

GPMI State Nominating Convention — June 2-3, 2012 — The Wesley, Mount Pleasant

Saturday, June 2

9:00 – 9:30am **registration** [x:xx]

9:30 – 9:45am **welcome and opening remarks** (includes introductions of officers) [9:57]

Fred V notes changes since last Presidential-year nominating convention in 2008
lots of opportunities coming in the future for us, too

9:45 – 10:00am **adoption of agenda/rules of the convention** (highlight presidential poll in packet) [x:xx]

JALP says rules are basically approving as delegates people who weren't members far enough ahead of time
and consensus or 2/3 vote to approve nominations

Lou N proposes credentialing delegates; Doug C 2nds

JALP clarifies – people coming in later, too? yes . . . though Fred cautions we can revisit if “undesirables”

Margaret G wants to start on the political discussions first

Lou N suggests use some of the nominating time for that

Matt suggests use first 15 minute of nomination period for generalized political discussion; ***TWINKLE***

Harley requests introductions all around, not just officers

Fred V

Dwain Reynolds

Jim Moreno

Ellis Boal

JALP

Jennifer La Pietra

Margaret Guttshall

Art Myatt

William Banny Bishop

Richard Wunsch

George Corsetti

Julia Williams

Bill Opalicky

Merry Mikkelson

Linda Manning Myatt

Douglas Campbell

Tom Mair

Susan Odgers

Pat Timmons

Harley Mikkelson

Lloyd Clarke

Matt de Heus

10:00 – 10:15am **credentials report/Treasurer's report** [xx:xx]

Credentials pretty much done by the previous decision

Lou N notes as of today: \$2,046.24 in admin account, \$4,330.35 in political account

we've had as much as \$8,000 in the account before, but we gave \$1,000 to Cary's campaign & paid for printing of *Green Light*

Lloyd C notes the money in the admin account seems high

we can only transfer into admin from political, not the other way around

the PayPal account goes only into admin

Matt de Heus wants to know if we can investigate other forms of online payment than PayPal

Lou knows of others – maybe we can investigate them

Ellis B wonders if his \$300 in matching funds from 2010 will still be there

Lou apologizes, will follow up for the future (presuming Ellis is nominated this time)

and he agrees we should do matching funds again this year
Fred V notes these reports are here now as background information for actions later today as well as tomorrow
Jim M asks if we can use admin funds for data input which could be used to support candidacies

Lou will have to check on that

Lloyd asks about the previous decision to stop using the land line and switch entirely to the cell phone
both lines are still active now, but Art's agreed to take over the cell phone so Lloyd can cancel the old account
the new number is in the *Green Light*
but if the old message hasn't cautioned cut-over yet, maybe we should hold off until this season is over

[Lynn Meadows in]

10:15 – 10:30am **Election Coordinator's report** [xx:xx]

JALP goes over process, answers Qs about nominations/etc
Art M mentions Linda M will be a treasurer for low-money candidates

10:30am – noon **nominations for offices** [xx:xx]

– US Senate & House, MI House, and all other state/local offices which are the province of the convention

political discussion

Jim M works with union folks now – one of his friends is in WI working on that situation
Dwain R mentions unionization at a stressful breaking point; teachers facing non-stop cuts
cf also student debts and no jobs to pay them off
Ellis B on fracking – several movements (including a legislative breakfast sponsored by env movements seeking better regulation)
Committee to Ban Fracking in Michigan – he has petitions, too
he's also involved in litigation against DEQ and Incana (major operator in MI) to slow down their works
it's before Judge Collette in Ingham County . . . may lead to public hearings, etc
is a fracking well an injection well? seems obvious
sister org is Ban Fracking in MI
JALP on petitions all over: supported fracking ban, support GR Move to Amend, etc – example of benefits of being a party & a movt
as a slogan: maybe . . . "People. Jobs. Justice. Michigan Values. Green Values."
Margaret suggests Money for the People, Not Bankers or War
Art M says Fred mentioned economic crisis starting in 2008
he thinks that was phase 1, now we're in phase 2 or 3 . . . *The Limits to Growth* is coming true
we need to develop and promote ways to deal/live with no-growth rather than struggle futilely for growth
it's a permanent crisis
William Bishop on eminent domain – increasingly delegated, almost a private exercise now
people need to be treated fairly in ascertaining of fair market value
Richard W thinks the most basic political thing about where we're at now is that the Federal govt is broken
and state govts are fast becoming broken . . . and govt has been illegal since at least 2000
so we need to think about the most important functions and levels of govt that we care about and want to protect
in Hillsdale, the county level seems important (e.g., sheriff only elected police power; drain comm'r only elected env officer)
eliminate the American empire, drug wars, etc
gotta take care of the housing crisis – 300 homeless in tiny Hillsdale
George C sees things from Detroit perspective – 1/3 or so vacant houses or empty fields, street lights out, etc; city's withdrawn services
doesn't see economy getting better – a brief blip from the meager stimulus has dissipated
Rs & Ds have focused on deficit as the problem (and an excuse for privatization)
what's needed is a jobs program like WPA, to get money circulating (unemp in Detroit is worse than in the Great Depression)
Lynn M is a bit conflicted about issues – jobs/etc. are important, but if we don't save our earth, we won't save our people
she brought a portfolio of GPMI things . . . but didn't see any notice that we're meeting
(did hear on NPR yesterday that we're meeting here today)
Linda M has been thinking about (for one thing) how many of our problems stem from how our govt serves big industry
health care, fracking, etc – the problem is, she doesn't see what we can do about getting Republicrats out of power
Julia W thinks this is our moment – people are angry . . . disconnect between what people need and what we're getting
Merry M passes – says she has nothing new to add
Bill O – there's a cancer on the Presidency, and it's called Barack Obama
he never thought he'd call the Bush Presidency "the good old days"

