

GPUS ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING MINUTES- PLENARY 2006
SUNDAY, 7/30/06
FACILITATORS: Olivia Cadaval/DC; Dave Bosserman/DC

- I. Election Results and Certification
- II. State Party, Caucus and Committee Reports/Thanks to Outgoing SC Members
- III. Welcome newly elected officers
- IV. General Business
- V. Closing

GPUS is comprised of 47 affiliate state parties and caucuses
Present were representatives from 35 states/caucuses (will lose CT, gain ILL) , with
61 potential votes, 23 potential proxies.

9:20 am Roll Call

AZ - 2V

ARK - 2V

CA - 8V, 5P

CO - 2V

CT - 2V (left early)

DE - 1V, 1P

DC - 2V

FLA - 4V

GA - 1V, 1P

ILL - 3V, 1P

IN - 1V, 1P

IA - 2V

LC - 1V

ME - 1V, 1P

MD - 1V, 1P

MA - 1V, 1P

MI - 4V

MN - 1V, 1P

MS - 1V, 1P

NV - 2V (?)

NJ - 2V

NM - 2V

NY - 3V, 3P

NC - 1V, 1P

OH - 1V, 1P

OK - 2V

PA - 2V, 2P

RI - 1V, 1P

TN - 2V

TX - 6V, 1P

UT - 2V

VA -
WA - 2V
WI - 2V
NWC - 1V

Agenda Approved by Consensus

I. 9:30 am - ELECTION RESULTS and CERTIFICATION

Election Tabulation Committee: Donna Worley/ARK, Jill Bussiere/WI, Jason Nabewaniec/NY, Cat Woods/CA; Hugh Esco/GA, advisor

RESULTS

SC Co-chair, 2-yr term:
Sarah "Echo" Steriner/FLA
Jim Coplen/IND
Liz Arnone/NJ

Treasurer, 2-year term:
Jody Grage/WA

CCC, 1-year term:
Sally Kim/NY
Greg Gerrit/RI
Nan Garrett/GA

Cat Woods: explained the ETC report, which will be available on the website. Requests food for ETC next time.

Jill Bussiere - worked well together, consensus easily achieved.

Jason, Hugh: all records are in sealed envelopes; photocopies made; will be scanned and posted on the website.

7-day period for registration of challenge or objection to ETC report. Policy is #222, Voting Queue

II. STATE, CAUCUS and COMMITTEE REPORTS

PA - Rosenberg; many candidates at local, state and federal level, looks like they may make the ballot

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CT - McKee, personal reflection, thank Arizona, NC, SC, more positive than a long time; African-American gubernatorial candidate; candidate to take on Liebermann

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NWC - Kat Swift, Nan Garrett

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UT- Taylor, running many candidates, including Julian Hatch for US Senate

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CA - Everett, many candidates, slate; Senate race against D. Feinstein uncontested, hoping for record vote in that race - 1 million votes for peace

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AZ, Drew Spencer, aggressive plan to get ballot status, will have ballot line in 2008

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IA - Northrop, gubernatorial candidate, voter registration lawsuit w/ ACLU looking favorable, re-vitalized state leadership with state meeting in May

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NJ - Arnone, loss of Earl Grey (left GP \$25,000 as seed money to promote GP); 3-way lawsuit against NJ ballot access laws

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ME - Deveneau, greetings from Maine, where founding father John Rensenbrink live; first person elected to the Maine State House, John Eder (just got passed a law requiring landlords to disclose efficiency to tenants); hope to have the first elected Green Governor in Blaine House, Pat LaMarche <pat2006.org>; Stephen Spring, Portland school board - soon to be a Green majority on the school board; a newly elected state GP board. Hope to have up to 16 more candidates.

Online Fundraising - Richard Scott, ASGP

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Disability Caucus - Drew Johnson, CA

In a formative state, close to having 10 members needed for accreditation. Asks for interested members to see him. Also a place in caucus for non-voting supporters as adjunct members. Arranged with local for needd (Recovery Room); hosts for disability needs, aim to consider needs of disabled in local meetings, hope to put out guidelines.

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DC - Schiller [missed his report, apologies!]

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BREAK - Welcome New SC Members, Thanks to Outgoing SC

Brent, Emily - staff took time to thank outgoing SC members. It's a difficult and

emotional speech, "we get paid, they don't. "

Brent and Emily presented outgoing SC members with plaques in recognition of their work:

Co-chair, Marc Sanson/ILL (not present, food poisoning); leadership in Finance and Fundraising

Co-chair, Gwen Wages/MS; amazing character (a good thing)

Co-chair, Jody Grage/WA; quiet, grandmotherly character, has a doctorate in education, great organizer

Treasurer, Jake Schneider/WI; great amount of work

Emily: thanks for the hours per week that they have worked to make the party run, grow. Glad to know they are not leaving, but will stay involved on a national level, which is important; hope all appreciate them as much as she does.

