

Green Party of Michigan State Membership Meeting

Saturday & Sunday, March 14-15, 2015 * Coral Gables Restaurant; 2838 Grand River Avenue, East Lansing

Decisions & Actions

CONSENSUS on amending the minutes of the 2014/12/07 SMM, at request of LuAnne Kozma to clarify that Doug Campbell changed his proposal before it passed instead of absolutely saying GPMI would threaten to withhold its ballot line from the GPUS Presidential ticket to making it a "sense of the body" that he would look further into other possible threats/"sticks" vote counts were accurate (7 yes, 2 no, 5 abstaining)

Bill Opalicky declared he was quitting GPMI – as he was being escorted out of the meeting site by local police (called by the restaurant's management, not by any Greens)

discussion of Membership Secretary Paul Homeniuk's revised Green Growth Plan wants us to be a "major third party"; need measurables if you want to use them to grow from discussion of how much to decide when (including at the SMM or later)

CONSENSUS from those present at the end of Saturday to adopt the plan "as is" –

but as a "sense of the body" that a plan was needed, not in the belief that all the details were mandatory

John Anthony La Pietra – who had raised objections Saturday morning, and whose handout of comments was suggested (by Rebekah Mikkelson)

to replace Bill Opalicky's competing presentation on how to grow GPMI on the agenda for Saturday afternoon –

had to leave at the scheduled 4pm end of the Saturday session and was not present for this decision;

on Sunday, he said he still had blocking concerns and would have asked for a vote, but would now "stand aside after the fact"

discussion again of details of the growth plan on Sunday – yielded some assorted ideas on how to improve implementation

some objections Saturday to acting on the other side of Paul's plan – his Officer changes

CONSENSUS to send that to the By-Laws Committee as part of a comprehensive review and rewrite of the by-laws results to be presented to the next SMM

also, the By-Laws Committee itself was reconstituted -- membership now:

Doug Campbell . . . John Anthony La Pietra . . . Harley Mikkelson . . . Art Myatt . . . Chris Wahmhoff . . . Sherry A. Wells

Other Reports:

John Anthony La Pietra reports as Elections Co-ordinator . . . big election this year is Proposal 15-1; discussed ballot language precinct-level vote counts we want to use for strategizing won't be posted online until the end of March

Lou N gives Treasurer's report – \$4,697.36 in political account; \$1,402.71 in administrative account doesn't include a \$500 contribution just received (or money taken in at SMM)

John Anthony La Pietra reports on Platform Committee

asks for direction on whether to have a 2015 platform or just positions until 2016 (no decision)

Art Myatt gives vice chair's report on activities of SCC & other committees

John Anthony La Pietra [for Jennifer] reports on Media Committee

stats presented include over 1,000 likes on Facebook (2:1 male) . . . most of our big-reaching posts are related to marijuana discussion of whether to try for 10,000 likes on Facebook

Eric Borregard thinks it's possible with little investment promoting the page

National Committee reports

LuAnne Kozma introduces Karen Young from NC, who reviews some things GPUS has done

Doug Campbell reports on GPUS Platform, Eco-Action Committees as well as NC

on Sunday, formally withdraws his idea of Presidential-ticket threat

he'd expected not to need to follow through – but now he believes GPUS wouldn't respond, so we'd have to act on the threat

Linda Cree joins in from remotely too

John Porter reports a bit on GPUS Accreditation Committee

Officer Elections

chair: Chris Silva

vice chair/SCC whip & committee manager: Art Myatt

recordkeeper/secretary: Doug Campbell

treasurer: Lou Novak

membership secretary: Paul Homeniuk

meeting manager: Chris Wahmhoff & Sherry Wells

locals liaison: Tom Mair & Rod Reamer

clearinghouse co-ordinator: Art Myatt

elections co-ordinator: John Anthony La Pietra

NC reps: female: Linda Cree, LuAnne Kozma, Jennifer La Pietra; male: Doug Campbell, Derek Grigsby, Ian Swanson

NC alts: female: Candace Caveny, Priscilla Dziubek, Rebekah Mikkelson; male: Harley Mikkelson, Lou Novak, Rod Reamer

CONSENSUS on all officers, and on nine of 12 NC reps/alts
vote approved Doug C (13 yes, 2 no, 4 abstentions or NV)
vote approved Linda C (9 yes, 2 no, 4 abstentions, 5 NV)
vote approved LuAnne K (7 yes, 3 no, 7 abstentions, 2 NV)

CONSENSUS to re-appoint all GPMI reps on other GPUS committees – including specifically:
Harley Mikkelson on Presidential Search Committee
John Porter on Accreditation Committee

CONSENSUS to issue multiple post-meeting news releases
one on election of new officers and renewal of party
one on endorsing SB 13 (end straight-ticket voting) – ***CONSENSUS*** here on that
and maybe repeating mention of opposition to proposal 15-1
taking position against line 5 under mackinac straits -- ***CONSENSUS*** (don't repair, replace, or improve capacity; decommission it)
have Art write up a position on this
defer decision/action on HB 4023 (11-hour daily limit on child care) to SCC
also note Chris W wants to be on Media Committee
officers are already sort of "vetted" as Media Committee members are, so ***CONSENSUS***

CONSENSUS to have SCC compile the GPMI Rulebook (as the by-laws say)
or rather a ____ book, since it will include more than just rules . . . chapters also for procedures, processes, policies, tools, etc

discussion of what to include in new-member welcome packet
flyer (maybe start with back two pages of platform) . . . personal contact in the same county . . . info on consensus process
welcome letter from chair could be hard copy to mail with membership card

CONSENSUS to have Sherry & Chris W aim for future meetings as follows:
June in Grand Rapids or Traverse City, fall in Traverse City or Grand Rapids, summer maybe in the Detroit area

Announcements (several of the announcers said they would e-mail them out with specifics)

Chris Wahmhoff – Rev. Pinkney, Oil and Water Don't Mix org. to decommission Enbridge's Line 5; 5th Anniversary of Tar Sands Oil on 7/24; website Call to Action

Candace Caveny – participating in Monday morning conference calls updating status of the case of Benton Harbor activist Rev. Edward Pinkney (who was a GPMI candidate for Congress during a previous unjustified time in prison); Rev. Pinkney is now in the prison in Coldwater (south of Battle Creek and near the Indiana state line), and his appeal will be heard in April in Berrien County

Lou Novak – Water Affordability, People's Water Board of which GPMI was a founding org., Networks Nation, Int'l. Conf. early summer

Chris Silva – reported he is working 20 hrs. a week for Ban Fracking; marijuana 2 propositions, one by corps.; wolves still an issue

Chris W. – added State Accounting Dept. cutting public schools, mental health, emergency managers

Doug Campbell – stated there exists a copy of the National Committee Budget

Lou and Derek Grigsby – Black Lives Matter, Ferguson, Cleveland and Tamir Rice killed for a toy gun