but we shouldn't kid ourselves – the reason there's a Green Party is that there's no difference between Ds & Rs
we should be thankful that we see this . . . but we need to recognize who the enemy is

[Eric Borregard & Mary Casonas (sp?) come in]

Lou N notes Fred mentioned the Arab spring, and Occupy as a sort of US expression of that

Greens have worked with Occupy – we should do more (recruiting candidates/etc as well as broader co-operation)

Doug C has been on a public-info campaign every time he leaves the house

one message: when he was in college, a min-wage job for the summer would pay for a year's tuition

any union is better than none (as many people have)

when he sees fundraisers, he says all his discretionary income is going to the war (driving 20 miles to Walmart prolongs the war)

that's externally; internally, we need to get our shit together to take advantage of the public discontent

and his big pitch: Illinois needs our help with ballot access

Tom M follows up on what Doug said – Cynthia McKinney needs petitioning help to get on the ballot for Congress in GA as a Green

WCMU media has already interviewed Patrick, Tu they'll interview Jill Stein

last Saturday's event in Benton Harbor had 150 people

Susan O says one thing done in N MI was saving a man from having his home foreclosed from under him

she agrees with George that we have a great opportunity now

maybe our cities and regions could adopt each other, so we're not isolated

Pat Timmons spoke yesterday with David Nicklas (sp?) at WCMU

we're at the end of the longest stretch of prosperity in US history; Ds & Rs struggling to extend it; we need to go to steady-state

at the end of WWII, almost half of our food came from our own backyards

steady-state economy needs

Doug C notes organic farming is the fastest-growing industry in Detroit

Harley thinks everyone's mentioned some good things – we need them all to get to a better (= more satisfying) life

we need to talk about quality of life – sustainable agriculture, not GMOs, etc

if he runs for Congress, he'll stress that (since his district is agricultural)

Lloyd C also figures it's pretty well all been said – doesn't know what he can add

except that he was born in Saginaw 70 years ago . . . and the community has declined greatly (like Flint, Pontiac, Detroit, etc.)

our cities and our state are all in big trouble (and of course our Federal govt)

we have to come together to fight the status quo – as they have been doing in Europe

GPMI needs to be the party that's telling the truth

Matt de Heus used to live in Europe; what big diff? the standard of living is traditionally higher here, but the quality of life is better there

Bay City is doing a few things well on that score – a lot of this means non-govt action

the bad side of unplugged is how people are clueless on fracking, new-style bank fees, how gay parents' kids lose benefits, etc

local issue is Tittabawassee River . . . Matt got an EPA(?) person to admit in public hearing that dioxin was harmful

we're at the end of a game of Monopoly and the guys who are winning are bitching that it's not fun anymore

in his house, the winners of the game clean it up – maybe we need to let them play on their own in the corner

Mary Casonas (sp) – not a member yet;

her concerns are around health issues . . . medical social worker, feels everyone deserves good care

also concerned that, in Ann Arbor, the younger people want to know if GPMI is even happening there

and feels strongly about kids going to bed hungry

Eric Borregard – ran as a Green in 2002 . . . mostly interested in media; couldn't understand why the media ignored Greens

so he went back to school & studied broadcasting . . . learned we're an oligarchy

why hasn't Congress grown as population did? the people on top want fewer representatives

the media bombard us 24/7 with the duopoly; he's had 10 years to think about how to run a campaign to cut through that

during WWII, scientist Elizabeth Noles Newman raised theory of Spiral of Silence

[Linda C, Aimee C Dunn, & Forrest come in]

Richard proposes 5-min bathroom break; ***TWINKLE***

[11:15am or so; back in at 11:33am]

<JALP has a further slogan note: "Government as if People Mattered"?>

Aimee D still pessimistic about how hard our political system is, but our best bet is to have a Green vision and be serious about it
with our candidates and our ideas . . . if we still have a functioning system, then we need a vision

Linda C echoes that – show the people what Greens have to offer, a very alternative vision of where the country could be going
two issues to mention: health care and all the environmental issues (trees dying in the UP, speeding up over the past 7 years)

Fred thinks we've heard from everyone now – breadth of issues and depth of problems (solutions need to be so too)
on to nomination, starting with statewide offices – US Senate, 4 education boards, and MI Sup Ct

