

Saturday, March 12 (coffee etc by Detroit Greens)

9:00am - 9:45am [ 9:11am] reports from all officers, including national delegates

Fred V goes over agenda

jalp suggests organizing next meetings

and says he'll stay (rather than go on bus tour) to talk with anyone about what should be in the next platform

Fred V goes over his report

USSF & GPUS meeting

candidate Elena Herrada appointed to school board, now running in this year's election

she's studying for a master's in social justice at Marygrove

wave of uprisings

throughout the Middle East

in Wisconsin (and other states) – social tumult good for Greens?

he has some proposals in his report

Lou N not quite ready to give treasurer's report

Derek G's report as membership secretary

his computer broke down, so he couldn't invite newer members – part of why fewer people here, maybe

Candace C mentions new member Sharon Feldman

Fred V[?] notes there was an error on the return address on the postcard

jalp reads his report (not in the packet)

touches on what was in the packet – his reaction to Green Party Rising pages, & what he thinks we should do next to move forward

disagrees with Fred V – doesn't believe Art M's report was about passing *bullet points*, but a full platform

Candace C[?] had some Qs about state ballot question – the one about keeping felons from being elected; aimed at Rev P?

it was Tupac Hunter's proposal, aimed at Kwame Kilpatrick – extended the ban to those convicted of wrongdoing in *local* office

Lou N now ready for treasurer's report

local candidates drove local revival in metro Detroit counties

notes report in packet from Charlie S re revived Kent Co party

talks about he & Dianne F not being on the sample ballot due to Wayne Co Clerk's Office clerical error

reprinted over 10,000 new ones (with instructions that obscured who was at fault)

the most notice the press has given GPMI since we've been on the ballot

we gave \$1,900 to 7 candidates [get names?]

and some slate cards . . . about \$230

political account: \$6,340.99

admin account \$ 303.47 (paying \$60 AT & T bill

\$6,644.46

we have more left than he thought we should have had

Julia W: we have this fund, but why don't we start thinking about investing it to get more interest from new members?

need to start tweeting, etc

Lou N can't answer – he'd like to give more to some . . . though some didn't want to top \$1,000 overall

Julia W's talking about targeted kinds of events – why aren't we blanketing every campus in the tri-county with our values?

Lou N says we have the materials

Candace C thinks it's a good idea but we have to be careful to do it personally

she took a sample ballot to where they were registering people at a community college

will the papers take our money? . . .

Lou N says this sounds like a longstanding Green discussion between electoral and movement focuses

individuals can act – the party has different requirements and procedures

Lloyd C wanted to know what we spend on the phone annually

Lou N says a monthly fee in the \$60 range – a business account to hold things down by putting it on a per-call basis  
Lloyd C takes those calls – says there just aren't a lot of calls, and many of them  
:Lloyd C also wants to know how we identify our paid-up members (vs folks in arrears, etc)  
Lou N says the main mechanism is people come in via registration at meetings or mailing  
Lynn M (mtg mgr) gets info in, hands it to Derek G (mbrshp sec'y) who updates our lists, and checks go to Lou N as treasurer  
Fred V asks if membership secretary wasn't sending out notices at some time  
Julia W suggests an e-mail notice to save postage – maybe even make having an e-mail a requirement  
jalp says Ellis B thought he'd asked for matching funds too  
Lou N says he doesn't remember hearing from Ellis . . . we'll follow up

national reps . . . Fred V will be brief

there's been a lot of votes on not-so-important things, a few votes on more important issues

GPUS 2011 annual meeting in Alfred, NY in early August [. . . August 4-7]

Lou N adds that we did get a GPUS platform updated (though it's a messy process and some folks disagree strongly)

the rules have been changed a bit since 2008

also, there was an effort to recall 2 Steering Committee members for removing a vote from the system

his understanding is that they felt this was an administrative matter – but their silence when asked about it was significant

just before the recall was to go to a vote, the 2 resigned . . . which also upset some folks

just had an election to refill those seats

Clements from WV, Liemi (sp?) from AZ

Fred V says we average 2-3-4 votes on each issue (out of 6)

Julia W asks how to find out about this stuff; you can observe – or be a rep (or an alternate); we have elections coming up