BACK to State Reports:

GA - Garrett, lost state office; paid staff is a major benefit; decided not to focus on ballot access this time, because of so many challenges, gotten strategic plan in place, looking for 2008 ballot access cycle. One candidate.

NV - Imboden?, GPNV has a candidate for governor, growing, optimism, converting to solar power in NV; Yucca Mt still an issue

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OR - Burton, party has an excellent forest activist candidate for governor, other candidates; "gone grassroots," people serving on city council, school boards, other boards, commissions, soil and water districts; we feel that this is where we have to go, "grass grows underneath the ground first." Will be meeting with regional Greens in US and Canada.

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NMex, Mato Ska, re-grouping, running several good candidates; raised issues at recent national peace conference

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WI - Weill, April elections - now 21 elected Greens, 10 more running for November election. Petersen on local board, Bussere running for state senate. Marc Sanson is managing Vogler campaign for US Senate.

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MS -Fleitas, voting machine technology an issue; John Wages elections commissioner in Lee county kept out Diebold machines.

Eco-Action Committee - Deanna Talor/UT, Mato Ska/NMex, brochure; invitation

for new members; looking for technical and policy-based resources (i.e., experts), renewables, water, other issues.

G-PAX - Wilcox/DC, co-chair, reviews activities (demos, Camp Casey visit), planning Green Day at DC Camp Democracy.

IT announcement, Mike Feinstein. Decided to hold conference call every two weeks, need administrative support role

Emily - info on purchasing bulk orders, offered a discount for buying here at the meeting.

Hugh Esco, parting advice: on our way home, we will see lots of young kids in uniform. It is a federal crime to induce someone to go AWOL or desert. It is not a crime to let someone know what their options are. objector.org - central committee for conscientious objectors. You will have an opportunity as you're passing through airports to let them know this.

Channel 13 news clip: clips will be on web page

III. 10:30 am - WELCOME NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

IV. 10:35 am GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Speaker (Voters for Peace), NAME?? - spoke about the situation in southern Lebanon. How many would rule out the possibility that WWII starts in earnest this week, next week? 3 things coming up: Camp Democracy (Camp Casey moves to DC), Declaration of Peace, Voters for Peace

www.campdemocracy.org, 9/5-21

Declaration of Peace, 9/21-28, calling for week of civil resistance

www.declarationofpeace.org - download button and put on website, pledge to not vote for candidate supporting the war.

B. DAC (DELEGATE APPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE)

Greg Gerritt/RI//Cat Woods/CA, co-chairs, also the only DAC members present

Review of the committee; DAC looks into the issue of representation on the GPUS NC. Committee discussion was followed by a questionnaire to NC.

Results of questionnaire were shown on the screen. REPORT will be on the web.

DISCUSSION, COMMENTS:

-Feinstein/CA - consider ? as poll tax [didn't hear it]

-Steiner/FLA - thank you for saving us from what we went through 4 years ago

-Lyons/TX - thanks for difficult talks; question, intro to survey grossly misrepresented current situation, he posted a response which corrects the mistake; start from accurate point of reference, concerning involvement of state population. Answer/Woods - it's a "terminological" difference.

-Huckelberry/ILL - ca. 120 respondents, methodologically, would like to know who responded and what the breakdown was, not a very large cross-section; why do large parties need proxies instead of small parties, if a state party can send a100 people to a meeting, why not? Answer: Not a scientific sample, regarding 200 is the no. of NC, considered upper limit of what NC could handle. Answer: would have to prove a major effort to recruit enough delegates. Answer: some do not think proxies are appropriate, state should be able to send full delegation.

- Garrett/GA - concerns, hearing "big states, small states" - organizational structure of NC, what purpose does it serve - the national party, not the individual candidates and campaigns; what about caucuses, some are stronger than the smaller states. If you're going to lift up voices of the oppressed, why not more votes for caucuses?

-Laiti/CA - comments on population, troubled by this; ameliorating bad ballot access laws? Answer/Woods: contentious issue. Up to state whether they want to use that. Answer/Gerritt: State parties are fundamental building block of GP, need representation by various states.

