

GP-MI State Nominating Convention and SMM

June 20, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Author required?

This meeting was conducted on the GP-MI Zoom platform. It was live streamed via YouTube and recorded there. We also recorded to the Zoom cloud. The live stream video was halted automatically after saving little content. A personal video recording was made and uploaded to YouTube. A [timeline for the personal video](#) is in the 'Description' section of that video, to be used as quick reference to any of the statements made in this document. [These recordings](#) are linked to the GP-MI website and can be found under the 'Resources' nav bar tab, which is visible after logging in to the site.

Jean-Michel Creviere was the Meeting Host, and Darryl Gibson and Dan Martin-Mills were Co-Hosts. We allowed people to check in an hour early, at 8:00. Preregistration was required for meeting attendance. Attendees needed to have a Zoom account and have Zoom application running, to join with a browser. It was also possible to call in with a password that had been distributed by Zoom after registration. Some difficulty with access was reported, but Jean-Michel emailed links to these people which allowed them to enter, which they did before the meeting began. Towards the end of the meeting it was reported that Nicholas Rowley tried but was unable to enter the meeting. (Nicholas had been nominated at the Oakland County Caucus.)

Zoom automatically logs attendance, but we also keyed the [list of attendees](#) into the [meeting details page](#), on the GP-MI website. (The Zoom log cannot be found now and may have been deleted along with the data record of the meeting.) The list of attendees is found at the bottom of this document.

The fact that this meeting qualifies as a Statewide Membership Meeting, (SMM) is implied by inclusion of Officer Reports within the [Meeting Packet](#) of materials, a proposal to amend our bylaws as listed on the [Meeting Agenda](#), and a statement made by John Anthony an hour and a half into the meeting. Status as an SMM was not explicitly stated or discussed. Minutes from the previous SMM were not presented for approval.

GP-MI Meeting Manager, Dan Martin-Mills started the meeting on time, at 9:00.

Dan gave brief instructional notes about how to find the 'Chat' and 'Participants' windows, and how to 'Raise Your Hand' to be on stack.

Nominations for the following positions were made, accepted, and approved by consensus:

Jim Becklund	Meeting Chairperson
Dan Martin-Mills	Meeting Secretary
Jessica Venture	Meeting Timekeeper

GP-MI Co-Chairs, Tom Mair and Robin Laurain gave welcoming speeches.

The Co-Chairs called for a moment of silence, to reflect on victims of Covid-19, police brutality, and significance of the Green Party.

Jim Becklund began the process of facilitating the meeting.

Jim shared the [proposed Agenda](#) in the chat window. Jean-Michel shared the agenda in a full screen view. The agenda was adopted implicitly without debate. (The agenda was a collaborative product. Members were free to submit requests and suggestions to the website. Main contributors to the final product were Jim Becklund, Robin Laurain, and John Anthony La Pietra. John Anthony produced the final draft.)

A motion to approve [Convention Rules](#) was made by Lou Novak, seconded by Robin Laurain, and approved by consensus.

Lou Novak asked if any candidates had failed to answer the [Vetting Questionnaire](#), and if so, what the consequences would be. John Anthony explained that there is no burden on the candidates.

Jim Becklund asked about the polling results of the Presidential Delegate selection. John Anthony explained that quorum had not been reached by the yesterday's (6/19) noon deadline, but that enough votes came in after noon to make a quorum, with 15 and 19 being the number of votes before and after noon. John Anthony asked that we consider the late votes, given that rules can be made or changed at an SMM and that this meeting qualified. Nobody complained about the lack of transparency regarding voting counts or quorum value, which would be clear if conducted on the website.

Tom Mair supported Lou's motion to accept late votes on delegates. Jim Becklund asked for objections and then announced that consensus had been reached to accept late votes for Presidential Delegates.

John Anthony noted that the SCC had not yet decided how to handle tie votes, how to weigh diversity, or who would be the speaker for the delegation at the convention. He said we to get the results to the GP-US within two days. We linked the [SCC Ballot Results](#) to the meeting packet. The agreement by consensus was to move decisions on these details to the SCC, to be completed in time to submit the results to the GP-US National Committee. Later in the meeting, Rita Jacobs asked for volunteers to discuss the list of Delegates tomorrow, (Sunday) on Zoom with SCC members also invited to join. Frank Foster and Jim Becklund volunteered.

Sedinam Kinamo Christin Moyowasifza- Curry objected to the agenda allowing Vice-Presidential candidates to speak, calling it a violation of the law. She also claimed our 'registration process' is 'centrist and racist'. She continued to claim the GP-MI did not notify everyone that they could bring a Vice-Presidential candidate to speak.