Julia W would still like more word about what's going on to be spread around

Lou N says the NC does do that – the archives of the NC mailing list is there, he thinks

no minutes, but 2 lists – a discussion list and a votes list

Derek G wants to resign as membership secretary – but if nobody's willing to fill the position, he might stay on

it's not a lot of work, but it's work that has to be focused

Fred V reviews list of officers

jalp asks if we're going to shift to elections from proposals next

#### 9:45am - 10:15am [ 9:53am] address motions from reports

from [Co-]Chair's report

##### (1) ad hoc team to work on a plan for GPMI

Fred V says GPMI is better organized than other state parties

but our membership is down, and we don't have any part of our organization built for growth

Lloyd C thinks we had a group like this at one time . . . but he'll second this proposal

Candace C thinks this process should include phone conferences of the type candidates had during last year's campaign

Fred V's looking for 3-5 people; 7 might be fine, but too many might make progress harder

serious work but short-term (by the next meeting)

he'll start circulating a sign-up sheet

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

##### (2) hire GPMI member to do Web work for us

well, look at GPMI members first

Lou N doesn't know if we can use the political account for this – but we can move money from political to admin, not the other way

one person really working on this

Lou N would like to broaden this a bit – maybe the person could also help maintain the membership database

could do that, Fred V agrees . . . depends on how much we're willing to spend

he adds we paid polling-place workers more than Ds did

Matt de H wants to take a hard look at the method we have for taking donations – we're financing other

but it would be good to have information behind the Website available only to us

Fred V thinks we need 2-3 people to take this on

Lloyd C suggests Matt de H; he's an amateur, but interested . . .

the main point isn't the tools, but keeping the site up

jalp asks if we're looking at this as permanent – Fred V says no, let's go for about 6 months and re-evaluate

Fred V says let's agree now to

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

now, who wants to work on figuring out what's to be done, etc?

Lou N, Derek G, and Matt de H

get a packet done within 2 wks? Lou N asks for a month; Fred says by April 12 max

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

### (3) updated membership trifold

our old one is Bush-era . . . it's an insufficient answer now to say Ds and Rs are the same

jalp's busy

Dianne F liked the NY statement on taxes . . . if we're going to put out something in the next six months, we should do one like that

Lloyd C would add the Oregon initiative to that . . .

Julia W – related to that, there's a wonderful analysis on DKos

an investigation on the legislature & who they get their money from

NY Greens did/are doing that . . .

Fred V can work on a *Green Light* on that – but the trifold is meant to be more timeless (good for the year at least)

Candace C says we should focus on tax breaks for corporations, not for "the rich" – some at liberal roundtable feel they're rich

Fred V says no one right or wrong way to write the trifold, but . . .

Matt de H notes to some extent, the fewer words on those the better

Lloyd C says he & Matt attended the labor rally on 2/23 (he was there on Th too)

that would have been a good place to hand out lit . . .

Tu next week the AARP is rallying, W there's a big union push

Fred V suggests there'll be more rallies . . .

Dianne F will work on the rewrite – and on having something right out

Julia W will go Tu morning (rally is 11am-1pm) . . . W will be a big one, we can really reach out

Dianne F asks: could we send around a sign-up sheet for who can come on Tu or W?

Lou N will start one with three columns

Matt de H points out all we really need to update is the "timely issues" section (half a panel or so)

Fred V wants us to have a trifold done in two weeks

Dianne F will work on the trifold, jalp will chip in a couple of ideas

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

### (4) review and vote on bullet points of platform at the SMM

Fred V now says Art M's request was for a full update of the platform

jalp suggests what we've just talked about can handle short-form stuff, we can focus on full platform

so Fred V's suggesting two aspects – a short bullet-points document and a full platform

jalp suggests doing the big one first . . . but with input from the shorter-term efforts we've set in motion now

Fred V's not aware of any strong political agreements

jalp will be Platform Cmte chair

and by next SMM he hopes to have a presentation on a draft

some discussion on line

this kind of handles the proposal from the Platform Committee Chair's report

Lynn M points out silent auction table . . . make any bid you want

jalp wants to make sure the body knows he may not be a great EC as well at the same time – okay

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

### Election Co-ordinator's report

(1) when to have the convention (and caucuses)

(2) whether to vet or not

Fred V says we don't need to decide these things now  
jalp says he's committed to an early convention; can't be EC without it  
Julia W feels she was hampered by the late start – to get attention, you have to be official  
George C was one of the opponents of the earlier convention  
    there's nothing to prevent us from announcing earlier as Ds and Rs do  
    he doesn't think being official is a panacea (as he thinks some of us feel it is)  
Julia W agrees, but says it's at least timely . . . in line with the "Vichy parties"  
jalp agrees with both – official candidacy isn't a cure-all, but it is essential  
    [on break we talked about Ds' early vote on preferred candidates for top ofcs, GPMI's attempt to have "recognized" candidates]