___ for US Senate

Dwain Reynolds, Candace Caveny for State Board of Education

Eric Borregard for U-M Board of Regents

Matt de Heus for MSU Board of Trustees

Margaret Guttshall for Wayne State University Board of Governors

___ for MI Supreme Court

Margaret suggests Fred for US Senate; Lou loudly seconds . . . he'll consider that, though he's been thinking more about State House
Wayne Co Greens can talk at lunch about caucusing

Richard W wonders if a Green attorney should run for Sup Ct; JALP, Ellis B, and George C all decline

on to US House

Ellis Boal for District 01

___ for District 02 (JALP notes R incumbent is unopposed by a D)

___ for District 03? (JALP is considering H063 and Calhoun Co Clerk, too)

Pat Timmons for District 04 (Art M notes TC is in 01, not 04, but

___ for District 05

___ for District 06

Rev. Pinkney? nobody's talked to him

Richard Wunsch for District 07 (Richard W says other

___ for District 08

Julia Williams for District 09 (Doug C says AJ has officially withdrawn)

Harley Mikkelson for District 10

___ for District 11

Doug Campbell for District 12?

___ for District 13 (Art M confirms it's all within Wayne Co)

Lou N? no, he's running for Wayne Co Commissioner again

George Corsetti for District 14? (he doesn't want to run this time)

on to state-level (MI House only)

Merry M in SH084

JALP maybe in SH063?

[Korine Bachleda & friend Jeff ___ come in]

Margaret wants everyone to run or at least stand for office

Art M's inclined to disagree that standing is of benefit to GPMI – he did it once, and got 0.7% of the vote (not a good message)

Koine Bachleda for Newberg Township Clerk (Cass County)

Tom Mair for County Commissioner, District 7(?) (Grand Traverse County)

Joe Connolly for County Commissioner, District 3 (Grand Traverse County)

discussion of standing for office

Richard W suggests it's good to put out some kind of effort

Lou N doesn't want us to do anything to discourage anybody from running or standing for office

example of him and Dianne Feeley being left off the ballot

Doug C – in 2002, he ran for office with great vigor (& made one splash early on) . . . and got the same 0.7% Art got

maybe the better question is why our campaigns don't succeed better

Lloyd is in favor of standing because it fills up the ballot & supports other candidates

it gives an alternative to some people, however many it is

he also notes that CD02 is the most conservative in the state, the only one McCain won

wants us to be there; if he weren't 70, he'd do it
Tom M's idea: county commission is often the smallest district with partisan races (State House is smaller than others)
Jill Stein is willing to come appear with candidates
townships

Ellis B is still undecided – wants to know what other parties think

Margaret runs as a platform for talking to people about politics – it's another thing to run in order to win
she thinks we need to try for that, too, and we haven't done that very often

JALP notes different levels of activity – someone could walk for office

Doug C says Libertarians don't have a strong stance on standing

Matt adds that some Lib candidates he did see, some he didn't

now he wants to switch to Bay County Commissioner/7th District and nominate Lloyd for MSU Board of Trustees instead
Lloyd asks if being at the Fieldhouse once makes him qualified

Lynn M says the kitchen needs 10 more minutes

Linda C suggests thinking about it from the voter's perspective

Lloyd asks about compensation for his breakfast expenses; \$42 . . . *TWINKLE*

Ellis B (ban fracking), Lou N (clean energy) tout petitions

noon – 1:30pm **lunch (& possible caucus meeting time)** [12:25]

1:30 – 2:30pm **nominations for various offices continues** (includes candidate speeches) [1:30]

-- sign nomination forms and have them notarized before leaving convention

Fred leads everyone in thanks to Jennifer for cooking wonderful lunch (& others who brought food)
now, back to nominations – any changes?

George C says Wayne County is going to hold a caucus – invites Oakland & Macomb

Lou N asks if they can nominate both here and at caucus; JALP says no

Matt de H will help Harley if he'll agree to run for US Senate

it's not his first choice, but he'll take it if nobody else will

JALP says Jennifer L is willing to run for County Commission/District 6

Matt Erard nominates John Longhurst for SH106 – lost his ride here this morning

Tom Mair – either Linda Cree or Aimee Dunn for Marquette Co Board of Commissioners/District [9? (Skandia Twp)]

Linda says put Aimee down for now, anyway

Lynn asks if we're going to hear from accepting candidates before we nominate them

Lloyd wants to know if they're GPMI members . . . 2 minutes each . . . Linda M wants to hear about views on women's right to choose

Dwain Reynolds for State Board of Education

Candace Caveny for State Board of Education . . . see the vetting-Q'aire sheet

Margaret Guttshall for Wayne State Board of Governors . . . napping in the car

Lloyd Clarke for MSU Board of Trustees

Eric Borregard for U-M Board of Regents

Aimee Dunn for Marquette County Board of Commissioners/District 5 (now only 6 after reapportionment)

Ellis Boal for US Representative/District 01

JALP for US Representative/District 03? (or SH063 or Calhoun County Clerk?)

