

**GPCA COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, November 6, 2023, 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM via Zoom**

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**(1) Roll call:** (5 mins)

There are currently 17 CC committee members. Quorum is a simple majority of 9.

CC members: Mark Adams, Bill Balderston, Susan Chunco, David Cobb, Charisse Cordero, Ann Garrison, Richard Gomez, Dave Grover, Greg Jan, Mimi Newton, Nassim Nouri, Christine Pepin, Rohan Sabnis, Phoebe Thomas Sorgen, Lindsay Vurek, Audra Walton, Laura Wells

**Present:**

Charisse Cordero, Laura Wells, Nassim Nouri, David Cobb, David Grover, Susan Chunco, Ann Garrison, Richard Gomez, Greg Jan, Rohan Sabnis, Lindsay Vurek, Audra Walton

**Absent:** Mimi Newton, Mark Adams, Bill Balderston, Christine Pepin, Phoebe Thomas Sorgen

**Quorum reached at 7:40 with 12 of 17 members present.**

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**(2) Roles** (4 mins):

Roles for CC Call on November 6, 2023:

Facilitator: Nassim Nouri

Note Taker: Charisse Cordero

Timekeeper: David Grover

Vibes Watcher:

Roles for next month's CC Call on December 4, 2023 (first Monday):

Facilitator:

Note Taker: Charisse Cordero

Timekeeper:

Vibes Watcher:

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**(3) Approval of Agenda** (3 mins)

**Approved by consensus**

**(3a) Late items:**

**(3a-1)** Decision Item: Approve statement about GPCA Presidential Primary process. See item (7) below.

**(3a-2)** Discussion/Decision Item: Our "Political Party Statement of Purpose." See item (8) below.

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**(4) Approval of CC minutes** (2 mins)

October 2, posted to CC email list by Charisse Cordero on 10/18/23, 4:30pm

**Approved by consensus**

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**(5) Consent Items** (5 mins)

Background and Purpose: The consent calendar is intended to pass non-controversial items or items consensed prior to the actual meeting. Any item may be objected to, and that item will be placed at the end of the evening's agenda.

Proposal: Accept the following committee reports (CC liaisons are noted) for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

- Bylaws and Rules (Mimi Newton, interim, non-CC member) - **Appendix A**
- Candidates (Greg Jan) - **Appendix B**
- Communications (Nassim Nouri) - **Appendix C**
- Finance (Justin Richardson, interim, non-CC member) - **Appendix D**
- Membership and Outreach (Laura Wells) - **Appendix E**
- Policy & Platform (Mark Adams) - **Appendix F**
- General Assembly Planning (CC subcommittee) (David Grover) - N/A
- GP-US delegation from GPCA - N/A
- Proportional Representation Coalition report (David Cobb) - N/A

### **Approved by consensus**

#### **(6) UPDATES and APPOINTMENTS (5 mins)**

**(6.a) Committee Appointments:** N/A

**(6.b) 48 Hour Online CC Vote(s) and Results:** N/A

**(6.c) Strategic Plan Calendar review**

<https://assets.nationbuilder.com/cagreens/pages/1695/attachments/original/1695065961/GPCAWorkPlan2023-2025V2.pdf?1695065961>

Nassim asked Rohan if we were on schedule to update the CC minutes on the website. Rohan will do it.

**(6.d) Action Item Update (10 minutes):** N/A

### **LATE ITEMS SUBMITTED TO THE CC**

#### **(7) Decision Item:** Approve statement about GPCA Presidential Primary process

**Sponsor:** Greg Jan

**Background and Purpose:** On Wed., Nov. 1 "Davi" emailed a number of Greens a message, threatening to sue us over our Presidential Primary process, and to "go public" about it after Monday (or perhaps even starting today, Monday). So I then emailed our 2 GPCA spokespersons (Laura Wells and David Cobb), and 4 others who had been involved in our "Presidential primary process" -- namely the 2 co-coordinators of our GPUS Delegation (Peggy Koteen and Tarik Kanaana), our Liaison to the Secretary of State (Jared Laiti), and the facilitator for the Oct. 21 GA session on recommending Presidential candidates (June Brashares). Then, since Davi might soon be contacting the press about this (perhaps even today but more likely tomorrow, or possibly shortly after tomorrow), we worked on preparing a statement "in response" (if we do get any inquiries or press), below. While this agenda item is only about approving that statement, we may also want to discuss getting prepared for a possible lawsuit.