Aimee S (now here) mentions one outstanding point of business  
    calculation for quorum was never determined for it . . . the money for Detroit-to-Dakar  
Lou N says that's moot now

**10:15am - 11:30am** [00:00am] **election of officers**

Lynn doesn't want to be Mtg Mgr . . .

jalp asks about update on mediation for/between Rev Pinkney and Luanne Kozma . . .  
    saying he sees it as related to Rev P's position as honorary co-chair  
Fred V says it's all over with, neither Rev P nor Luanne even care about it

chair: Fred V  
    anyone else? not now

vice chair/SCC whip: [Aimee S (resigned)]  
vice chair/committees: x

there's a lot of positions here – Dianne F(?) asks do we need them all?  
    Lou N says there's a lot of positions because there's a lot of work

Lloyd C suggests go thru & see who's willing to stay, who's interested in coming in

Lou N's willing to keep or resign treasurer  
    secretary: theoretically Margaret G

going through the lists . . .  
    jalp is Platform Cmte chair

Derek G thinks Aimee S should stay on the GPUS Int'l Cmte

let's talk about national delegates (6, 3 men & 3 women)

Lou N	Linda C
Derek G	Priscilla D
Doug C	[Linda M]

Lou N says other states have rules saying alternates can jump in the last 24-48 hrs of an NC vote; we haven't been that formal about it  
Aimee S willing to be an alternate

membership secretary: Sharon Feldman (new mbr here) volunteers

Lloyd C asks if we want to appoint Rev P going forward

Lynn M thinks we should consider a female [for chair?]; general agreement that we should  
Aimee S wants to nominate Derek G for [co-]chair

Matt de H asks what vice chair/SCC does

Candace C nominates him for that

Derek G nominates Lou N for vice chair/committees

Lloyd C volunteers for Locals Liaison

Lynn M will continue to take care of mail, etc for Clearinghouse Co-ordinator

recordkeeper/secretary . . . Fred V says Margaret G will be happy to keep signing forms

meeting manager: Fred V nominated himself; anyone else? no

so Fred V will withdraw as (co-)chair candidate to serve as meeting manager

he's not sure what to do about Rev P issue

Lou N suggests handling it separately

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

sentiment for a break

Dianne F wants a bit of discussion on the state situation before the bus trip

recap of elections:

Chair	Derek Grigsby
Vice-Chair/SCC Whip	Matt de Heus
Vice-Chair/Committee Manager	Lou Novak
Treasurer	[still Lou, too?]
Recordkeeper/Secretary	Margaret Guttshall
Locals Liaison	Lloyd Clarke
Membership Secretary	Sharon Feldman
Clearinghouse Co-ordinator	Lynn Meadows
Meeting Manager	Fred Vitale
Elections Co-ordinator	[still John Anthony La Pietra, just not as active at the moment?]
[Webmaster]	[Lou N, Derek G, and Matt de H to form cmte to describe the job; Matt de H is interested in it]

GPUS NC Reps (6 – 3 F, 3 M) Linda Cree, Priscilla Dziubek, Linda Manning Myatt; Doug Campbell, Derek Grigsby, Lou Novak

GPUS NC Rep Alternates (6) Aimee Smith

GPUS Committee Reps (misc):

Accreditation Committee –

ANMC (Annual National Meeting Committee?) –

By-Laws Committee –

EcoAction Committee –

Green House Co-ordinated Campaign Committee –

Green Senate Co-ordinated Campaign Committee –

International Committee – [Derek G hopes Aimee will stay on it; sounded like he's been on, too]

Media Committee –

Merchandising Committee –

Peace Action Committee –

Platform Committee –

PCSC (Presidential Candidate Search Committee?) –

. . .

GPMI Committee:

Platform Committee (only standing committee [in the GPMI by-laws] acted on today) – John Anthony La Pietra, chair;  
signed up to work on re-draft: Lloyd Clarke, Dianne Feeley, Lou Novak, Aimee Smith

By-Laws Committee –

Media Committee – [jalp too?]

