

GPMI State Membership Meeting * March 28-29, 2009 * Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center / Oxford (Oakland County)
"Raw Minutes" (Outline from Proposed Agenda)

Saturday, March 28 – Morning Session

intro by Cliff Scholes (sp?) chief of education for UHEAC – one of only 7 energy education centers in MI [9:40am]
they do a few other things, too – connecting with each other, connecting with the planet, building a socially sustainable world
he'll be back around 12:30pm (as we agree we're starting a bit late) for lunch arrangements, tour, etc
notes they're starting to think about accessibility, points out the soil roof tends to block cell phones

8:30 - 9:30 am **Registration, continental breakfast, informal get-together** [9:49 am]
Fred V says we haven't done registration, so let's do that . . .

9:30 - 9:45 am Discussion and **approval of agenda** and rules, including credentials [10:05 am]
Fred V goes over things
tour at lunch-ish-time
lunch – 2 places will deliver
we have to elect officers, discuss what's going on plans
Margaret G is concerned most about Detroit Council race (Derek G is running), wonders if we can get thru the agenda in 1 day
Lou N wonders if some folks may
credentials: as far as Fred V knows, everyone here has the right to vote – except:
local person Ken _ wants to observe
Alfonso _ from Spain (visiting with Fred V & Margaret G, studying English)

9:45 - 10:00 am **Opening remarks** by State Chairperson [10:12 am]

Fred V welcomes folks, recognizes RevP as honorary co-chair, asks state officers to stand up
< get copy of Fred V's speech text? >
big changes in the past year . . . for GP, too – McKinney/Clemente marks a turning point . . . we can have an impact
GPUS resolved tension over representation on NC – MI has 6 out of 200 delegates < later: is it more? almost 400? >
outline of world situation . . . we don't necessarily need to agree on all of the causes of things
the only thing that causes social change is millions of people in action/motion
we're at the beginning of a wave of social change . . . it/[we] can grow if we work together
22% unemployment in Detroit, >50% among minority youth . . . all levels of govt are in financial trouble
what Fred V proposes
a real safety net – for people, not bankers . . . UI extended indefinitely, 100% up in food stamps
Medicaid for all – [especially?] unemployed/etc.
adequate income for all
moratorium on foreclosures & utility seizures
amnesty for immigrants
Green economic alternative –
jobs for people, at living wages
build new infrastructure (but not just/necessarily the same old stuff)
alt energy
big reduction in greenhouse gases
nationalization of banks & auto industry
democratic foreign policy
out of Iraq & Afghanistan
future focus & grassroots democracy

10:00 - 11:00 am **Officer reports** [10:27 am]
includes all state officer and national delegate reports; also GPMI representatives on other GPUS committees

Art M – SCC Whip: 3-pg report in the packet, so he won't read it to us
mostly tracking what SCC has done – a few days afterward
cf Wiki (JALP has had problems finding it – but they turned out to be from an obsolete bookmark pointer)
he also proposes redoing the platform from the ground up . . . as he had in fact proposed on the Platform Committee
maybe we should have a working meeting this summer for committees only – or several meetings for separate committees/etc
Richard W suggests using the Wiki for that, too

Chuck L – Membership Secretary: sent a report to the SCC list a while back

sent about 308 letters inviting people to this meeting . . . envelopes marked with A, B, & C to indicate when dues were, um, due
he hasn't been getting much info from Randym (as Treasurer)

he thinks our current system is cumbersome – has to check whether people have paid/signed up before registering them as members

maybe it'd be a good idea to consolidate Membership Secretary & Treasurer

also not sure how good it is to have the by-laws require that members certify accepting 4P or 10KV

Lynn M asks who's been picking up the mail – Henry H

discussion of 4P/10KV issue

Art M notes Green Card program doesn't require it, and we haven't been getting our half of \$36 back from GPUS (or card info)

maybe we should rescind accepting that for membership

Lou N's understanding is that membership is really contingent only on accepting 4P or 10KV – will people reverse their stands?

Green Card is in lieu of dues, not membership

we need to check what precisely the by-laws say

Richard K objects to penalizing people who sign up with Green Card for GPUS's inefficiency; why make it hard to be a Green?

Lou N notes there are no individual members of GPUS – it's a coalition of state parties

okay, but he didn't know he had to do anything else to get national-party info when he first joined GPMI

we should have a welcome letter, too

Chuck L thinks info should go out with every SMM notice, & people shouldn't be taken off member lists until we try contacting them

Lynn M notes Membership Secretary and Treasurer were separated out when we couldn't find someone to do both jobs

Lou N thinks the real issue is the physical GPMI office – how the mail and the phones and all are handled

Art M maybe any mail dealing with membership could be re-routed to the Membership Secretary first

not changing physical office/mail drop, but changing the work/habits of the Clearinghouse Co-ordinator

membership right now is about 200 – about 100 off (no dues, no word, no nothing)

Derek G has one clarification . . . so you don't have to pay dues to be a member? right. . .