Pat Timmons for US Representative/District 04

George C asks about Pat's views on debt (as mentioned in his vetting-Q'aire answers) and how the military is affecting that
maybe some time for more personal Qs later, too

Steven Duke (in now, from 7th District with Richard Wunsch) asks if 1% should pay same tax rate as rest of us; Pat says more
Rev. Pinkney US Representative/District 06 . . . not here, not yet reached

Richard Wunsch for US Representative/District 07

Julia Williams for US Representative/District 09 . . . 12-word platform: end the wars, tax the rich, a jobs guarantee, Medicare for all

Harley Mikkelson for US Representative/District 10[?] . . . or US Senate? whatever he runs for, it'll be on basically the same issues [Doug C doesn't think he'll run for US Rep/District 12 or anything else . . . but as long as his name's up there, he'll say a few words]

Merry Mikkelson for SH084

John Longhurst for SH106 (Matt Erard reads a statement for him)

Korine Bachleda ("back-Leda") for Newberg Township Clerk (Cass County)

Linda C asks about no zoning – how do they protect lakes, prevent CAFE pig farms/etc

Korine thinks the community has spoken strongly in its vote against zoning, so she has to find other ways to work on that the township has more pigs than people – and has a lot of state land, too

Tom Mair for Commissioner, District 7 (Grand Traverse County)

Joe Connolly for County Commissioner, District 3 (Grand Traverse County)

Jennifer La Pietra for County Commissioner, District 6 (Calhoun County)

how about Fred Vitale? – he'll talk too

probably for State House or Wayne County Commission, rather than US Senate – so wait for the Wayne County Caucus

to finalizing nominations . . . Harley for US Senate, not for US Rep/District 10

Steven Duke for US Representative, District 11 (he just moved to Hillsdale from there after losing a family home there)

Tom M says Rev P is thinking about accepting a nomination District 06

accept all the above?

Dwain raises some Qs about Candace's views on charter schools; Lynn, Harley say her views are shaped by a good one near her

Richard W has changed from his previous total opposition to them . . . they cover a wide range

it's a big issue, Fred admits – but Jennifer & Art clarify that GPMI doesn't have an official platform position on them

Doug C thinks we need to separate the concept of the charter school from how MI is funding them

TWINKLE

2:30 – 3:00pm **selection of GPMI delegation to GPUS convention** [3:00]

[maybe throw in GPUS platform here, too]

3:00 – 3:30pm **hear from GP Presidential candidates** [x:xx]

Jill Stein can't be on Skype at 3; she can be on at 4pm – Roseanne at 3:30

3:30 – 4:45pm **campaign meetings; short workshop for new candidates** (includes break) [x:xx]

Fred suggests adjusting the agenda to fit platform discussion in here,

then let candidates talk to JALP about forms/etc. if they want

Doug C presents the Canadian Greens' platform as a counterexample to GPUS's (labeled-2010-but-effectively-2012) 71-pager

Lou N asks about the report that GPUS will have its platform done by the convention – not so much, Doug C answers

and it presumes that this one will be done on time, as the 2010 process wasn't

Linda M says, regardless of the merits of GPMI's proposal, GPUS's refusal to consider it is ridiculous

Linda C, as a member of the GPUS NC, enjoys platform work – hasn't found it a problem as Doug has

shortening the platform needs to be done with care (cf the Israel plank which almost got dropped)

Doug agrees with her on content; his proposal is about process

Linda C reports that the GPUS Platform Committee is upset we didn't work with them

Doug C says he has been, for the past 3 years – he can't force them to respond

and the 300-member NC is the body with final authority – so going to them isn't out of bounds

Lou N, as a not-very-highly-participating Platform Committee member, contests Doug's saying limited

Doug says the proposal was on that list in February

Lou N says this just isn't the right time to consider this

Richard W asks what Doug's proposing that GPMI do

he wants a sense-of-the-body resolution buying into the "crusade"

Linda M again says it's not about the content of Doug's proposal, it's about getting a vote on this

there's a motion on the floor, says Fred – Linda C wants to know if a countermotion would be acceptable

Lou N wants to put it on hold until Doug can get firm support from five other state parties

Linda C wants to put this on hold until after the election

Richard W suggests putting it on the table until 4:30

[I notice I forgot to nudzh Fred about David McMahon for SH055]

Julia Williams is given the mike for our side of the Skype with Roseanne Barr and keeps it as the main moderator for the Skype with Jill Stein and another session for Kent Mesplay at 4:30, as Fred notes just now

discussion about the three presentations

Richard W would support any of the three

Margaret was surprised to find that Jill Stein, whom she thought was being soft on Israel, matched the GPUS position

Bill O, looking scientifically, predicts Jill Stein will get 0.7% of the vote

Linda C was impressed with the chance to hear Kent M speak

Julia W was concerned about Roseanne's talk of a big umbrella with the Libertarians – on some issues, okay, but how deeply?