[Elections Group isn't a standing committee in the by-laws . . . or maybe it'd be jalp three]

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[10:54am] break

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[11:10am] back from break

six hands raised to go on the bus trip –

Aimee S suggests others go to Cass Café

Dianne F thinks what would help is to develop some feed for the flyer next week, the trifold, and the platform

a little bit of a political discussion – see if we're all on the same page or if we have some unique ideas

Fred's going to put things down on the flipchart

what do we see as the solutions? (Dianne wants to look at that side of things before we list the problems)

jalp notes \$1.7B increase in personal taxes, \$1.8B decrease in corporate taxes – not “shared sacrifice” to him; re-balance

Matt de H suggests taxing consumption instead of income – to roll back influence of corporations

because of the money involved, businesses demand more influence in politics – eg,

near a chemical bloom, you can't do epidemiological studies

and you can't test animals to see if chemicals have built up

corps aren't human beings, so we shouldn't collect taxes from them or accept their influence as if they were

Sharon F suggests progressive income taxes

Matt de H notes the last administration had a habit of picking businesses/industries to give breaks; Snyder at least avoids that

avoid tax loopholes

Lou N suggests full employment through a jobs bill

Aimee S: boycott the big banks

Julia W: spending for jobs, in a New Deal program, rather than on the banks

Matt de H: fully fund education

Julia W: stop spending on the war to

one thing Cheney was right about – deficits don't matter . . . but don't buy into deficit-hawk argument, use savings to cut deficit

George C: people who aren't employed aren't buying anything – without that, there's no end to the economic collapse

like during the Great Depression

Aimee S: copy the Vermont strategy towards single-payer to control health-care costs

boycott all the big-box, non-local businesses

also takes a bit of issue with George C, we need to propose a whole different kind of economy –

a different model from “sustained growth”

state bank? gaining attention – ND has one; Candace C says idea used to be popular with Confederate states

Candace C mentions “transition cities”– buying local, etc, etc (need a better name)

Lloyd C: instead of governor's proposal to tax seniors' pensions, maybe raise sales tax to 7% to tax corps & the rich

Julia W: regressive?; Matt de H: depends on how we apply it – could exempt food, etc

Dianne F notes Snyder's proposal of 6% corp tax – compare US 91% income tax there used to be on corporations & the rich

we need to point out that both Ds and Rs have responsibility

Julia W: need to support collective bargaining . . . democracy!

Candace C wants to put in something about credit unions – local, secure, etc

Aimee S: there's what we would do if we were in power, and there's what we can do right now

if we actually have a mix of those, we're more credible

Fred V: the safety net – many states are cutting down on Medicaid, HC for homeless adults,

jalp says we might need fewer prisons if we had better defense for indigents; Lou N: end the drug war!

Aimee S: end the War on Terror, too . . . local LEOs could refuse to participate

Dianne F wants to do a draft tonight

Fred V says the

Sharon F suggests: if you're feeling frustrated/helpless/etc, join us (or join our discussion

Matt de H says there was an article just after the elections saying Green Party needs to evolve past \_\_\_\_\_

Dianne F has a pile of a leaflet she likes (not Green – from US Labor Against the War)

we start breaking up, so bus riders can get to Central Methodist by noon . . .

we won't necessarily all meet back here – bus riders will come back here after, but let's clean up the room now  
discussion will continue at Cass Café

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[11:35am] meeting splits up for the day

**12 noon - 4:00pm** [00:00xm] **grassroots bus tour of Detroit neighborhoods**

as part of preparation for larger PMA [? post-meeting activity?]

many Detroit organizations participating . . . \$20

**4:30pm - onward** [ 0:00pm] **return and dinner – together if we want**

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**Sunday, March 13**

**9:00am - 10:15am** [ 9:13am] **the road forward 2011-2012: nationally**

review, and possibly vote to endorse the Green Party Rising documents

Fred V says 12 people editing Dianne F's flyer is too much, but we need to approve money to get it printed, etc  
jalp printed a copy, offers to read it . . . but first, discussion of what should be in it and how to use it

Margaret G thinks we can say something really simple – money for people, not for corporations . . . this is way too long

Candace C agrees on simple – would like to start with the last paragraph of the draft, so people will read it

Julia W thinks one thing we can do is focus on MI issues – agrees with Margaret that we need to make it personal

Matt de H suggests protect democracy, put people first

Julia W points out \$1.8B cut for corps wipes out \$1.7B from people, leaves us still in financial problems