Chuck L thinks there shouldn't be a check or a litmus test of a dues waiver

the distinction was drawn some time back between

people who wanted to give us money but not be actively involved, voting members and

people who want to be actively involved, voting members even if they don't have money to give us

Harley M, Locals Liaison: sent in a report to Fred V back in January

tried to contact all locals listed on our Webpage . . . unless it was obvious they were actively meeting/etc . . . very few responses back

he suggested updating the Website to not show locals that people can't reach

AA, Detroit, Flint, Traverse City most active; Richard K's Macomb Co group; Hillsdale maybe

Ellis Boal & JoAnne Beemon aren't active, but they attend Traverse City

hasn't heard from Allegan Co – JALP will forward him their info again

need to be able to refer people to the nearest active local – or active person

Richard K suggests building bigger groups to make meetings & activities bigger (e.g., Detroit Metro tri-county)

Lynn M wonders if people will travel these days

Fred V thinks a tri-county meeting could work

Harley M is sure the Flint local would welcome anyone

maybe locals should inform their members of an area of

maybe 1/3 or so of our people don't have

JALP as Elections Co-ordinator . . . results available on SCC Files page . . . he'll post on Wiki soon too, now he can access it

Korine Bachleda re-elected Newberg Twp Supv (Cass Co)

Richard K says Scott Klein in Hamtramck is still

Art M notes current mayor of Ferndale (Craig Covey) was a Green, but rejected by some in the party because he also was a Democrat

Richard K notes a Sierra Club check did go to him (because of Richard's mistake with who was to get surveys)

Chuck L notes IRV still hasn't been implemented – "poison pill" clause on cost

Lou N asks why we would hold this one Council member accountable

an issue we need to discuss

JALP also asked for 2009 elections . . . Fred V notes 2 Greens running for Detroit City Council (Derek G is one of them)

Randym, treasurer (reporting by e-mail):

\$1,015.67 in admin account; \$5,647.80 in political account [but \$1,198 of that may be obligated to McKinney campaign]

also noted problem about phone . . . Lou N

"let me know who the new treasurer is" . . . Fred V confirms that he doesn't want to be re-elected to that

Fred V got bill from Eric B for work on SOTS response . . . about \$100 . . . should go to the treasurer

national representatives:

Lou N hits some highlights of NC votes since GPMI's last SMM

more recently – Jan 2009: proposal on fiscal policy of GPUS . . . failed (but budget was adopted)

proposal to suspend printing of hard-copy *Green Pages* . . . failed first time, then revised and passed (there's a PDF for printing)

elections to Green SCC & Green HCC . . . both 5-7 seats, but neither had enough candidates . . .

and both failed for lack of quorum (some wondered why vote at all if candidates < seats?)

may re-open the proposal

perhaps most important: proposal from EcoAction Committee on protecting water as a priority for GP at all levels

that passed overwhelmingly (only 1 no vote – and that was someone who felt the cmte should be able to act w/o the proposal)

strong stand against privatization of water (Nestle, Detroit Water Department, etc)

Richard K's very concerned about info going back & forth between our nat'l reps

little/no warning about GPUS's financial condition, NC borrowed \$\$ specifically designated for Ballot Access Committee

and whatever happened with the Elaine Brown issue?

(and why is Brent McMillan still there & now XD and Emily Citkowski has to go part-time?)

if we're supposed to promote transparency, this isn't a good start

Fred V can deal with Elaine Brown issue . . . no other states supported MI's resolution (min 3 states needed)

Lou N says, re openness & transparency, nat'l reps/delegates are often in the same position – staff refusing to answer, etc

there were apparently some executive sessions – but no detailed word out of them

change from Political Director to XD is minutiae – no additional roles or responsibilities involved

re financial position, that was another issue on which nat'l reps didn't get info

GPUS still in dire financial straits, but still passing budgets of about same size

all budgets are plans, subject to change – we shouldn't plan for shrinkage, but for growth (& raising more \$ to do it)

Doug C was a nat'l alternate at that time . . . says Emily Citkowski went part-time at her own request (baby at home)

almost every communication on the Brent McMillan situation is public now – he has them (if we really want to read them)

Fred V doesn't think it should be

Margaret G suggests using GPMI's political money for Derek G's Detroit City Council campaign

JALP notes probably not all of it

11:00 am-12 noon **Nominations for all state offices and officer elections**

[11:26 am]

chair

VC/committee mgr

VC/SCC whip

secretary/recordkeeper

treasurer

elections co-ordinator

membership secretary

locals liaison

clearinghouse co-ordinator

meeting manager

national (GPUS NC) representatives

GPUS committee reps

IC

EcoAction

PeaceAction

Merchandising

Presidential Campaign Support Committee

etc

nominees

chair: Fred V

VC/SCC whip: Art M

VC/committee mgr: Aimee S

secretary/recordkeeper: Margaret G JALP doesn't want to have 2 offices again . . . it's important to be a signer on state nomination documents . . . Margaret G volunteers to sign

elections co-ordinator: JALP

treasurer: Lou N

membership secretary: Chuck L
locals liaison: Harley M.
clearinghouse co-ordinator: [Lynn M.] or divide it up? – Richard K. is taking phone calls now (for Henry H) . . .
 Richard K. call it “corresponding secretary”? that’d take a by-laws change
meeting manager: Lynn M. well, let’s say she runs for that and
 Richard K. can be titular clearinghouse co-ordinator

[a pause to talk about ordering lunch . . . 2 places both do pizzas, salads, breadsticks with dips, & subs
 Priscilla D. is calling it in; Art M. will pick it up, taking Margaret G. so she can eat something sooner

double-checks: secretary can sign own nominating paperwork (if he/she is also a candidate)

now to the national level:

national representatives: F Linda M., Linda C. – Priscilla D.?
 Margaret G. as an alternate
 M Lou N., Matt A.? – Derek G.?

Derek G (who’s been on IC) expresses some interest
 discussion of 2 e-mail lists required to do this (and Richard K. points out being a national delegate also puts you on GPMI’s SCC)
 is there ever any effort at consensus? not that anyone knows of . . . everything always goes to a vote
 Doug C called Matt A, says he’d willing to be a rep though he’d prefer to be an alternate
 Lou N suggests Richard K; he’s willing to be an alternate
 Fred V wishes there were a list of state chairs; Doug C says there is one (for present and former chairs)
 Harley M’s willing to read the e-mails
 Lou N nominates Dianne Feeley as an alternate, contingent on her acceptance

final result:	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>
delegates	Linda M., Linda C., Priscilla D.	Lou N., Matt A., Derek G.
alternates	Margaret G., Dianne F.	Doug C., Richard K., Harley M.