George C was disappointed with Roseanne's brushing over the Middle East situation & referring people to her Website

he too was hearing Kent for the first time and was also impressed

Margaret thinks Roseanne's coalition proposal wasn't quite as broad as others seem to think

Harley is disappointed that we couldn't recruit better – but hopes we can help get

Matt de H isn't impressed that Roseanne & Kent ran for President first off

JALP and Fred note that one known candidate wasn't mentioned in the approval list – David McMahon for SH/055 . . . ***TWINKLE***

4:45 – 5:00pm **announcements & closing remarks for day #1 of convention** [x:xx]

– sign nomination forms and get them notarized before leaving

– nominations remain in order until the close of convention (Sunday at 2:45 pm)

– close of convention business Saturday is the last chance to turn in Presidential straw-poll ballots

8:00 - 10:00pm **rally, speakout, and music! -- open event**

Hear from our just selected GPMI candidates as well as musical acts Stephen Colarelli, a singer/songwriter; Rope and the Rulers; and Poor Player. Raise money for your campaign or your favorite candidate.

Sunday, June 3

9:00am **opening of day #2 of convention** [9:35]

JALP reviews the status of candidates, caucuses, GPUS delegates, etc

Aimee C D withdraws

JALP is leaning towards Calhoun County Clerk

Doug C is willing to run for a Congressional seat near him

9:05 – 9:45am **officer reports** [9:45]

Fred V thinks we've heard from all the officers we need to for now

9:45 – 11:00am **GPMI -- where we are, where we want to go** [x:xx]

Open Discussion -- What is our place in the current political dynamic? What resources do we have?

Where do we want to focus them the 2012 elections? What are our plans for beyond 2012?

Participants will be asked the previous day to think about these questions and be prepared to talk concretely about what our resources are and what is our capacity to concentrate them in elections this fall.

Format for the discussion is open as well. Resolutions will be voted on under Item 6 [sic; 8?].

what goals do we have?

do we want to focus resources on a particular campaign or a few of them?

JALP mentions Kent Co caucus plans, Stein offers for development/training & list improvement

(1) to borrow, use, and update our contact list; and

(2) to hold a campaign-resource training session (I'd mentioned our target time of between primary & Labor Day) >

Lou is interested in the SH076 race

also notes that the GPMI convention got front-page coverage in the *Midnight Sun*

Doug C suggests contacting people on our old lists for the SH076 race

JALP said he's passed that on to Charlie Shick (here today) & Chris Silva

Fred V says Latham Redding (also here today) has volunteered to run with Margaret for Wayne State U Board of Governors

Doug proposes making the list a database and making it available to all of its members

JALP wants to preserve spreadsheet capability

Fred V points out the key problem is maintenance (and control of access, says Jennifer)

<David P says we could set up a DropBox account>

Art M suggests that, depending on the file size, we could maybe put it up on the Riseup list and give candidates access to that or set up another list just for that

a lot of personal info in it, notes Fred; maybe we could trim that, says Art

David P suggests a service called HighRise which could make it accessible via the Cloud for \$24 a month

Lou N suggests getting a copy of the QVF and co-ordinating that with this list

Harley was going to suggest that all candidates bring membership forms along on campaigning

Linda C thinks this database would also be important for locals – if up to date

Doug C is focused on developing a structure or a process for our membership/contact data

Aimee C D discusses organizing memberships by/with renewal dates

David P is working on an example of what can be done

Fred V wants to move towards a resolution; Doug doesn't want just another resolution without some implementation

past Membership Secretary Lynn M tells about her routine using two lists on Excel

she thinks Harley needs to tell us what he does & what he needs

Margaret thinks we'll get more response from calls for candidates than from calls for money

Fred asks Harley to draft a resolution

other resources

Doug C asks where we stand with vignette changing

JALP talks about contacting co clerks, then Bureau of Elections, and maybe

he'll send Doug a list of co clerks he got error msgs back in inquiries

deadline is July 7

Margaret wants to talk about a resource we have that others don't – politics . . . we need slogans

Linda C thinks Margaret has some good ideas

Fred isn't sure this body, with reduced attendance, can really decide slogans for all the candidates

Linda M notes that GPUS had a program a while back about "Bringing [the] Money Back to Main Street"

Doug C was going to bring up about the same thing: "Move the Money from Wall Street to Main Street"

it'd be a good thing if candidates stuck with the same phrase GPUS is

Margaret's problem with that is it doesn't mention war; she prefers "Money for the People, Not for the Bankers or for War"

Linda M prefers the GPUS slogan because it gives people something more concrete

Lou N says this campaign has been going on for a few years, there's materials supporting it

Lynn M thinks any positive message is better than a negative message – tell people what we want, not what we don't want

Margaret's convinced

Art M says a nationally known writer (Ellen Brown) has been promoting state banks (modeled on ND's)

maybe other beneficial effects are coincidental . . .

but there's a hitch with that for MI – the state constitution forbids the state from owning a bank

Pat T is reading a book about limited-purpose banking

Margaret is still in favor of having a state bank

Fred V notes local govts & pension funds have been sold/loaned/etc junk by the big banks

(not as big fools as they've been made to look)