Lloyd C asks if Dianne F is coming; Julia W thinks she was planning to

Fred V says we need to show how Greens are different from other parties

in Detroit, usually half-page flyer

agrees with Lloyd – first, tell people we're on their side; then say what we're talking about

as Lou said yesterday, look at WI – if they recall Rs, what are they going to do next, elect the Ds who got them into this

we may need to have two-sided flyer (or two flyers), but one of them should be really short

Candace C also points out we need to say every time that we're on the ballot – people really don't know

Lloyd C adds we need to invite them to run as Greens, too

Matt de H says it seems to him that alliteration works

Greens provide a real alternative

he likes the two ways to find us . . . on the Web and on the ballot

Candace C says Ireland has a new party named People Before Profits – they elected 4 to Parliament

Matt de H mentions

Lloyd C, Julia W, Matt de H can get together with Dianne F

Matt de H suggests (as one who's not going to be there) bringing clipboards and getting people's names

Margaret G wants to adopt the six lines on the board, have the writers add only three

"money for the people, not the corporations" should be one of the three, she thinks

Lou was trying to get lines down from the discussion; wouldn't object to rewriting them

\* Don't let them take your pension or your worker's rights (or your vote!)

\* Don't keep electing Democrats and Republicans

\* Vote Green

\* We're on your ballot

\* Put your name there

\* migreens.org 313-777-5555

Candace C notes that every county has an emergency manager (in case of floods, fires, etc) – this isn't what the emgcy financial mgr is  
Lynn M would prefer not to use "don't" when we can avoid it – so maybe

\* "Protect your pension and your worker's rights"

\* "Vote Green, *not* Ds & Rs"

Sharon F says we need to let people know where we're at, where we want to take them, and what the outcome will be  
jalp asks if we know how much the printers we know of (Dianne F knows a fast union printer) would cost for how many  
the general agreement is to leave it to the ad hoc committee and have them ask for reimbursement

Fred V reminds those who are going they have the state banner

Julia W suggests she'll plan to stop at a party store to get material for possible posters

this rally is already on her Facebook page

we think the rally times are both roughly 9am-1pm

jalp double-checks officer elections: Lou N is still treasurer, jalp is preserved as EC for now at least

Lynn M introduces Reagan(!) (M) from Jackson, who e-mailed her asking how he could get involved with the Greens  
we introduce ourselves around to him

Fred V introduces the Green Party Rising papers

a bunch of people got together after the GPUS annual meeting in Detroit last year

he notes activity of Lou N and Linda C on the national list[s]

jalp concerne that there isn't enough substance in these documents for GPMI to endorse  
but doesn't want his "PowerPoint corrupts absolutely"

Fred V wants to think about having an upcoming SMM be a regional meeting

Lou N suggests another opportunity would be the national meeting in NY . . . maybe party

Julia W doesn't have any love lost for GPUS – never got responses to any requests for help  
she'd rather focus on growing a stronger state party

Candace C thinks we're leading the way in some ways – bus trip yesterday for inclusiveness

one point of concern from that, though: where did the idea come from that Korea was trying to buy up land in Detroit?

Reagan thinks it's important not to make the same mistake as a state party

he got connected by doing a lot of reading, then trying to get activated

paid dues, sent an e-mail, never heard back . . . tried to contact Webmaster, then looked for a nearby local

disconcerting to think there are more people like him – a real obstacle to growth if would-be Greens can't reach the party

Lou N agrees it's an issue at all levels . . . but one thrust of the Greens is decentralization

we used to have a county-contacts system, not well maintained . . . we should work on it more

like us, the national party is working on getting operations better (& it's been in bad financial straits since 2008 convention at least)

with all the discussion and proposals, etc, the real purpose of the national party is to nominate a Presidential ticket

OTOH, if it weren't for nominating a 2000 ticket, there wouldn't

he thinks the lack of specificity is intentional – to provide a framework

thinks we're already working pretty well on one point of item #3 in the 2014 goals – interacting with their communities

but the other three we need to work on

Julia W is willing to support the national party – but we shouldn't reach out to us expecting them to help/save us

also, along with getting the Web help, we need to consider responsiveness on that front

we can't be on their side if we're not

Matt de H would echo a lot of what Fred V said – our value is more grassroots; if some people want to do top-down work, fine, but . . .

these points sometimes seem like micro-managing

he'd like them to focus a bit on the difference between the \$0 he got from GPUS and the \$685,000 Dale Kildee got from Ds

what can people individually do? if there's no task and no clear message, what are we doing here?

