

Minutes for Sonoma County Green Party General Meeting November 20th, 2003

Facilitator: James Swinger

Note Taker: Jared L.

Endorsement of Veronica Jacobi 3rd District Supervisor- Veronica approached the SCGP asking for its endorsement for her run at 3rd district Supervisor. Veronica is no longer registered Green for “political reasons”. Issues important to her include protecting hills, water, and air; improving current gravel mining practices and regulations; limiting urban sprawl; preserving open space, regulate clear cutting; improve human services; promote living wage, mental health, and senior needs; promote recovery rather than prison. Veronica has worked for the EPA, PG&E, Audubon Society, and local board of supervisors and city council. She said she looks forward to working closely with the Green party if elected and noted that her election would create an environmental majority on the Board of Supervisors. She also opposes the US Patriot Act.

After some discussion the group, for the sake of time, decided to postpone the endorsement proposal to the end of the meeting.

Treasury Report-No Report

Registration Update- Green registration holding steady. Numbers show a significant increase in “decline to state” state and countywide.

Regional Rep Report- Current regional rep will remain and Ryan will remain alternate.

Outreach WG Report- (Justin) 1st meeting discussed purpose and goals of group. No meeting date set.

Electoral Reform WG Report- (Jim H.) GPCA looking into hiring a statewide lobbyist. Currently there are three initiatives regarding election code in the works.

Information Technology WG Report- (Tim M.) People with database needs should contact Tim. Next meeting: 4th Friday of January.

Tabling WG Report- (Tim S.) Anybody interested in tabling should contact Tim Smith.

Bylaws WG Report- Next meeting: 2nd Thursday of December in lieu of Green Talks meeting.

Patriot Act WG Report- (Steve D.) Santa Rosa City Council Tuesday November 25 4:00pm.

Green Talks WG Report- Thursday December 4th @ Environmental Center. Guest: Larry Robinson part of Green Party majority Sebastopol City Council. No meeting for December. Next meeting 2nd Tuesday of December.

Fundraising WG Report- No report

Campus Greens Report- Next meeting Wednesday December 3rd, Charlie Brown Café SSU Campus.

State Plenary Discussion- Plenary date: December 6-7, Cal State Fullerton. Ryan, Jim H., Ann, and Sam selected by consensus to act as delegates. Also passed by consensus, is to provide reimbursement for registration fees for this year's plenary for those who request it. Request can be made to treasurer. Future agenda item suggested making reimbursement permanent in forthcoming plenaries.

Agenda Proposal- (Skaidra) Proposal to add a permanent agenda item to the end of each General Meeting to allow time to consent to newsletter and web page materials. After discussion, it was determined that endorsement policy needs to be formalized and the proposal was removed.

Green Bloc Proposal- (Skaidra) Passed by consensus was to allow upcoming Green Bloc events to be posted on the GPSC website. See website for event details.

UFW March Discussion- Discussion regarding UFW's efforts to improve workers' rights in Sonoma County, in particular Gallo Winery, took place. Concerns of joining a coalition without knowing coalition partners were raised. A proposal to empower Ann and Ryan to formalize a letter to UFW in support of a new contract with Gallo was passed by consensus.

List-serve Proposal- (Tim S.) It was suggested that the following 4 options be made available to the list-serve:

- 1) Minimum announcements. (1 per month/existing)
- 2) Multiple announcements. (Any member can post any)
- 3) GPSC Coordinators list. (Existing format)
- 4) Open discussion and debate list-serve. (No limits)

Discussion of options included the usefulness of a bulletin board and the monitoring and maintaining of lists and contents. Tim agreed to work with the IT working group to formalize procedure and removed the proposal.

County Council Candidates Proposal- (Tim S.) It was proposed to have: At least one Green Talk and at least one business Meeting before the March Primary election to allow significant time reserved for a candidate's Statement-of-Position-Q-and A, and/or forum.

After discussion it was agreed upon consensus that at least half of the January Green Talk would be used for candidate's Statement-of-Position-Q-and A, and/or forum. The general meeting time will not be used for this purpose.

Consensus was also reached in allowing any verifiable Green Party County Council candidate access to voter registration information, space on website and newsletter
Peter Camejo Discussion- Discussion took place about Peter Camejo's running against the "safe-states" strategy in the upcoming primary. The GPCA in taking a statewide poll, asked counties to vote their opinion with the number of votes equal to the number of delegates allocated to each county. Having four votes the SCGP, after discussion, was evenly split on the decision and passed by consensus 2 votes in favor and 2 votes not in favor. Ryan will send an e-mail to the GPCA informing them of our decision.

Gonzalez for Mayor- Skaidra reiterated the efforts of the Matt Gonzalez campaign and made donation envelopes and literature available.

Veronica Jacobi Endorsement- It was decided by consensus to postpone further discussion of the Jacobi endorsement to a future date.

NEXT MEETING: December 18, 2003 Environmental Center 7PM

-END OF MEETING