Roseanne was right – and it's hard to realize how much society has been hijacked

by banks, investment groups, big insurance cos, etc. – and Ds & Rs

Linda C notes that it's happening at the international level too, of course

Art M has 2 points, 1 about banking . . . better to have public ownership of banks than bank ownership of the public

he was glad to hear so much time from Roseanne about the Fed – but most people think it's public, and it's not

the other somewhat-related point: he knows GPMI members have participated in peace, Occupy, Move2Amend, etc, etc

but as the Green Party, we've seen little return from those movements

he doesn't think they're taking the same "non-sectarian" view of us that we are of them
Pat T asked his
Linda C is totally with Margaret on war – and the muzzling of the peace movement because Obama's in & doing it now
we need to end the endless wars . . . someone needs to be out front & passionate about more than the nice stuff
Margaret notes that lots of Detroit people have been active in Occupy Detroit
they're in favor of Ds, but we need to hang in there & show them what the Green Party is for
not true that we haven't gotten anything out of it – we're in political conflicts, & the way to win those is to hang in there
Latham is a Vietnam vet – what got us out of that was the notion that your son would be drafted . . .
our problem is that only 1-1/2% goes to war nowadays . . . and that 1-1/2% is almost invisible to most of the rest of us
he thinks a draft would prevent wars
Pat agrees, but wants to emphasize that Congress has the responsibility to declare war (or not) – 40 yrs of usurpation on that
Fred V feels it's hard to decide how to spend our time and our efforts – we do need to make friends
most of the time, people aren't very interested in elections here
but look in Europe – significant percentages for the non-traditional parties in Greece, even France
times are changing . . . we need to keep working on it
Aimee C D disagrees about the draft – she doesn't want her son going or skipping to Canada because others want a war
in the UP, it seems there's a "welcome home" every month; they're willingly sending their kids, "gotta support the troops"
Linda C knows what Latham's saying about people investing themselves
Latham says it's because the UP doesn't have any jobs – Aimee C D & Linda C agree with that, too
it's a sad dilemma . . . most Americans still feel too disengaged
Latham says, of the 435 members of the House, maybe 3 have children in the military . . .
Harley agrees completely that the draft made a lot of young people and parents pay political attention
but we're not in a position to go back there any time soon
what he thinks we need to do is link the wars – their excessive costs – with our kids' futures
we can't afford teachers, firefighters, fixed roads, etc.
Latham responds that we've allowed all that to be de-coupled
he was an apprentice – the number of apprentices has dropped dramatically
the war is so separate from all this other stuff, and we argue over flyspecks because they want us argue about only that
Lou N & Fred note we were coming up to a break
Tom M notes the Occupy cover *Green Light* helped speed/smooth distribution
Lynn believes the draft is the only way we can get the American people to think seriously about the war
yes, she is supporting that – but she would support conscientious objectors totally, too
Aimee C D says we'd also have to tear down the posters in HS saying "It's Not Science Fiction", etc
we need to fight the war culture
Doug C notes there's oil in Vietnam today . . . but he doesn't think we've hit the way the draft really works
it didn't become really effective until college deferments expired
and upper-middle-class kids from families with clout were faced with going too
yes, the draft was an element of stopping the Vietnam War
but we'd have to sacrifice a lot of poor & minority people first
people do feel it personally – from the effect on gas prices, and the lack of direct impact on family – & they're okay with it
Art M was drafted in 1967; in 1968 he was stationed in Vietnam during the first Tet offensive
when that ended, it felt like a political victory . . .
he's pretty sure the Green Party won't have anyone in position to affect a draft
but if there is a draft, he thinks GPMI should oppose it – & if we don't, he'll go oppose it some other way

15-minute break

11:15 – 11:30am **break**

[11:06]

back to business; Fred recruits 16 names for electors
as for alternates . . . do we need them? Art & Linda points out we needed to fill the slots

11:30am-12:30pm **final results of the Presidential straw poll**

[xx:xx]

and what they mean for the GPMI delegation to the GPUS convention

<pending the inclusion of Richard Kuszmar's vote as e-mailed to JALP . . . and any other ballots in his mailbox when he gets home>

Charlie Shick & Art Myatt want to vote today, too . . . and so does Fred

TWINKLE

if delegates "awarded" proportional to first-choice (or only-choice) votes:

<u>first-choice votes:</u>	<u>share of 16 delegates</u>
Stein 15 (16)	10
Mikkelson 4	3
Mesplay 3	2
Barr 2	1

OR if proportional by approval voting:

<u># of ballots mentioning</u>	<u>share of 16 delegates</u>
Stein 22 (23)	5
Mesplay 19	4
Barr 17	4
Mikkelson 14	3

OR if proportional by weighted voting (like a sports poll, 4 points for 1st-choice vote down to 1 for 4th-choice vote):

<u># of sports-poll points</u>	<u>share of 16 delegates</u>
Stein 80 (84)	6.5 (7)
Barr 47	4 (4)
Mesplay 40	3 (3)
Mikkelson 30	2.5 (2)

<stray votes: one 3rd-choice vote for "Tom Morello (RATM)"; one 4th-choice vote for Brad Pitt . . . both were the last choices marked>

<update later for collected votes>

Jennifer gives Media Committee report

on the Website, discussion of e-mails to use to send white papers/etc

Art M mentions GoogleDocs calendar . . . green.party.of.michigan@gmail.com for any events

new Website is www.migreenparty.org (though it's pretty barebones for now)

and Lou says we'll use the old address (migreens.org) to point to the new one

back to discussion of Doug's pro

vote on tabling it until after the election:

for 8
against 8
abstaining 1

Fred double-checks:

for 9
against 8
abstaining 1

majority, but not 2/3 . . .