GPUS committees:

IC: Alan K., Aimee S., Derek G.
 EcoAction Cmte: Linda C., Doug C., Lou N
 Merchandising: Linda M.
 PCSC: Harley, Fred V.
 ANMC: Matt A.
 Accreditation: Pete S.
 Green Senate CCC: _____
 Green House CCC: Lou N.
 Media Committee: Fred V., Aimee S.
 Platform Committee: Lou N., Derek G.

JALP asks about Peace Action . . . Chuck L not sure . . .
 so we’ll say we approve everyone now seated in any other existing committee, too

consensus

break before lunch [12:18 pm]

brief presentation from visitor/listener [local] Ken Grunberg (sp?) about recycling computers [≈ 12:40pm]
 keep them from going to a landfill
 though anything older than 5 years is probably trash . . .
 for any CRT or similar monitor, you may need to consider a disposal team
 he & his friends cover SE Michigan
 he also has a DVD – on the problem of toxic wastes (from PCs and otherwise) going to other countries
 23 minutes . . . maybe we can watch it tomorrow? no, it’s his only copy

his Website is: www.MotorCityFreeGeek.org phone: 248-495-7081
computer boxes are sold, but the software is always only licensed by the owner
the answer is Open Source Linux-based software

12 noon - 2:00 pm Tour and lecture per requirement of venue along with lunch, [12:52 pm]
tentatively agreed on with UHEAC (ofcr?) Election Committee may need to meet) <no need>

Cliff Scholes (sp?) . . . first, to support their grants for their energy programs, they need some basic info on their evaluation forms
their organization is also sponsoring an Earth Day Expo in Rochester 4/18-19

facility built about 30 years ago . . . using some of best solar design principles then known
local stones in building were put up/in by local people . . . very much a community effort
but also lots of thought about how to show the mission by the architecture

the meeting room is a good example of passive solar design – basically living inside a solar collector
windows facing S (N of the tropics/equator)
collecting surfaces, etc

talk about energy renewal always includes(/goes hand in hand with) conserving it, too
window quilts – aluminum mylar included; reflect & absorb heat, prevent loss
the clerestory windows above were intended to get heat back on the back wall – Cliff hasn't seen that, but it works to illuminate room
we don't need to convert light into electricity or anything else if we're using it for light, after all
no N walls in this building; N of the building is earth
not everyone has a hill into which to build a building, but most everyone has trees, etc – something to create a favorable microclimate
separate thermostats for separate rooms/areas (or, for forced-air heating, close off vents of unused areas)

also no problem keeping this place cool in summer . . . soil-covered, so naturally insulated vs sun
electricity use per capita up \approx 20% since 1970s, largely because of AC – here, they can open upper windows & let hot air out
opening lower windows too creates a sort of convection effect

there's a sweat lodge on the grounds, too – which is a reminder that design for solar energy isn't particularly new. . . .
overhang can block summer sun but tends to let in lower-angle winter sun
native Americans were always on a tight energy budget – choices were stark:
gather wood for fires or pick cave facing S to let sun do some of the work for them
to a squirrel, gathering nuts for the winter is preparing for an energy deficiency

chart of petroleum extraction . . . up to 2004 on actual extraction; after that, projected
population curve matches to a striking degree
with petroleum, 1 person can feed about 125 – never possible before then
1 gallon of gasoline is still cheap if you think of it in terms of the work it can do . . .
it's just that our economy has been designed on the presumption of that energy's being even cheaper – not likely, into the future

a few other things he wants to share:

demo of solar thermal collector . . . very simple but underrated technology, though they can be more complicated
sun comes in, heats metal, metal heats air, air rises out of vent, heats space
[vertical has advantages]

working versions would probably be 4' x 8' or so
can do the same sort of thing to heat water instead of air . . . pricey to start up (\$6-10k), but
recycling – not just conserving raw resources or landfill or cutting pollution, but an energy-conservation issue
recycling metal saves energy – key example: 95% energy savings when recycling aluminum
paper, glass, ditto

for every technical/manufactured article, there's a hole in the ground somewhere . . . a degraded environment

Pringle's vs actual potatoes as a particular example of how bad things got/were a few decades ago

in the old era of cheap energy, Pringle's was the better economic deal . . .

why do we call it an economy if it's based on waste?

wattmeter . . . 2/3 or so of electricity in MI comes from burning coal . . . less e- = less coal = less holes in ground, acid rain, etc
incandescent bulb wasn't intended as an ecological disaster – replaced whale oil, after all . . . but 90% of energy is heat
okay in winter, but in summer it adds heat you're trying to get rid of (75W is about 1/10 hp)

compact fluorescent bulbs actually outperform their rated values

8W (rated at 13W, probably does go higher to start up) vs 62W for rated-at-60W incandescent bulbs

95% of the mercury in CF bulbs is recoverable . . . and remember that the #1 source of environmental mercury is from coal

1 CF bulb has about 4mg of mercury – 1% of 1 amalgam filling in a tooth (mind you, it's in more dangerous vapor form)

cold-cathode CF bulb . . . lights an equiv of 45W, rated at 8W, drawing 3W; dimmable, as most CFs aren't, & long-lasting (18k-25k hrs)

can be less expensive[?] than LEDs, but . . . LEDs draw even less (1-2W) . . . lower truth in color than even CFs (about 82 or so)
light threshold
need to consider infrastructure as well – better if you don't have to buy all-new lamps, for example

