek are Greens (Derek represents MECAWI, Priscilla MWRO); he listed other members (has in a file, too)

plan is to meet Tuesdays before Wednesday Detroit Water Board meetings

asking them to be more transparent: publish agendas/minutes – maybe even show on public-access

Fred V notes tabling at various events – IBEW Local ____ event, Henry Ford CC Earth Day, etc . . .

Lynn M mentions 3 Greens attended Bay City coal-plant hearing with new banner . . . discussion meeting went until just about midnight

90 people against, maybe 18 for . . . utility company had paid its workers to come & wear "Clean Coal" T-shirts (but most left by 10pm)

Richard K spoke on not remembering history meaning you were doomed to repeat it

young folks spoke up for reproductive rights that would be jeopardized by poisons from the plant

he's been fighting for GPMI within the Sierra Club – so they've brought the big D guns to the PAC

SE MI Club (or state-level PAC) endorsed Dianne F; didn't come out for Pinkney, but did give some money to SJKP

Lou N notes this may be the first GPMI endorsement, or at least one of the first – and a breakthrough (thanks to Richard K)

Richard K notes different state Sierra Clubs have different relations with the Sierra Club

tendency seems to be that the leaders are resistant (due to their links with D leaders, he thinks)

Luanne L says Aubrey McClendon gave Sierra Club a bunch of money

natural-gas man from OK (#138 on Forbes list?), has a 2nd home in SJ . . . married to FUpton cousin

Derek G led by Richard K's many activities to think of recruitment – would be good to have a 3x5 or business-size card for recruitment

Lynn M has designs for some bizcards with 10KV on the back, our own info on the front

are we talking about a membership card? or a membership application? or what?

what does Chuck L do when he gets a new membership

Derek G likes the old postcards – and we still have them . . . info old but still relevant (unfortunately)

could we do a postage-paid postcard? Lynn M, Chuck L aren't sure we still have a permit – checking

Richard K says just showing up with a Green Party T-shirt has an impact (sometimes with cops) . . . who's underestimating the power?

Fred V wants to spend \$100-150 to get some GPMI T-shirts

there may be a package for a bundled price; Lou N will check

Chuck J hadn't heard about the Sierra Club's Dianne F endorsement – that's good news . . . news people need to know

the more events we have someone at, the more people we look like we have

Lynn M's been working on organizing transportation/etc for Rev Pinkney in GR
Ellis B said Farrakhan seemed to say he'd be in GR for P

US Social Forum in Detroit is coming up on the agenda; already rented Cobo Hall & Hart Plaza (all of it) 6 days – and paid for it; **big** event

JALP asks for break [11:26]

11:00 - 11:45am **2010 Election Planning** – Elections Committee to select key races, plans for 2010 [11:33]

shift to planning for People's Summit – tent etc . . . Richard K will spend time at table mostly (2pm onward)

Su 6/14 starts at noon; need to set up tent

Richard K, Lou N, Priscilla D? will be there to help set up; Derek G can't set up, but will be there some time

M 6/15 1:30-2:30 rally; 4pm mass march; 7pm youth concert & rally

Lynn M can be there that afternoon

Tu 6/16 noon-1:30 mass picket line & rally for jobs at RenCen

Priscilla D tentatively suggested for this day

W 6/17 may be finished by 1pm or so

Derek G is one of the security/logistics officers . . . Richard K can bring folding table & a few lawn chairs; Fred V offers PA system

Fred V notes union local presidents will be there, too

pass this info around to Detroit & other metro-area/nearby Greens

economic flyers, sign-up clipboards, old postcards, banners, buttons, bumper stickers, T-shirts (if in yet) . . . check with Emily

any trifolds? announcement of next Detroit Greens meeting? DVDs for donations, maybe? (or to play on PC) . . . etc, etc

will there be power available in the tents? Derek G is checking . . . if outlets not on, they'll bring generators (or run off vehicles, sez Fred V)

Richard K suggests offering healthy (& green, if possible) snacks . . . discussion of types, sources