but a simple, positive message that we're on people's side

Sharon F would echo these things, but thinks we need a national entity if we're going to be powerful at some point

local/state groups can say they want to chip in to have the national party have a staff person working on that aspect

seems to Reagan the more Ds and Rs are lumped together as one entity, the better for us

for example: "Ds and Rs agree corporate profits are more important than your living income" (Candace C)

Fred V thinks we've had a lot of good comments here

the most important thing to make the Green Party successful is people in the streets  
everything depends on other people changing – but to accomplish that, we have to change too  
we've made big efforts to keep connections with other groups, but the flip side is we don't spend as much effort recruiting for GPMI  
how are people going to change, get involved in Green issues and Green activities?  
big picture, Ds & Rs are the same – but right now in WI, Ds & Rs aren't the same – which makes it harder for WI Greens right now  
many people agree with Green values, but not with institutionalizing them by electing us  
why do we have Snyder? because we had 8 years of Granholm!

Candace C notes Derek G coming in, welcomes Reagan (last name Sova)

Fred V notes 10 minutes left for national discussion . . . he'd like to send the GPR writers a dis  
what do we want to do?

Margaret G wants to respond to Reagan by offering to handle all GPMI e-mail

she'd like to respond to GPR that we're crazy about what they did

Matt de H . . . the one thing he heard more than anything during campaign was "I'd love to vote for you, but . . ."

people vote against more than for – he thinks the best message is that voting for Ds or Rs is wasting the vote

Lynn M joined the party to help get it on the ballot – who else has been a Green that long?

one of our key challenges is to keep members – they come, they get discouraged, they go  
the LWV challenge this year is to look at voting methods – GPMI has promoted IRV, of course  
maybe this is a chance to get something happening

[Aaron Bailey] is pushing approval voting; Lansing went with that, but Ann Arbor preferred IRV]

[Fred V welcomes Latham R in, too]

George C follows up on Matt de H & Reagan S on equating Ds & Rs – his preferred phrase: "they're two wings of the same bird"

e.g., Obama is talking about the deficit, when he should be talking about jobs

his Q: when people call or write to GPUS, what response do they get? and does GPMI ever ask GPUS about this?

Derek G likes the bird analogy – 2 wings both flapping, but on the same bird going in the same (wrong) direction

Reagan S wanted to add to the bird analogy – recognizes the gesture WI Ds made, but thinks it was only because of the public outcry

(Margaret G notes that Obama did speak out once, then back out)

(Latham R wonders why anyone would think the national press would say anything about anything)

also agrees that Obama should talk about jobs, but he always equates it with profits

Lou N . . . to bring it back, there was a proposal on the floor . . .

he wants to second Margaret's suggestion – with the amplification that GPMI looks forward to implementing it

he doesn't know exactly how GPUS responds to contacts; there are things on the Website

our county co-ordinator system is broken, and so are our e-mail aliases

Julia W thanks Margaret G for volunteering to handle e-mails . . .

to George C, she says she knows someone tech-savvy who crashed the national party

Lloyd C has always gotten phone answers, good responses particularly from Brian Bittner (sp?)

jalp mentions the alias system we have had

Dianne F has a Q about the GPR document – particularly the restructuring (on page 2, notes Fred V)

she knows that CA people feel very strongly about not having enough representation on the national scene

their state party is bigger than most others

so structural change may be a minefield

Fred V notes Linda C has already pointed that out

and thinks the GPR people will accept our input as others

any blocking concerns? no – **\*CONSENSUS\***

**10:15am - 10:30am** [10:21am] **break**

**10:30am - 11:45am [10:34am] the road forward 2011-2012: statewide**

review results of elections

focus on local non-partisan offices for 2011

discuss races for 2012 and begin fundraising

Fred V notes that the discussion can inform the ad hoc platform committee

GPR suggests getting more involved in local, non-partisan races; cf Elena Herrada (made it thru primary, but finished 13th of 18 for 9) so what are we going to do, or what do we want to see done?