Rita Jacobs made a motion that the Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates split their allotted time. Jean-Michel Creviere supported that motion. The motion passed by consensus.

Jim Becklund suggested that we publish written statements from the Vice-Presidential Candidates. There was consensus, but no vote and no details were provided as to how the statements should be submitted or where they would be published.

Jim Becklund suggested we work through lunch. That idea carried by consensus without a formal vote.

John Anthony and Darryl Gibson, the only members of the 'Polling Committee', decided to not stop Presidential Polling at noon, as planned, to allow all candidates to finish their speeches.

Darryl Gibson proposed that we allow all GP-MI votes to be counted, without checking to see how long they have been members. His rationale was that they joined to participate and that we should encourage that participation. Dan Martin-Mills supported the proposal. Agreement was reached by consensus. John Anthony said we would have to amend our 'Plan'.

Presidential Candidates were given 3-5 minutes to speak, followed by a 5-minute Q and A period. The candidates spoke in this order:

Chad Wilson,
Sedinam Kinamo Christin Moyowasifza- Curry,
Susan Buchser-Lochocki,
Dennis Lambert,
Howie Hunter,
David Rolde,
Dario Hunter

Kent Mesplay was invited to speak but was not present.

Senate/Education Statewide Nominees and United States House of Representative candidates were given 3-5 minutes to speak, followed by a 5-minute Q and A period. The candidates spoke in this order:

Marcia Squier, U.S. Senate,
Tom Mair, State Board of Education,
Brandon Hu, Michigan State University Board,
Robin Laurain, University of Michigan Board of Trustees,
Susan Odgers, Wayne State University Board of Governors,
Susan Hubbard, Michigan Supreme Court Justice,

Amanda Slepr, U.S. House of Representatives, District 4.
Jean-Michel Creviere, U.S. House of Representatives, District 2.
John Lawrence, U.S. House of Representatives, District 6

Marcia Squier nominated new member, Michael Mawilai for U.S. House of Representatives, District 14th.

Tom Mair proposed that we accept Michael Mawilai as a GP-MI member, (although our acceptance is not necessary for membership) and advised Michael to run for a local office or University of Michigan Board of Regents. He said he would not support Michael as a U.S. House of Representatives nominee. Michael Mawilai had many questions and was asked to get them answered off screen.

State House of Representatives candidates were given 3-5 minutes to speak, followed by a 5-minute Q and A period. The candidates spoke in this order:

Jeff Rubley, District 56,
John Anthony La Pietra, District 63,

Dalton McCuiston, District 71,
Melissa Noelle [Lambert], District 99,
Rick Sauermilch, District: 110

Mary Kozonis, District 55, was called but is no longer running.
Tia Metzger, District: 59, was called but John Anthony answered that she may not be running.
Adam Garvey, District 92 is called but was not present.
James Vasher, District 103 is called but was not present.

County Partisan candidates and Non-Partisan GPMI Endorsements were given 3-5 minutes to speak, followed by a 5-minute Q and A period. The candidates spoke in this order:

Eric Borregard – Washtenaw County Commission / District: 2
Marissa Prizgint – Clerk / Northfield Township (Washtenaw County)

Joshua Hellman – Jackson County Commission / District: 3 is called but John Anthony explained his addition to the list was a mistake.

Jeccia Venture proposed that we accept Michael Mawilai's nomination for Regent and Clyde Shabazz nomination for U.S. Representative 14th District nomination. Jim Becklund supported. The motion passed by consensus.

Jim Becklund asked that we accept all nominees who presented themselves, given that none are in opposition with another. That suggestion passed by consensus.

The following candidates from the Oakland County Caucus spoke:

Sherry A. Wells, State House of Representatives, District: 27
Destiny Clayton, County Commission, Oakland, District 17,
Jessica Venture, Waterford Township Clerk

John Anthony asked the group to consider who our Presidential Electors will be, stating that they will likely all be 'At Large'. Rita Jacobs read a section from John Anthony's [Convention Booklet](#) that explained Presidential Electors.