Lou asks how Doug feels about his idea for getting 5 co-sponsoring orgs for a "266 proposal" before re-presenting the proposal

Doug agrees it's a friendly amendment . . . any blocking concern to the now-amended proposal?

Linda C believes Steering Committee had reasons to reject it before – and we're in the process now

Doug says it's not retroactive

Linda C says Doug hasn't provided a process for National Cmte to challenge a proposed amendment from Platform Cmte
she wants us to work more on a proposal, then work more with the Platform Cmte (& Steering Cmte & National Cmte)

Harley asks if Doug's proposal is for Platform Cmte to work on platform, & then have NC vote on it

no – Doug goes through the process now: if you want even a minor change (like getting rid of obsolete plank), . . .

his proposal is that anyone can propose (formally or in-) directly to the Platform Committee

Platform Cmte deliberates, then publishes it

National Cmte will have power to veto – but won't have to deal with it until it's published

. . .

Jennifer says 10 more minutes before lunch

. . .

Linda C asks Doug C if he'd be willing to pause where things are now & work with Platform Committee

she says some members have been upset and written the National Committee

no

vote on this proposal:

for 7

against (8 or 9, but still enough to defeat 2/3 majority requirement)

maybe after lunch, we can discuss or vote on Art's suggestion of complaining about how our motion has been treated

Lou asks if there's time to squeeze in one more proposal he hopes is a no-brainer

Detroit Greens have been working with the People's Water Board

JALP asks for details of what Lou's proposing

his proposal is that GPMI join the People's Water Board coalition

varying levels of participation and contribution

the idea is that we become an endorsing partner and contact our members about PWB events

he does some of that already on behalf of Detroit Greens (and GPMI Updates, etc)

not proposing a monetary contribution at this time, though he'd welcome a friendly amendment

Art asks if this is a democratic organization – how it makes decisions, etc

there is a board with one representative from each member org

but he's never seen a decision have to come to a vote

and Lou would be willing to be GPMI's rep

Fred asks if we have similar relationships with any other organizations

not that many are willing to give us a seat at the table, for various reasons (including non-profit status)

Tom M notes that Up North has issues with the Sierra Club about Clorox

OTOH, Linda C, they've been helpful on mining issues in the UP

Doug adds Sierra Club has been openly hostile to us in SE Michigan (parts of it, says Fred)

TWINKLE

nominations:

Bill Opalicky – US Representative/District 02

Doug Campbell – US Representative/District 14

Latham Redding – Wayne State University Board of Governors

John Anthony La Pietra – Clerk & Register of Deeds/Calhoun County

TWINKLE

Rev Pinkney still hasn't decided yet

-- nominations will be in order until the close of the convention,
but we hope to finish out all nominations at this time

Fred calls during “working lunch” for recognition that
Tuscola, Wayne, Kent, Oakland
Lapeer claimed at the previous SMM (but Candace isn't here)
Tom Mair reserves the right to call & hold one for Leelanau County
Doug C asks if we can give the right to all counties
JALP & Art M note the process is for local or co cmte to apply to SCC (since JALP reserved it for all other counties last time)

TWINKLE

Margaret wants to propose a platform amendment to take

Linda M suggests offering matching funds for candidates who ask for it (& raise the money to be matched)
last time, the limit was \$300
JALP agrees; he only asked for \$100 because he only wanted \$100 from anybody)
Tom M asks if we want to leave some money in the political account; most say we want to spend it all
JALP says the only reason to do that is for the party to do some statewide spending like a slate card
that we may wind up doing – Fred thinks we pretty well always have
Art M says another possible expense (though possibly administrative)
could be the last 2pp of the platform . . . 10KV, bullet list of platform, & membership form
ask candidates & locals/etc how many they want before arranging for printing
Tom M says another expense could be another pre-election *Green Light* . . . more valuable before than right after
Lloyd C is a little uneasy that we don't get some money from people who are attending this meeting
at Bay City, there was a nominal fee (and some new and renewed memberships)
he doesn't know what the situation is this weekend, but this room cost \$230 for 2 days
we can't spend money if we don't receive it first . . . and we get money by asking for it
Doug C says, for another *Green Light* to do any good, it has to be out by July 24
Fred thinks Tom was aiming more at the public, and a meeting in September
we can get almost anything out
Linda M reminds us that there are scholarships or grants available to cover the GPUS convention registration fee
Jennifer notes that the *Green Light* may not need to be a full issue, just contact info (and articles from candidates)
Lynn M agrees with Lloyd that expenses
Lou had shown her a deposit of \$875 collected here at the convention (+\$85 more now)
Tom M says let's call it an extra or a special edition – if that can help promote it
could be two weeks before the primary . . . or two weeks before absentee ballots are mailed out (another peak) . . . or . . .