[let's eat before visiting the roof]

Saturday, March 28 – Afternoon Session

2:00 - 3:00 pm Discussion on **current national/Michigan economic/political situation** & GPMI policy [2:39 pm]

Fred V recaps morning – election of full slate of officers

Kristen H asks where/when nat'l mtg will be – Raleigh/Durham, date TBA . . . cost may be held down by university site

Lou N works to print Fred V's "Program for Economic Crisis" (off/from the Wiki)

Fred V wants us to discuss it & come up with clear statements:

- 1) real safety net
- 2) alternative jobs plan
- 3) democratic foreign policy
- 4) future focus & grassroots democracy

Art M wants to add a 5th point along the lines of economic growth as a destroyer of the environment

Fred V puts it under

Doug C wants another category for tax policy

Richard K suggests lowering full-benefits age for SocSec to 62, maybe Medicare & Medicaid too

Karen S[?] suggests Medicare to age 0

new visitor David Stromany (sp?) – voted for some Greens – also interested in some changes to Medicare eligibility

Doug C points out the proposal as is falls short of our current platform

Carolyn D recently found out that lots of people (some from **far** outside Detroit) are profiting greatly from the housing/foreclosure crisis

discussion of the difference between government-run single-payer and "National/Universal Health Care [Access]" & the need to explain this

everyone's using the term "national health care" – the key points are how it's paid & how it's administered

record-keeping . . . a single system of computerized forms (but some loss in privacy)

GPMI is on more solid ground on who pays

better to talk about expanding Medicare than Medicaid . . . not need- or age-based anymore

Medicare is a recognized successful govt program . . . can we agree on "Medicare for all"? yes

for all **who are** unemployed

adequate **livable** income

MI's one of only 4 states that requires people to be legally employed before they can get workers' compensation

full legal rights for immigrants/[aliens/non-citizens]? . . . does that include the right to vote?

legal alien status instantly for all resident non-citizens?

police/sheriffs get more money from DHS for putting

automatically eligible for a green card once you get here? (might give you 2 yrs to apply for a regular visa?)

basic rights and protections available to all who apply for them, regardless of citizenship/resident status

all safety-net rights and protections available to all, regardless of citizenship

labor, economic, and human rights available to all, regardless of citizenship]

Doug C says don't bother mentioning "regardless of citizenship" unless challenged on the point

Matt A is concerned this is a waste of energy – this will be going to people who understand what we stand for anyway

what we need to do is elect people . . . even if as dogcatcher, etc.

Lou N thinks this is a way to frame issues for working toward electing people in 2010

Karen S agrees with Matt A . . . is Obama changing anything? no! what makes us think a platform is going to persuade anybody?

we need to get in the streets and get things done . . . from home food-growing to trade services, etc – doing some **real** things

Derek G thinks the reason for this is that, in order to elect anyone or recruit more members, we need to reach some agreement

everyone seems to be talking differently about what we think we agree on

<Karen S apparently walks out>

Margaret G thinks it's good we're coming up with short ways of saying things . . . show we have clear ideas

Ed Morin . . .

Richard K thinks we're all right & we're all wrong . . . we need a short slogan like "Change You Can Believe In"

we never lead in any of these struggles – e.g., cleaning up a river, fighting a new reactor at Fermi, helping RevP, even IRV in Ferndale
we need to build up from the neighborhood activities

JALP dunno if we'll get to his Public ParticiProject

but suggests, if we want an Obama-like short theme, how about "Government As If People Mattered"?

[5 words, like Oama's – before, we had a 4-word slogan: "Peace, Jobs, & Justice"]

Erik S thinks we are in the cut-bait part of the

Jim _ thinks this afternoon's talk is off the platform

Kristen H thinks "People Matter" is even shorter

Margaret G doesn't think that's long enough for Derek's campaign

Lou N has been going over the [unofficial] 2008 platform summary; of what we've been talking about today, only UHC is there

Matt A says – in Detroit – issues are: close incinerator, recycle, mass transportation; School District join with City?

HC isn't much of a city issue unless we open local clinics

maybe we need national, state, and local platforms

Derek G appreciates Margaret's support, but agrees with Matt A on there being different levels of issues/platforms

Fred V juxtaposes top-level support programs now with punishing Detroit & its people for not balancing the City budget

we're not going to pay for your crisis – you pay for it, and if you can't/won't we'll take your money to do it

we need to have – and be – a clear alternative to the bankers . . .

it's time for the people of this country to have/take [the] control – that's the point of the platform! . . .

Harley M agrees with what Fred V said – but what we really need is candidates . . . and we should start right now for 2010!