Matt de H says two things around elections from his one-time experience:

he noticed that contesting local elections is more within our budget (\$3-5,000); maybe some good candidates can win at that level make something out of losing – get an appointment, like Elena H (Matt got appointed to a committee overseeing bay clean-up)

Julia W wants us to get students involved – likes what Charlie Shick is doing

we should have groups at every college in the state – young people are a natural constituency for us

she's going to go to community colleges, OU, etc and talk to poli-sci profs . . . but a co-ordinated effort would be useful

Matt de H notes community colleges are a lot harder to penetrate than we might think –

the student population is itinerant, and most schools have a rule that groups must be student-led (hard to continue)

also, the poli-sci faculty is a crapshoot . . . but they did authorize student to work on campaigns for class credit

many students are just out-of-work adults

Julia W thinks we should have a

Fred V notes Matt Cross at \_\_\_ CC is a friend

Reagan jumps in from Julia's comment – he teaches at JCC, so let him know if we need help there

how often are these meetings? (quarterly, says Fred V) . . . by the next one, he could bring a Facebook proposal to us

put the 10KV on there at least . . . also show how polls show people support our values and positions on 3-4 key issues

some of the people he knows should be disillusioned by now

don't need to wait until next meeting, says Lou N; he'll friend her

Sharon F said yesterday we had elections – 6 national party reps; same for all states? (no, weighted on various factors)

is it possible that those national delegates could work on bringing the national into the local? work on a newspaper/etc?

she thinks it's important to have a national presence

Latham R sees us as again in a mode of planning for the next election, in a sense – but mostly like the last one

he always voted for people that were reasonable; we have to make ourselves the reasonable party, the one affecting people's lives

he sees no consistency in the Green Party . . . we need to show people that we stand for something, but he doesn't hear us

Dianne F likes what Latham said – right now, we're relatively small and have to be focused

one thing she was thinking of is "Green jobs" . . . try to have a meeting in each area around that between now and next SMM

put that on Facebook, etc, build for the next meeting – attract people

she also likes Julia's idea of targeting schools – could we plan for that by next SMM, too?

yes, it's hard – many/most students even at SMM aren't traditional, they have jobs and other busy-nesses too

we need to set up a candidates' school (or a potential candidates' school) relatively soon

and if we're going to run as if we're going to win, we have to attend things – can't run for school bd if you don't go to meetings

especially important for local-level races

Margaret G's experience at Wayne State is that it's often good to have a speaker – she'd volunteer to speak at JCC if Reagan wants

encourages others to speak, too

as to Latham's good point, she thinks we should have a committee to develop a focus (on 3 to max 5 things)

she'd volunteer for that, and would welcome him and others

if people can think of local offices to run for, great

Reagan basically wants to agree that what Latham said is crucial . . .

conversation with D-supporting friend last night about need to compromise with folks who think differently – or not

so yes, we need to be clear about our principles, etc

Fred V thinks this is good and interesting

in 2006, we had a strong anti-war message (Stop the War slate) . . . in 2008, the message was running against the Bush principles since Obama was elected, things have been muddied a bit –

cf African Americans who have a more optimistic view of where govt is going than others

anti-Obama isn't as clear/good a message as anti-Bush was

we've focused on issues before – peace, jobs, and justice . . . water and IRV were Michigan-specific issues

jobs are key here – and water still is (encapsulates other issues of environment) . . . and democracy (war still, too?)

not that he's sure what our short list should be – but having more discussion about it is good  
one thing that happens in campaigns is slippage – Elena was actually running for Charter Commission, wound up on school board  
but that happened because she was focusing on school-related issues (charters, etc)  
wants to support Dianne's idea of encouraging locals to hold local meetings – maybe have the state party support all those efforts  
Matt de H thinks there's a reality of elections – he's more about positives, but there's evidence negative campaigns are more effective  
also, there's always an issue of winning the vocabulary: “pro-life” . . . and of what “green jobs” means to Dow  
Lloyd C says Latham raises a good issue – not to belabor the point, but it's actually a perception problem  
GPMI has a platform – a full pg in the packet; to narrow it down to be specific is where we need to deal with this perception problem  
we need to include the foreclosures in that . . . we're for people before profits, for the environment  
we're not just running because we're not Rs or Ds – we have to get out with our issues, explain how we're not Rs or Ds  
it's all about issues – and getting people to understand that we're different on them

jalp on

GPKC local platform

big focus issues – 3 vs 4?

on the battle to define the terms: “right to work”

redistricting (and county level, too)

Julia W says 3/18-19-20 is big anti-war rallies in DC (with fundraiser for B Manning, maybe a rally outside Quantico)  
we should have a party statement on that . . . and any local activities?