Art M seems to remember that this kind of issue would have to be paid for out of political funds AND
individual campaigns would have to account for it as an in-kind contribution
we're all not sure . . . but we'll double-check
Fred V points out that the issue won't cost much overall, so
so maybe we're talking about two issues, one before the primary and one in the fall

we do want to talk about when (and where) to hold the next SMM or two
Art M suggests deciding the date of our next meeting based on the availability of our Presidential candidate (if any)
maybe she'll want to walk the Mackinac Bridge
Fred V notes that means we don't finally decide
Doug C proposes having two more meetings in 2012, one right after the election,
and to leave it to the Meeting Manager to resolve the details
the weekend after the election is 11/10~11 . . . tie in with Veterans' Day?

any blocking concerns? no . . .

TWINKLE

- resolutions for expenditures, etc. that the body needs to consider before closing but haven't been addressed
- most importantly, commitments for what people will do between now and the elections and agreed-upon methods of communication
- any nominating forms that need to be processed

Lynn M suggests that we should always pass the hat

and that we have a doorkeeper – Susan was the one who noticed there was a stranger in the room . . . it was a reporter!

and have a sign-in sheet whether or not there's a registration fee

if it needs to be a proposal, she'll make one

no blocking concerns? . . .

Fred V remembers we decided to drop meeting fees because we didn't want to keep people out

Lou has a concern . . . no registration fee, but the doorkeeper/greeter could invite donations

doesn't want to discourage passing the hat, but wants to keep us on the right side of the law (turn it into a check/etc somehow)

TWINKLE

Linda C wants a formal GPMI action to be at the Mackinac Bridge on Labor Day

any discussion or objections to that?

TWINKLE

Lloyd C wants a recap of candidates

JALP will publish the Certificate of Nomination to all lists

Lou N has a proposal in light of the Platform Committee proposal

notes that Doug has been invited to join the GPUS Platform Committee

wants us to re-affirm Lou and add Doug & Linda C (to fill our 3 seats) for 2-year terms

Linda M "blocking-concerned" about adding 2 opponents of Doug's proposal & only 1 supporter

Margaret doesn't want Platform Committee to focus on procedure

JALP suggests +1 for & +1 against isn't any more imbalanced than now; Linda M's still opposed

but Linda C doesn't need to be on the Platform Committee to work on platform issues

Doug suggests affirming Linda C now, if she's willing

Q about whether it's a firm 2-year commitment

Lou gives details about differing roles and levels of engagement

with 3 from MI on the committee, it'd be easier – not a high volume of activity, but sometimes into details

Linda M's blocking concern stands; vote:

yes 13

no 1

abstaining 1

David P has been building the database while

JALP, Harley, and Lou as observers

after the 30-day free trial, fee would be \$49/mo because the list is so big – so we'd have to transfer to GPMI by then

Fred V and Tom M could also be on

could maybe sync this list with Twitter, Facebook, etc

maybe add Doug C, too?

Art M asks whether, if we give up on the program, we can export any data we input on it

he asks because OpenOffice has a database application but he doesn't know how well it works

David P agrees OpenOffice is worth looking into – also a platform called Salsa

Highrise, the one he's used here, is mostly used by small business and start-ups because it's cheap & stable

Art's looked at Salsa (because Food & Water Watch uses it) – it's functional but has a high buy-in (maybe \$2,000)

30 days from now is July 3 – but we'd do better deciding before the last minute

Lou N suggests a physical meeting for David P to talk about when this can be done

John Porter is GPMI's rep on the GPUS Accreditation Committee (the only one now, we could have 2 more)
the committee has been unsuccessful so far in getting the other four not-yet-accredited states accredited: ND, SD, KY, & TN(?)
trying to work with the Virgin Islands – but they cut & pasted too much ("Republican" still in the by-laws)
4 caucuses not accredited yet: Latino, Disability, & Rural [not yet 100 members in 15 states] . . .
now an active Youth Caucus drive (possibly ages 14-35; he's suggested self-identification for membership)
Lou asks if any function related to convention delegates? John P says no
leads us all in thanking John P for his 4-5 years of service

JALP asks the convention to support Move to Amend ballot drive in GR (and Lansing if they make it)

TWINKLE

2:45 – 3:00pm **final call for nominations; convention closing** [xx:xx]

Margaret wants to change the GPUS platform to stop US aid to Israel – has heard it would be out of order
wants to delete the whole of the current language and say just "Stop US aid to Israel"
Fred says we can pass a sense-of-the-body resolution
Linda C doesn't want to throw out what she sees as comparably strong language
JALP suggests adding the sentence rather than replacing it
she decides to withdraw it

Rev. Pinkney ultimately declines . . . so all we have left to do is clean up

convention business closes at 2:40pm