Jim _ . . . national job bank for 85% of [?] . . . go back to 70% progressive income tax . . . wage tariff on goods from Mexico/China/etc

Ed M thinks Ds don't know what to do about expatriated jobs; we could insist on job **repatriation**

it would get money back in the hands of workers, and revitalize the economy that way . . . not Buy American but Hire American

Chuck L likes Jim's idea . . . any goods sold must be made by people paid at least the minimum wage here (& env stds too)

moratorium on foreclosures forever, not just 2 yrs

Surjit D thinks we should shoot for universal coverage – simple, brief, and clear

Fred suggests a 10-minute break, then maybe more discussion, and deciding what we're going to do

the Platform Committee can detail/refine/etc

GPUS doesn't have a clear position on nationalizing the banks, etc

3:00 - 3:15 pm **Break** (write or amend resolutions, etc. for next session; {officer?!} election results) [3:42 pm]

3:15 - 4:00 pm **Conclusion of discussion** on current situation, resolutions, GPMI goals & proposals for action [4:03 pm]

Fred V suggests a few things we could do:

we could vote up or down on it as it is – and then let Platform Committee polish it as is

go over some particular points to reach consensus on them

or discuss how to use it with candidates, etc

Harley M doesn't see anything greatly wrong with what Fred V wrote – willing to vote up or down on that

JALP would like some discussion of how

Art M says, when we get to Green alternative jobs, it should cover more than just alternative energy

UHEAC speaker mentioned that, with cheap petroleum, we only have a few million people working in agriculture

10 calories of fossil fuel per 1 calorie

in a world of more expensive energy, we'll have to have more people working in agriculture

one way to do this may be to have the govt take over farmland (due to nonpayment by agribusiness, preferably)

and give land (or use for first 5 yrs) free to agricultural co-ops

that should be part of longer-term plan . . . Sharon Astic book (not yet published) will have more hints on that

Margaret G thinks Art's got a good idea – for MI

Lou N thinks there should be some brief discussion – at least about contradictions between this stmt and platform

Ed M thinks 1) should say "full legal rights for all, including immigrants" . . .

also, controlling invasive species could be good jobs (purple loosestrife & phragmyti that chokes out cattails) and a good issue

sanctions are a big can of worms; just say "stop subsidizing Israel"

his slogan idea: "End US Welfare for Israel . . . End US Warfare for Israel"

Erik S wants to include restoring the constitution and the rule of law in this stmt

Fred V thinks changing the text to make sure (and to say) it's consistent with our current platform is a friendly amendment

but trying to figure out how to go forward

press releases, could be used to develop
could go to GPUS (Durham), regional meeting WIGP will be hosting
Doug C nominates Platform Cmte to press its lapels and gives it a week
Richard K suggests putting this info on one side and the other side recruitment of members/candidates
Art M says he's willing
consensus on Fred V's acceptance of Doug C's idea (to send to Platform Cmte)

4:00 - 4:30 pm **Discussion on statewide committees and work** -- SCC, Program, By-Laws, *Green Light*, etc. [≈4:12? pm]

what's left on our agenda and what do we want to do first/next/etc?
resolution for People's Summit to coincide with national Economic Summit
Richard K has a tent, if someone else can help figure out how to put it up
Lynn M has a 12' x 15' tent with seeable-through sides
JALP asks if any cost? no

consensus

talk of MWRO's Detroit water-issue petition . . .
and they're also looking to spread the issue out beyond the city limits

Doug C has a couple of short proposals

but first, Alfonso (Fred & Margaret's friend/visitor) has a few comments
he's a member of Left Unity (a coalition with Socialists & Greens & others in Catalonia and all of Spain)
they have some members in national legislature, local councils, etc
this is a world crisis . . . can we mobilize people the world over in the years while it's here?
people losing jobs, and even the Zapatero govt gives \$\$ to banks, not people
they need very, very strong change – in the same situation as we are
all over Europe, there are movements/actions/strikes (situation even worse in Eastern Europe – e.g., Kosovo has 60% unemployment)

Doug C's proposals

- 1) Tooling Mfg & Technologies Assn has a stmt – basically it says we should do more to support our own industries
the stmt isn't 100% Green, but it does seek support from people of all countries
some support it; Margaret G thinks we should support jobs of workers all over the world, Chuck L thinks it goes with what he said
vote: 8-4 . . .
- 2) in the category of constituent service (and not very well-formed, but he wants us to think about what we do about such things in general):
e-mail re: noise situation on Woodward Avenue
things like this regularly come up – this one was from Alex Krentzin (sp?)
Fred V thinks we should write a letter to Craig Covey (maybe to each mayor along Woodward?) about the situation
JALP asks if it should be GPMI or a local . . . Fred V says whichever
Lou N asks what address Doug got it at? it was sent to a list . . .
Richard K says he got it twice, 1x as Doug's campaign mgr + 1x as Sierra Club
Erik S suggests it as a good issue for a local candidate . . .

Art M announces Platform Cmte members in this room

Chuck L, Fred V, JALP, Doug C, Priscilla D (& Art M) . . . and Margaret G volunteered, Doug C reminds

Fred V wants to have active committees in these areas:

- Media
- Website
- 2010 Elections
- Fundraising & Membership

JALP notes having committees meet can be a problem with membership overlap

Art M mentions the Lobbying Committee . . . issues

- another issue for Lobbying Cmte – whether or not to keep the block on new coal-fired plants
- JALP also raises Art M's idea of working with legislators on bills – in particular on requiring IRV

send \$100 to Rev P . . . was that money ever sent?

2/3 supermajority isn't democratic, either – like cloture in Senate

maybe okay for changing by-laws/etc, but why necessary for basic motions or limited spending?

Lou N agrees with Richard K on \$100 to RNC 8 . . .

but the other points he raises aren't about grassroots democracy; they involve responsibilities for individuals or groups to carry out regarding 2/3 supermajority, that's part of GPMI's overall consensus-based procedure

he thinks it's undemocratic to let 50%+1 to override the rights of 50%-1

Chuck L agrees we can do things to build responsiveness – e.g., require Treasurer to bring checkbook to SMMs

Ed M notes someone has to ride herd on treasurer, VC on committees

JALP wanted to know if “grassroots democracy” was the time to talk about his PPP proposal

how much longer are we going? general agreement on 6pm

Fred V wants to get 2 things done by then: let JALP give his presentation and give direction to all committees

(goes back again over some points on the latter first)

Lou N notes that, while people have volunteered to help with the Website, there are format/program problems

haven't done much with getting to the root of the problem

he'd point people to the DetroitGreens.org Website . . . built on Droople, a co-operative platform

you can sign up to be a contributor

he's opposed setting up a Website Committee separate from the Media Committee – he sees it as a subcommittee of that

JALP asks if there's a problem with the SCC/SMM approval requirement; Lou N points out the risk is similar

so Fred V proposes formally approving Lou N & Chuck L are

other previous people may still have accounts

Fred V wants Elections Committee to come up with a proposal to SCC, too

Detroit Greens had thought of a progressive summit

JALP says there is no committee now . . .

on the Media Cmte – well, there's the tour starting next month . . .