Richard K moves to authorize up to \$100 of GPMI money for healthy snacks

==> ***consensus*** on that

can GPMI get a speaker or two in? Derek G says maybe more; mostly, we'd need volunteers to do it – stage will be open 24/7

Fred V suggests that all be prepared to speak if their opportunity arises

Lynn M asks if all our activities/stuff will be in our tent? yes, so look for banner on top or draped over the side or something

Derek G can be a contact, too – his cell # is 313-706-2985; Lou N's is 313-623-4709 . . . Fred V offered his, too

Richard K asks about parking – there's a lot of free parking within 3-4 blocks; church will have a few, but they'll fill up quick

11:45am - noon **Plan Carpool Teams for March** – make posters during lunch? [11:54]

pick drivers – 2 cars per team; 1 drop-off car at Jean Klock Park with 2nd car following to take that driver to courthouse;

2 or 3 riders each team if both vehicles fit 5 people

do it after we get food? well, not too many people so not too complex right now . . . maybe wait until closer to 3pm

noon - 1:00pm **Lunch** (donation) – view local Green videos [11:58]

over lunch, discuss elections

11:00 - 11:45am **2010 Election Planning** – Elections Committee to select key races, plans for 2010 [xx:xx]

lunch time broke out/down into election discussions

Gov/LtGov

list possible candidates to recruit

(JALP suggests Secretary of State is important, too – got us our place on the ballot when Lynn M ran in 2006; no other 3P candidates)

education boards

Fred V says Margaret G will run again for Wayne St U board

Chuck L says Ed Morin is now on SCC replacing him as HVG rep

Chuck L is going to try to talk him into running for U-M Regent again

also in 2010

Candace Caveny running again for USRep/CD10

Derek G will run for SH007 again

Dennis Knowles talks a bit about his local race in Benton Harbor

Chuck L talks about Ann Arbor City Council . . . yes, the race is partisan, but it's mainly a one-party town & August D primary settles it

better chance in odd-numbered years . . . not as much straight-party tickets

Richard K notes Ds will be going after McCotter in 2010, so a Green in the CD11 race (like Eriq S) would “mess up the chemistry”

Rev. Pinkney shows up – a quick break [12:50]
he has postcards to the governor to try to save someone

1:00 - 2:00pm **United States Social Forum and the Green Party** – 2010 elections [xx:xx]

switch to

11:00 - 11:45am **2010 Election Planning** – Elections Committee to select key races, plans for 2010 [1:06]

a few words from Rev Pinkney, then on to the USSF

we need to work together on our common agenda/platform – our enemy/opposition is the corporations
he was probably the happiest person in prison (which they couldn't understand)
we need to seize all our opportunities, start strategizing, keep helping each other, and get our selves out of the way
the moment it's about **you**, the other side can neutralize you and win
and we need to know there's someone ready to take the torch when we're passing it on
let's go forward from here

re-introductions with the after-lunch crowd

Lynn M outlines the carpooling plans . . . we plan out the teams

Fred V re-introduces the USSF, mentions again they've already paid to rent Cobo Hall & Hart Plaza
MWRO, Centro Obrero, Eastern Michigan Environmental Affairs Council, _____, Jobs with Justice

Rev P has to go . . . Fred V compares his case with Diane Bukowski's

back to the USSF – and its roots in the World Social Forum (first in Porto Alegre, Brazil – to oppose the Davos forum of the rich)
we expect 30,000 to be in Detroit next summer (Detroit Greens expect to find people places to sleep/etc)
just about anybody can suggest a workshop/etc . . .