Margaret G thinks even the one-page bullet-points platform is too long for anyone without a Ph. D

Lloyd C thinks most platforms are that long (but Margaret G doesn't like them!)

we could come up with more specific and shorter version – but for Website, etc, we may need some longer version, too  
we need to cover a lot of issues

Candace C has been attending LWV planning/training for redistricting (5-member commission, but meetings are open)  
our state's data due out 3/15 . . . just attending is possible

Dianne F wants Candace C to let us all know about that

yes, we have a lot of issues we support, but we have to focus on what

water's important – but fracking is a hot issue, and maybe a timely way to re-frame the water issue

and it's really important that we understand the destruction of democracy in the emgcy financial manager legislation

maybe even more important than collective bargaining – started in 1990, but being strengthened

can abrogate contracts, fire elected officials (and ban them from serving again), etc

will pass W (and be signed)

the emergency financial managers in place now are all in black cities

the legislation was designed by right-wing think-tanks, but what was originally passed didn't (to them) give enough power

that's why Detroit school board was able to stop Bobb on some things – but the amendments now

note too that, when Rs come into office, they're clear about what they want to do . . . Ds are more interested in being nice

we need to have talking points on these

Latham R hates that “being nice” crap – actually, he doesn't, but the difficulty is being both broad and specific, in a practical way

when we talk about green jobs, we need to include the detail that they must pay at least a living wage

e.g., wind farms aren't very efficient – a way to suck money out of govts, but not practical . . . other turbines are more efficient

transportation – technology proposed is 80 years old

water – we have to explain that protecting water includes not letting it disappear if we fracture all the rocks around the Great Lakes

the way corporations are creating green jobs, it's another way to make your job be paid at a Chinese level

we need to be able to answer the question “what does it really mean?”

Ds & Rs don't explain (esp Rs) – and they try to hide it

focus needs results and practical applications

### **11:45am - 12 noon [11:26am] conclusions and announcements**

Fred V says let's concretize what we talked about

who can commit to have a public meeting in next 3 months about

he & Lou N for Detroit, Matt for Bay Co, Julia W for Fraser (Macomb Co)

Reagan wants to know who's putting together the calendar of events

Derek G notes Matt was volunteering to update the Web; maybe they can work together (and include Lou N)

and Reagan also wanted to mention that one goal of getting the Facebook page up

is to let people know that democracy is a year-round thing, not just going to the polls once

Dianne F asks if we could easily send notices on Facebook that there will be Greens at the rallies Tu & W (with flyers & banners)

Lou N suggests identifying a good gathering place

Lynn M also suggests putting the news on the Business list at least

Fred V notes that sometimes some activities get slotted on particular lists

Julia W says there are too many lists

Lou N says vice chair/committees is in charge of lists

when we had one list, it got hundreds of messages a day . . . the opposite problem

he agrees the Biz list is the best place to do this – but maybe not ready for Tu & W

Fred V asks if we can fix this up by the next SMM; Lou N says yes

Derek G suggests new membership secretary Sharon F may be able to help

jalp volunteers to try to ID all owners and moderators on lists

Margaret G wants to be sure platform is short (but she's limited in where she can go to meet or how long an e-mail she can type)

Fred V agrees with \_\_\_\_\_

state party can help with money in local races

we didn't talk about 2012 at all – but the same basic rules apply

anything else?

Dianne F says we may not be ready to vote on focus issues yet, but hope to bring back 3-4 by next meeting

Derek G feels we're in a class war – and in campaigns or otherwise, we need to start going on the attack

as far as events coming up . . . there is a march 3/19, organized by MECAWI

will start downtown, march through Greektown & back to Central United Methodist Church

Latham R has been having discussions with a lot of folks – stop pretending it's **not** class warfare (fits any description he's ever read)

we need to say so at the top – a war against the people . . . democracy is evaporating into oligarchy

against the poor, but the middle class is ceasing to exist

Reagan adds that we need to anticipate the counter-arguments which will come

Latham R agrees – it's all the things they tell us we can't have

there's supposed to be a Metro Detroit Greens meeting this Th 3/17

#### next SMMs

2nd Q . . . mid-May . . . find out if Linda C and Tom M will organize it somewhere; otherwise around here

3rd Q . . . Fred V says leave it to the annual meeting in Alfred, NY (which jalp finds online is August 4-7)

4th Q . . . October thru December . . . Bay City

Matt de H notes a national march for children on Mother's Day

trying to get a million children in the street to protest overuse of fossil fuels

Lou N announces GPUS national fundraising campaign "Greens Versus Greed"

it's a slightly wordy document, but he passes it around

and we can designate half of our donation to go to our state party

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[11:55am] meeting breaks up