Richard K volunteers for an Election Planning Committee, asks if it can be authorized to call for candidates

Lou N feels a recruitment effort for gubernatorial candidates should be a bit more focused than handing out flyers on streets

Richard K anyone want to talk to Judge Thomas? Fred V suggests talking to Matt A on that

JALP describes his PPP in 2 minutes . . . to general doubts about what it's for & why he's presenting it

if for organizing, he needs an idea more of interest to Calhoun Co constituents . . .

an impressive amount of work, mind you . . .

Art M says let's close out the silent auction (as far as it can be closed out)

[≈6:15pm]

5:00 - 5:15 pm **Other business**, plans for the evening, review of Sunday agenda; final bids of silent auction [xx:xx pm]

5:30 pm - ? **Evening dinner together** [xx:xx pm]

10:00 - 10:15 am **Opening remarks and recap of yesterday's sessions** [10:22 am]

Fred V asks if Platform Cmte has a YahooGroup; Art M says it's MIGreenIssues
between that and the Wiki, the committee can aim to have a ready-for-consensus statement by end of week
Richard K mentions collected issues on easel sheets, Lynn M raises topic of slogan ideas as well

10:15 - 11:00 am **Discussion of 2008 election results and proposed election campaigns for 2009-2010** [10:26 am]

Richard K was pleased GPUS nominated CMcKinney, disappointed we couldn't raise \$5k in 20 states
unhappy about dictating who she could speak to in CO, stopping of ballot-access effort in UT
also unhappy GPUS didn't raise funds for CMcK before she was nominated
JALP agrees with most of what Richard K says, but concerned about not having party apparatus support one candidate over another
Priscilla D also thinks fundraising is a problem partywide
Margaret G asks if we can set up a fund for independent candidates
Lou N mirrors Richard K re Pres campaign – national party wasn't able to support CMcK as we all would have liked for many reasons
also agrees with him about CO
but MI did its part – raised \$5,000 to help try for matching funds; also had the only CMcK campaign ofc in the country
maybe reflected in Detroit-area races . . . Derek G, Clyde S et al
maybe the view is right that we need to focus on local races . . . lower level, maybe school-board races
Fred V renews mention of 68% higher with CMcK than with DCobb . . .
remember how much heat we took in 2004? no such hostility last year . . . (JALP asks if that's necessarily all good)
not sure what can happen about the national-party situation . . . in some ways, we're still trying to figure out how to be a national party
agrees with Priscilla D we have a fundraising problem – need to be less frantic about it, plan for it more
who can we get money, & what can we do to get it?
we could set a goal – e.g., \$10k or \$12k in political account by end of year
Art M thinks one perception problem we have is that lots of people expect us to be D-oriented, the L wing of the Ds trying, to influence Ds
that hurts us because some people say they'll support us and then vote Ds
and because others would support us if they didn't think we were a front for the Ds or otherwise associated with them
maybe every public statement we make has to say we oppose, not only this/that D candidate/position, but the Ds and 2-party system
Priscilla D says – 2 of 3 times CMcK was in the state, Priscilla D spent a lot of time with her . . . some things CMcK said:
it seemed to her (CMcK) that Greens seemed almost to be afraid of asking people for money
GPMI is "way more" organized than even GPCA – "had our shit together" was the phrase she used
about campaigns – maybe more important than low level is targeting of specific races
e.g., George Corsetti ran against CCKilpatrick because it was a good time to do so
also, it's a good thing to run the same person for the same position – name recognition (& re-using yard signs, adds Art M)
Margaret G had good conversations with Obama campaigners who came to her house – lots of young black women
one wanted to be sure to get/remember her address – said she'd come back after the election
good experience at the polls, too

Fred V moves forward to 2 candidates in Detroit City Council race in 2009 – doesn't think we can win, but we can make a good showing
MWRO & Call 'Em Out don't have candidates this year . . . Gwen Gaines has been asking if Detroit Greens had anyone
primary is in August
JALP asks if one-candidate strategy from state ed-board races can help?
Richard K saw an article in paper saying 200 or so people had taken out petitions . . .
maybe a strong early campaign can get a candidate through the primary
also notes Sierra Club is looking to get into the race – incinerator is their issue there
but candidates have to start now – raising money, showing up at meetings to talk to groups, etc
Priscilla D asks if Sierra Club supported Maureen T last time?
Richard K dunno, but says at least between him & Art M they want to show they're not hostile
Lynn M thinks JALP has a good point/question . . . would 2 split our vote?
Lou N thinks voting for 9 would minimize
Fred V thinks anyone for us would only strongly support 1 current Councilor – Joanne Watson
Margaret G is very interested in Derek & Clyde's race – but she & Fred won't be here in June or July
as for the governor's race . . . Fred V spoke well yesterday, but she has a feeling his being a white man is a drawback
maybe if Derek G does a good job in the Council race, maybe he could be a good candidate for governor
coming back to

