

Minutes of the Fall State Membership Meeting of the Green Party of Michigan
Saturday, November 17, 2007
Hopewell Baptist Church
756 Highland Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 40922

Registration opened 9:00 AM

The meeting opened at 9:28 AM, Ken Mathenia, Chair, presiding.

Voting rights for the SMM were granted to Richard Wunsch and Sean Munn by consensus. Chuck Jordan would prefer that granting voting rights by the previously qualified members at the meeting, which is the custom of GPMI, should be written into the bylaws, replacing the current bylaw which gives this right to the meeting manager. No formal bylaws proposal was made at this meeting.

Officer Reports

Reports were accepted from the Chair (Ken Mathenia), the Membership Secretary (Doug Baker) and the Treasurer (Randym Jones).

Figures from the Treasurer's Report were:

UM Credit Union	\$ 8,784.53	Political fund
Bank of Ann Arbor	2,078.67	Administrative fund
PayPal	563.79	Administrative fund
Total	\$11,426.99	

Richard Wunsch and Chuck Jordan proposed the Winter SMM in the Metro Detroit area in January and the Spring SMM in the Jackson area. Doug Campbell suggested the Summer SMM/State Nominating Convention in Lansing. Notes indicate neither objection nor consensus on these motions.

Report was accepted from the meeting manager (Fred Vitale) on meetings and on Green Light.

The Vice-Chair/SCC Coordinator (Aimee Smith) reported 7 proposals passed by the SCC: support for indigeneous rights (UN resolution); solidarity with wearing the hijab; Henry Herskovits to be the new Clearinghouse Coordinator; Linda Cree to replace matt Abel on the national GP Eco-Action Committee; call for a list of 'announced candidates' to be compiled by May 13, 2008 (for those candidates who want to be considered for endorsement); atopting several main issues for the 2008 campaign; ratification of past SCC votes that might have been questionable because of voting by technically ineligible SCC members.

The Locals Liaison (Jan Mathenia) reported six active locals: Detroit, Huron Valley, Flint, Hillsdale, and Traverse Bay. Chuck Jordan reported that Van Buren County is "sort of" active and can be expected to be more so as 2008 elections approach. Karen Shelly reported efforts to revive Oakland County.

Committee Reports

The Bylaws Committee printed report was printed and distributed. A change in the Locals Liaison language and a new member rate of \$5 were passed and recommended to the SCC for decision.

No notable activity on the Platform or Media Committees.

Karen Shelley proposes a meeting of the Finance Committee at her house in Southfield on 12/8.

Benton Harbor update and discussion

Reverend Pinkney, Dennis Knowles, Beinda Brown, Charles Henry and others, residents of Benton Harbor and activists, describe and analyze the recent political history of the area; especially racism, criminalizing political activity, the Harbor Shores luxury condo development, efforts to take over Jean Klock Park, and Whirpool's role. Discussion before and after lunch break. Some GPMI members attended a Benton Harbor community meeting at the Armory. The Benton Harbor discussion continued into the overcoming racism workshop.

2008 elections discussion - no decisions.

National Convention and delegate selection

A proposal was made by Aimee Smith, Lou Novak and John LaPietra that GPMI should pay convention registration fees for up to 20 delegates. This would cost \$2000 at the \$100 per delegate early registration rate, or more if the allocated early registrations are used up. The notes taken at the meeting do not indicate either objections to or formal acceptance of this proposal.

Continue Henry Herskovits as Clearinghouse Coordinator - accepted by consensus

Priscilla Dzuibek proposed a \$100 GPMI sponsorship of the 5th Annual Freedom March in Detroit on MLK Day, January 21, 2008. After discussion, the proposal was accepted by consensus.

Aimee Smith proposed a \$100 GPMI donation to BANCO - accepted by consensus. In addition, a collection from individuals at the meeting raised \$136.

The change in bylaws language describing the Locals Liaison position recommended by the Bylaws Committee was accepted by consensus.

The addition of a \$5 "new member" dues level recommended by the bylaws committee was discussed without resolution.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Minutes prepared by Art Myatt, Recordkeeper, based on notes taken by John LaPietra.