- Fleitas/MS - being able to see both DAC members working together is encouraging; if you can deliver some "sausage," doesn't want to see it getting made, to NC, will; get behind it.

-Arnold/CA - echo previous speaker and others that have thanked you and committee. Concrete question: when you eventually deliver consensus proposal, include a few examples from states that demonstrate some of the points, what this would do for X - (state with large population and bad ballot access laws, for instance), show how various situations would be served. Answer/Gerritt: there was a discussion of how much of this to do. Should work with all state parties,

present what NC would look like if proposal passed. Others didn't want to do that, just vote on principles of proposal, blind. Answer/Woods: asking for data.

-Aires/FLA - will we get a report on website? Answer: Questionnaire and power point will go up on web.

-Abram/ILL - question about criteria for determining numbers/members? Answer/Woods: regardless of how bad your data is, you still get a 2 vote minimum

-Kramer/MD - former co-coordinator of PCSC committee, thanks; question, have you considered delegation to nominating convention? Answer/Woods: we're dealing with NC, for now.

-Rubin/CA - working on apportionment for 2008? Answer/Gerritt: hoping to look into this shortly

-Holloway/TX - thanks; large population represents some potential growth for future GP. Gerritt: does factor into thinking.

-Mati Ska/NMEx - no. of county organizations; have been able to maintain a certain level of voter registration, decreased no. of county organizations; believes this should affect NC delegation apportionment. Woods: didn't think of it before questionnaire; if widely supported, could put it in. Gerritt: some state have done away with county organizations, no particular objection, could fit in somewhere. may or may not get to that.

-Schiller/DC - ASa Gordon presented regional plan. Why was it not selected? Answer/Woods: no one on committee was supporting specific idea of 4 massive regions. Had option where states could form regions. Overwhelmingly opposed in survey and many committee members. Answer/Gerritt: Responses were very much population-based, and they were clear what wouldn't fly. Original green organization in the US had regional organizations, and some were so bad, they didn't want to re-visit it.

C. 11:30 am FINANCE

Jody Grage, Treasurer

GPUS needs personnel and financial support from states; develop a culture of working with national

Have raised a fair amount of \$ this weekend; auction raised slightly less than \$1000; passing hat, ca. \$500; penny auction, \$400; \$1000 from earlier hat-passing. We should work to get going in states, spill-over to national

organization. Intends to get out at least monthly a paper about some aspect of financial things. Let her know what you want to know about.

Jody says: "Money is not a dirty word when you're using it to promote the 10KV. I will embroider this on a pillow for next year's auction. We need more ideas about fundraising for local, state, nat'l levels. Do not sit on your keyb'ding fingers when I call for ideas, or I will use fair amount of cyber space - ..."
[ominous threat left unspoken]

Too late for Q&A now, so will take 2 really stunning questions, otherwise, work online. Echo/FLA - interested in different state sharing plans, what has been successful. Huckelberry/ILL - some state parties are in serious financial situation, largely because of Dems - PA, ILL, NY - when an dhow can we get help from the nat'l party? Jody: Suggests a fund for states to chip in to support states?

Called for online dialogue. "Thank you for opening your wallets so nicely."

ANNOUNCEMENT: Willibrand/NY, for IC - Nairobi, Kenya - first worldwide meeting of young greens; separate from Global Green Gathering. Funded by Green Institute. Open to age 35 or under. Feinstien/CA - globalgreens.org/info
This will coincide with the time of World Social Forum, just before; African Green Federation Meeting will be happening at time of Global Young Greens.

Budd Dickinson/CA, SC, Platcom: - held up Platform Summary booklet: "there are ver 1000 'issues' in here." Don't want to have to ship copies back to DC, pick them up here, noted convention discount.

V. 11:45 am - CLOSING THOUGHTS and RECAP

Weill/WI, AnmCom co-chair - mention of facilitation process, Open Space demo this afternoon.

Thanks to AZ - Claudia Ellquist, Dave Stewart and volunteers. Long, loud applause and yelling. They did an amazing job!

Thanks to Santo, JoAnn (Freedom School); Sean, Rebecca and Y employees; AnmCom, staff; Robert Jones.

Crowd yells "Thank you Ruth!"

Thanks to Facilitators: Rick Lass, Lori Burton, Olivia Cadaval, Dave Bosserman, George Martin

Closing Exercise - Lori Burton: as an exercise in participatory democracy, we will clean up everything we brought in, collect placards, break down tables and help clean up. Then come back in a circle to close.

12:00 pm - Standing in Circle, Annual Meeting Adjourned

7/30/06
Holly Hart
Secretary, GPUS