The following list of volunteers filled the slate and were approved by consensus:

Jean-Michel Creviere,
Lou Novak,
John Anthony La Pietra,
Marsha Squier,
Jessica McCallie-Arquette,
Daniel Martin-Mills,
Amanda Slepr,
Robin Laurain,
Melissa Lambert, (aka Melissa Noelle),
Jeff Sparling, (aka N Sparling),

Rick Sauermilch,
Frank Foster Jr.,
Jeff Rubley,
Stephen Boyle
Destiny Clayton,
Jenifer Kurland

Jim Becklund and John Anthony presented the proposal to amend the bylaws thus:

Amend Article VIII (Nominations), Section 2 (County and district nominating caucuses), Subsection A. PROPOSED WORDING:

A) At the request of at least three GP-MI members in a county or district, GP-MI shall call a county or district nominating caucus in accordance with party rules and state law to nominate candidates for partisan offices (and if the caucus so chooses, to endorse candidates for nonpartisan offices) serving constituents entirely within the county or district. The request--including the planned date(s), times and place of the caucus--shall be made either at an SMM or to the SCC at least 50 days before that year's state convention, or to the SCC at least 28 days before a caucus to be held after the state convention. A nominating caucus may be held at a state convention if a timely request so asks.

{current language of that subsection:}

A) At the request of at least three GP-MI members in a county or district, GP-MI shall call a county or district nominating caucus in accordance with party rules and state law to nominate candidates for partisan offices and endorse candidates for nonpartisan offices serving constituents entirely within that county or district. The caucus request shall be made either at a SMM at least 50 days before the state convention for that year or to the SCC at least 50 days before the state convention, and shall include the planned date(s), times, and place. A nominating caucus may be held at the state convention if the requesters so desire.

Jennifer Kurland made a motion to approve the bylaws change. Lou Novak seconded. The motion was approved by consensus.

Sherry A. Wells asked why the GP-MI required notification 50 days before a caucus. She offered a friendly amendment to change the 50-day requirement to 40 days. Jennifer accepted the amendment. Jim Becklund seconded the motion and it passed, (again) by consensus.

Sherry requested that the GP-MI purchase a 'single lit piece' to promote the five people running for the State-wide Education 'thing'. She noted that it could be distributed by everyone running for office in the State. She put her request in the chat window and hopes a few people would consider that idea.

Jessica Venture volunteered to put together videos to explain how to use Zoom.

Tom Mair volunteered to host a Candidate Help meeting in Traverse City in July.

Jenifer Kurland offered to help State-wide candidates with marketing and media.

Marcia Squier offered to appear and support candidates at events anywhere in the State.

Michael Mawilai offered to make Zoom tutorials.

Frank Foster volunteered to help whatever presidential candidate the GP-MI selects.

John Anthony, Darryl Gibson, and Dan Martin-Mills shared the results of the Presidential Polling. The calculations were done redundantly on the website and on a spreadsheet, for demonstration and verification of accuracy. Results for the first round voting are as follows:

Hawkins	7 delegates
Hunter	3 delegates
Curry	½ delegate
Sanders	½ delegate
Ventura	4 delegates

John Anthony offered to post or email the calculations. Dan offered to make the web results available to all members.

Rita Jacobs asked John Anthony if he would be the reporter for the delegates. She pointed out that he had the highest number of votes from the SCC. John said he would prefer to ask a female to fill this role. The decision was left unresolved because Amanda and Robin had left the meeting.

Jim Becklund ended the meeting at 5:04.

List of Attendees

1	Aikens	Charlotte
2	Akkerhuis	Gerard
3	Angela Nicole Walker	
4	Becklund	Jim
5	Borregard	Eric
6	Boyle	Stephen
7	Chad Wilson	
8	Clayton	Destiny
9	Crehan	Matt
10	Creviere	Jean-Michel
11	Dario Hunter	
12	Darlene Elias	
13	David Lambert	
14	David Rolde	

15	Dominic Scott	
16	Early	John
17	Foster_Jr.	Frank
18	Gibson	Darryl
19	Hu	Brandon
20	Hubbard	Susan
21	Jacobs	Rita
22	Kent Mesplay	
23	Kostovski	Cane
24	Kurland	Jennifer
25	La_Pietra	John_Anthony
26	Lare	Ron
27	Laurain	Robin
28	Lawrence	John
29	Lawrence	John
30	Mair	Tom
31	Martin-Mills	Daniel
32	McCallie-Arquette	Jessica
33	McCuiston	Dalton
34	Mullally	Sean
35	Murphy	John_Austin
36	Noelle	Melissa
37	Novak	Lou
38	Nye	Roger
39	Odgers	Susan
40	Opalicky	William
41	Prizgint	Marissa
42	Ramelis	James
43	Roberts	Wade
44	Rubley	Jeffery
45	Sauermilch	Rick
46	Schwab	Monika
47	Sedinam Kinamo Christin Moyowasifza- Curry	
48	Slepr	Amanda
49	Sparling	N
50	Squier	Marcia
51	Venture	Jessica
52	Walker	Nicole
53	Weeks	Dawn
54	Yasmin	Noorzana_
55	Zubas	Michael