Ellis B wonders about the program – all big meetings or lots of little ones all at the same time?

all of same – at Atlanta, there were over 1,000 workshops . . . could have one on BH, for example)

break [1:54]

2:00 - 3:00pm **Public Meeting** – w/ Rev P, possible candidates for BH or Berrien Co, & discussion on saving Jean Klock Park [xx:xx]

Fred V re-introduces Dennis Knowles, candidate for 4th Ward City Commissioner . . . primary 8/4/09

Jean Klock Park is in the 4th Ward . . . but Harbor Shores would be its own ZIP code – lots are being sold for \$1M each
he had a "Real Talk" radio program on 105.3 FM – but after he became a candidate, he got pushed off the air . . .
reads out his press release about being cited for not registering telecom eqpt with the chief of police (as if he owned the radio station)
there was a hearing 6/4 – he went . . . and expects the charges to be thrown out soon now
it's a war of life and death here . . . it's not about you or me – but we . . .
one thing he'd propose is that nobody 65 or over would get a water bill at all
Leeann notes the seat Dennis is running for is the one that controls what happens to Jean Klock Park – why we all need to support him
program \$\$ needs to go to the people, not to bogus training of people who can't support themselves that way & fall into crime

Belinda B (asst dir for BANCO) on last night's forum with Minister Farrakhan at Lake Michigan College

Benton Harbor is truly on the map with this speech (Farrakhan's 3rd visit to BH now)

why did he come here? Dorothy Pinkney & Belinda were both invited to a "State of the Black Family" conference in New Orleans

Mr. Carruthers (sp), head of National Baptist Conference, introduced them to Farrakhan

last night, Farrakhan addressed the issues here in BH in a way Belinda's never heard them addressed before

Belinda says the struggle here **is about** Rev P . . . but it's **not for** him – it's for the **community**

grateful for the support of the Green Party and other organizations who've come here

the leaders were there last night, and heard the truth told to[at] them about them not standing up for what's right

now the issue is nationwide . . . international. . . .

Tavis Smiley's going to do a show on Benton Harbor . . . BH has Rev. Sharpton's support, too

and Berrien County leadership is sitting on the edge of its collective seat – they never believed it would go this far

Luanne suggests bringing copy of devmt agreement to Tavis Smiley

Ellis B felt most important thing Minister Farrakhan said was that people are tools – are you in corps' toolbox or God's?

also felt the black man in the White House will eventually look for/work for white folks . . .

Lynn M asks what's the plan for Tu in GR? Farrakhan has offered his support – so busloads from Nation of Islam
he'll be there himself if the Lord is willing (Belinda believes he will be)
gather at 8am(!) for a protest before we go into the court building
JALP notes Rev P's issues are last on the court's agenda . . . 6th & 7th – could be late
Fred V points out we helped make this breakthrough possible by our early & consistent support

Luanne Kozma (sp?) from Novi, a parks advocate with Defense of Place . . . on the fight to Save Jean Klock Park
Jean Klock Park is the only land in BH on the shore of Lake Michigan
initial donation of land (1917) was for the children forever . . . later, accepting Fed funds meant City had to promise forever again
plans gradually revealed . . .
first suit in state court – Berrien Co Ct judge on Whirlpool's side . . . said anything could go in a public park (even a water plant)
this case now on appeal . . . it was about the original deed
Terry Lodge (a Green atty from Toledo, OH) told them suing under Nat'l Env Policy Act was a better way to go
first thought was than Land & Water Conservation Act
now lawsuit is against city of BH (but Harbor Shores is paying for it), State of Michigan, etc . . . 6-7 local residents are plaintiffs
filed in August in DC's Fed cts . . . TRO hearing . . . didn't end up with same judge as they started with
Leeann told about some of what happened in DC
now it's back in GR . . . not in front of Maloney, fortunately
Wiley was hearing the state suit for a while – and Dennis Archer was one of the two attys on the other side
Ds alleged Ps were working against the people of BH – Ps are the people of BH
now Glenn Yarborough is back working on the youth program . . .
SaveJeanKlockPark.org is the site for the state lawsuit
ProtectJKP.com is the site for the Federal lawsuit

3:00 - 3:30pm travel to Courthouse [xx:xx]

3:30 - 4:30pm **March** – need a few GPML speakers [xx:xx]

4:30 - 5:00pm travel back to Church [xx:xx]

5:00 - 7:00pm **Dinner** (donation) and finish business [5:15?]

one last bit of business:

Richard K proposes that GPML contribute \$100 to the legal battle to save Jean Klock Park

Lou N offers a friendly amendment – there are two lawsuits and two groups, so how about \$100 each?

==> ***consensus*** on that