

Green Party of Sonoma County (GPSC)  
Notes from the General Business Meeting of October 28, 2009

Notes Approved on: (pending)

Notetaker: Steve Devereux

Members: Tim Morgan, Tom Bolema, Susan Chunco, Steve Devereux, Hally DeCarion

Note: we did not meet quorum requirements, so no decisions were made at this meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discuss possibility of GPSC hosting a state gathering in January or a plenary April/May, or August/September of 2009

Goal of hosting an event: draw people into becoming active in the GPSC.

Since the Richmond Greens have already indicated an interest in holding the January gathering and because there probably is not enough time to put together the April/May plenary, our group recommends that the GPSC only consider hosting the August/September plenary.

What is needed to host the August/September plenary:

- a formal decision to host by the GPSC at our November business meeting
- a declaration given to the Green Party of California (GPCA) of our intention to host
- the formation of a planning committee consisting of 4 or more GPSC members
- the selection of a venue with a room large enough for all attendees (about 150 people) and 4-5 smaller rooms for breakout sessions. The venue should be selected by early Spring of 2009.

Cost:

Needs to be determined, but the estimate is \$1000-\$2500. Cost includes providing breakfast and lunch each day and optionally, a dinner (Susan can contact Robin Latham regarding food donations). The GPCA will reimburse costs and can provide a cash advance if there is a need. Our treasury currently holds about \$880. There is a plenary fee of \$30 per attendee that the GPSC will collect.

Ideal venue selection:

- cheap
- close to public transportation

Venue possibilities:

- Junior colleges (usually handled by Campus Greens—but there are no known active groups)
- Finley Center – Santa Rosa
- Unitarian Universalist Church
- Sebastopol Community Center (contact: Craig Litwin)
- Glaser Center – Santa Rosa downtown center (Susan may have a contact)
- Cotati Community Center (old classrooms for breakout sessions. Tim M. may make a contact)
- Praxis Peace Institute (contact: Georgia Kelly).

Other needs:

- PA system (contact: Attila)

All members present (Tom Bolema, Tim Morgan, Susan Chunco, Steve Devereux, Hally DeCarion) agreed to serve on the plenary planning committee if the GPSC approves hosting the August/September plenary.

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2. Discuss the need an affirmation of previous County Council decision to change Article VI, Section 3 (Quorum) of the Bylaws of the GPSC from "A quorum for a meeting of the GPSC will consist of a minimum of four regular members and four members of the Council" to "A quorum for a meeting of the GPSC will consist of a minimum of three regular members and three members of the Council"

Tim Morgan reiterated that there was a decision made at a previous GPSC business meeting to change our bylaws to reduce the minimum size of a quorum, but no notes from that meeting exist. We will make a proposal at our November business meeting to reverify that bylaws change. Upon approval, Tim M. will update our published bylaws and submit the new bylaws to the GPCA.

3. Miscellaneous

- Post office box paid by Susan Chunco. She is donating the amount she paid for the box to the GPSC.
- Suggestion to create a calendar of events for the coming year. Current events would include dates for tabling at the Santa Rosa Downtown Farmer's Market, Harmony Festival, Progressive Festival, SolFest.
- Suggestion that GPSC should be generating more exposure for Greens in Sonoma County. Ideas include tabling at other County Farmer's Markets
- Suggestion to formalize the process for interviewing candidates for endorsement. Includes creating a questionnaire to give to candidates before interviewing them.
- Tim Morgan will be retiring from the GPCA Coordinating Committee when his term expires in February 2009. Tim believes that there may be a regional meeting in January to elect new regional reps and alternates.
- Suggestion was made that the GPSC should analyze and discuss local "letter" ballot measures in order to make recommendations on them. Recommendations would include explanations on why we came to our conclusions (similar to the way the propositions are presented on the GPCA website) . We need to start early on this. We could also ask elected Greens and candidates endorsed by the GPSC for their opinions on these measures. These recommendations with explanations can be posted on our website and emailed to our newsletter list.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00 PM. Place: Tim Morgan's home at 8510 Dorfman Dr., Cotati