Art M thinks we should be open to the possibility that not-previously-GPMI people will show up and want to run as Greens
SPMI, Call 'Em Out, etc, etc
unless we have a really good previously-involved Green, we should welcome that – if there is one, it'll be a contest
we should welcome people who want to use our ballot line (some twinkling) – he thinks criticism of that possibility is wrong
Richard K – on the governor's race . . . he was wondering if there were any maverick Ds we could recruit
Hansen Clarke [has been working with the Moratorium Now people . . . & term-limited out of St Senate]
maybe some people could talk to him (Fred V says he'll talk to DSole about talking to HClarke)
he's at least part Native American
or Judge Thomas . . . maybe Matt A cold talk
JALP notes he's set up MIGreens-EPC YahooGroup, invited Richard K (volunteer) & Aimee S (VC/committee chair)
any limit to membership? LouN suggests current members
Richard K asks if Rev. Harry Cook would be approachable now that he's retiring
his church had Kucinich last time around; they have had anti-war meetings there, too, notes Art M
Fred V offers another possibility – an open letter to Michael Moore . . . but not just from us
as a way to gather folks & talk about the gap more than as expecting him to actually run
he'll be at the Taylor D Club soon . . . for \$100 wine-and-cheese event
Richard K suggests Tom Mair might be a good approach contact for MMoore
Margaret G likes the idea of a letter . . . maybe get others to sign it on 4/27
a public letter would be more
Lynn M asks if it might talk him into running as a D? fair point
JALP says there's a limit to the image-boosting effect of local races, especially school-board races, because they're non-partisan
not impossible to make the point, but it takes that much more work
Priscilla D says her impression of Tom Mair's impression of MMoore is that he changes his mind/views now and again
Fred V will be up there for the tour soon – maybe can talk with him . . . or maybe ask who he would/wouldn't support
Richard K went to a campaign training session with Lynn M – one thing they said: the best way to ask for money is in person
Priscilla D makes sure targeting some races doesn't mean blocking any other would-be candidates
Lynn M suggests not forgetting the State Senate races – all seats up, 30 or so of 38 term-limited

5-minute break suggested at

11:15 am

11:00 - 11:30am **Building GPMI locals**

[11:25 am]

HVG had a speaker from MA (Aimee S knew him) who had a perspective on how to build locals
it's worth talking about – as is Richard K's idea
the only local Fred V knows that has pretty big attendance regularly (10-15) is TBWG
Tom M had a position with the Parks Commission, Susan O teaches at the university there
without beating ourselves up about the problem, maybe we can talk about it
Fred V says more people when elections
Lynn M says Tamarack Greens (in W Washtenaw Co) had 6-8 mbrs at one point
but everyone's involved with so many other things – nobody has a lot of time
interest has peaks and valleys – elections are often a peak . . .
they were doing movies with the local bookstore . . . got 8-10 people, but didn't promote Greens so much as issues
she gave up on it after Kurt died
Lou N has had the same kind of experience as Fred V & Lynn M
he was very interested in ideas for between-elections activities such as petitions for legislation, film series
JALP mentions Hillsdale's music festival, K'zoo Greens chili cook-off
Richard K says his running around being visible gets some word out/around
cf Progress Michigan . . . annual meeting 1,500
if your word is out, people are more likely to think of you – and contact you – when trouble hits
Priscilla D says every event has a sign-in sheet . . . she always puts down "Green Party" for group, mentions it in self-introductions, etc
use any opportunity like that to
and – can she say this now? – when she was starting with MWRO, she was introduced as being with Sweetwater Alliance
now MWRO is trying to draw Greens into a broader social alliance at a meeting in its office . . . tomorrow 12 noon - 3pm
Lynn M is reminded of the banners we voted to have made . . . and she has 1 set of 10KV sunflowers/daisies, dunno where the other one is
Art M says a decade or two ago, he & George held meetings of a group called Left Unity[?] . . . they got 100-150 people to visit authors
maybe today's equivalent is a speaking tour with hosting locals for decent (and not too high-charging) author
who'll tolerate our hosting/traveling options' if we could get a theoretical schedule for a visit, we could package it better for authors

Priscilla D says maybe we could also try to capitalize on visits to the state that good authors are already happening to make
JALP suggests co-ordinating with when locals have their regular/business meetings
Fred V is trying to have a speaking tour the first half of next month or so

as for *Green Light*, Fred V wants to make some print issues but mostly Web-based (maybe monthly?) – needs more people to write for it

do we want to set any goals around locals? build new locals, reconstitute old locals

JALP suggests county ~~co-ordinator~~ contacts (replacing defunct locals in covering state area) can be nuclei for locals
reconstitute the “local kit”? (founders’ form, [welcome ltr], GPML by-laws, sample local by-laws)

give approved contact people info on members/contacts as possible

Margaret G thinks yesterday’s short stmt about the economic crisis is key; wants to set & reach goals based on that before other goals

Lynn M wants more info about the upcoming event from Derek G

on locals, is there anyone who used to be active in K’zoo who could be contacted there while Fred V’s coming back from tour?

and should he talk to Pat Foster as well as Rev P? he’ll look into it

Richard K asks if we couldn’t combine Margaret G’s focus on flyer, Art M’s drive for speakers, & last yr’s recruit-on-campus idea

Art M thinks if we could print the polished statement on one side of paper with small membership block, could use to recruit
and then

JALP suggests printing with admin funds, then having campaigns “pay” for those pages as back-pg raw material for their flyers

Art M was thinking of printing first one side and then the other with all political funds

Fred V wants to know if we have any organizational expression of these ideas

Lou N thinks build the ideas into/[mention during] his tour . . . also thinks better to try re-activating old locals than building new ones

Margaret G wants the flyer done/printed before Fred V’s tour

Richard K cautions against having all these great ideas and not implementing them . . . he’d like us to actually execute 1-2 of these

he suspects Detroit people will quickly get tied down in Derek G & Clyde S’s campaigns . . .

which might leave people from the rest of the state to do the work

Lynn M will volunteer to [take responsibility to] get the banners printed

Art M thinks it’s better to have someone responsible for holding a fundraiser rather than for raising a particular amount such as \$1,000

he also disagrees that **none** of our ideas have been carried out or have worked . . .

Fred V will take responsibility for *Green Light* & flyers

two banners will say “Green Party of Michigan” and sunflower . . . Fred V wants one

Art M wants to know if there are actually any outstanding CMcK campaign bills

Fred V wants to check – notes they did pay some people to work the polls . . . in fact, we paid more than the Obama folks (\$10/hr)

a big chunk of that, probably at least \$800 or so, can go back

JALP clarifies that this means the account will have, not \$800 more, but only about \$300 less

Art M also wants to ask what will happen with the Website . . . do we need to allocate money for moving it to a new platform?

Lou N’s glad to know the Media Committee is behind the switch to Droople

the platform has a nominal \$15/month fee that could become a donation in kind

the Website Subcommittee will have a presentation when more is ready

Fred V’s tour: F 4/11 in Marquette . . . Su 4/13 in Traverse City . . . Benton Harbor, Lansing?/Flint? aiming to be back by 4/18

maybe add Detroit Greens meeting? 3rd W is 4/16

JALP mentions Allegan Co, K’zoo possibilities too

[finance note: bagels/juice/etc paid for, yesterday’s lunch may have to be made up out of admin fund]

[Lou N plans to meet with Randym 7:30pm W at People’s Food Co-op

he’ll also be writing a letter to members & as wide a list as he can get

introducing self as new treasurer, reviewing activities today, & asking for contributions of \$\$/time/effort/\$\$

Richard K asks how much is owed ArtM? \$42 . . . how much for building? \$50 . . .

and what about the waiver of the \$275[?] GPUS owed us? it didn’t pass . . .

we don’t know if that’s the total amount of the waiver because we haven’t heard from GPUS since then

the silent auction was aimed at raising \$\$ for GPUS . . . may yet hit \$100

Fred V also mentions that CMcK & Rosa Clemente are both available for tours

Hasan Dowash is very interested about having CMcK in – arrangements still being worked out . . .

typically it takes 6-9 months for a university to raise \$\$ and make other arrangements for a speaker like Rosa Clemente

Art M asks how much money? . . . basically thousands, not hundreds

so (e.g.) it would be well to start now for Black History Month 2010

it was easier to bring CMcK in when she was a candidate – lesser conditions then, of course

we could do it – but it would take a lot of work . . . do we want to do it? need to start to think about it

Art M says first do what we know we're going to do in the next month, then

Lynn M thinks Rosa C is a great person to bring to campuses (Priscilla D adds CMcK too – Lynn M agrees, but thinks Rosa C is better)

Fred V suggests we need to make a commitment to start by the first of June talking about a college tour for Rosa C (or CMcK)

Richard K wonders if we could bring them in by ourselves? Fred V thinks not

Fred V adds Rosa C has been punished more in terms of personal income for running as a Green (more of her avenues closed)
true for CMcK too, though . . .

JALP asks to clarify is first of June time to make our commitment to do it or not, or just to start working seriously on it

11:30 am - 12 noon **Building the GPMI in work with other groups** [12:23 pm]

Fred V notes we've already talked about this somewhat

it's largely a result of Richard K & Bill O working with the Grey Panthers – but being a bit too pantherish, perhaps
he doesn't think we can resolve things now, but maybe we need to think more about how we can do it

Richard K says the trouble is there isn't a concrete strategy for growing the party – so people who try something are winging it on their own
e.g., he got totally messed up around/about Hal Newman . . .

and the situation with Bill O & Grey Panthers (and possible CMcK visit/speech) was totally messed up

but the people with the Grey Panthers were at least friendly with him at IBEW

Lou N asks if some of what we talked about today hasn't gone in that direction? yes, Richard K thinks so

JALP thinks this is part of the institutional/structural advantage of Ds & Rs

they don't have to work at this anymore/[as much] because they've done it before

more an explanation than an excuse – and maybe a reminder to us not to get too discouraged about our problems in this area

12:30 - 1:00 pm **Final thoughts and plans for next SMM** [12:30 pm]

all we have left to do is clean up

1:00 pm **Optional lunch together** [xx:xx pm]

Proposed SMM Rules

1. Remarks from delegates are limited to 3 minutes. No one speaks twice before everyone who wants to speak as spoken.
Effort made at gender and racial balance in speaking rounds.
2. Officer reports should be in writing and submitted 30 days prior to the event. Officer reports are limited to 5 minutes.
3. Elections for contested offices held by STV.

SMM Needs Not Yet Addressed

1. Volunteers for continental breakfast Sat and Sun
2. Volunteer to coordinate with Uplands Center on required talks to group
3. Volunteer to chair and volunteer for stackkeeper for Saturday morning session
4. Fred will chair Saturday afternoon session, need volunteer stackkeeper
5. Volunteer to chair and volunteer for stackkeeper for Sunday morning session
6. Timekeeper for each of the three sessions (Sat morning, Sat afternoon, Sunday morning)
7. Volunteer to coordinate security for SMM (remember last incident with Corporal America)
8. Computer hookup so others can participate (Erik Shelley?)