**Discussion:** Our response to the letter from Davi regarding complaints about our presidential primary process. Greg is working on a response for the press and spokespersons can use it if necessary. Nassim asked what people received the letter. Greg said some persons associated with the state party. David Grover said Davi had five other ways to get on the ballot. David Cobb said the letter is fine.

Nassim asked if it needs to be redacted.

**Proposal:** Approve the following statement:  
See **Appendix G**.

### **Approved by consensus**

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**(8) Discussion/Decision Item:** Our "Political Party Statement of Purpose"

**Sponsor:** Charisse Cordero and Greg Jan

**Background and Purpose:** At last month's CC meeting, Charisse Cordero volunteered to review our previous "Statement of Purpose", to see if it needed updating, and I volunteered to also assist. Between then and our Oct. 21 GA, we traded a number of emails about it, including reviewing the statements from the other political parties, and we concluded that our current statement doesn't need any changes. That statement (along with the statements from the other political parties) is here: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/political-parties/party-statements> However, following the GA, I spaced out about notifying the CC until now that we didn't think our statement needed any updating. Plus, if we do want to make any changes, the deadline to contact the Secretary of State is November 16.

**Proposal:** If anyone thinks we should make any changes (or further review this), we can approve those changes tonight, or delegate the responsibility to a group that we can choose tonight. But if none of that is needed, then we can just have Jared submit our existing statement.

**Implementation/Timeline/Resources:** If no changes are needed to our current statement, Greg can notify Jared of that. But if changes are needed, then one of those who proposes the change(s) should probably be designated to notify Jared, after the process for finalizing the changes is completed.

### **Approved by consensus**

**Adjournment: 8:44 pm**

**Next meeting: Monday, Dec. 4, 2023 7:30 pm**

### **APPENDICES**

#### **APPENDIX A**

#### **Bylaws and Rules Committee meeting minutes - Sunday 10/8/23, 12:30pm**

**Attendees:** Mimi Newton (co-co, note-taker, Marin), James Lauderdale (member, LA), Charisse Cordero (guest), Nassim Nouri (guest)

**Any significant actions the Committee is taking:**

The Bylaws and Rules Committee discussed specific suggestions Nassim sent to the Committee after James requested guidance from the Coordinating Committee (CC) regarding the future of GPCA decision making at the CC's Oct. 3 meeting. The Bylaws and Rules Committee will evaluate the role of our committee in making each of the suggested changes and determine a strategy for moving forward at our next call.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday, November 12, 2023, at 12:30 pm pacific.

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **Candidates Committee meeting minutes - Sat, 10/28/23, 10:00 am**

**1 -- Attendees & Introductions:** Carol Bouldin, June Brashares, Greg Jan, Peggy Koteen, Christopher Lozinski, and Laura Wells (briefly), plus the following Peace and Freedom Party members: Kevin Akin, Steve Kassam, and (briefly) Monowarul Azam.

**2 -- Special session regarding Peace and Freedom (P&F) Party candidates:** As part of the follow-up from last week's GPCA "General Assembly" meeting, most of this month's meeting addressed the question of endorsing the 2 P&F candidates, Steve Kassam and Monowarul Azam, including interviewing them. We spoke first with Steve Kassam and asked him a number of questions. Then Monowarul Azam got on, but he could only stay for a short time. Then we thanked the P&F members for their participation and explained we were next going to discuss how we Greens should proceed with the endorsement process and asked for them to please excuse themselves from the meeting, which they did.

After discussing various "pros and cons" about the 2 candidates, it was mentioned that we didn't know to what extent either of them would actually be campaigning, nor to which "constituencies", which would then likely impact the degree to which they really needed to be familiar with the Green Party platform (or at least not be in conflict with it). So, we then decided to write a letter to P&F, asking about that (etc.). Also, to be clear, no formal action has been taken thus far regarding either endorsing or not endorsing these 2 P&F candidates.

**3 -- District Partisan Races (such as state legislature or US House) --** The 3 active counties in Sean Dougherty's Congressional district have now all endorsed him, so he's our first officially endorsed "district partisan candidate"! And more specifically related to the "Left Unity Slate", the active Green Party counties in P&F candidate Mohammad Arif's Congressional district have now all endorsed him, so that's "another first". (You may recall that Arif was the Left Unity Slate Lieutenant Governor candidate last year). The process of lining up endorsements from both parties is a rather time-consuming process, but we're continuing to work on it...

**4 -- Local "non-partisan" elections** (such as City Council, School Board, Water District, etc.) -- No new developments to report here. That is, the spreadsheet of info about websites containing material on "How to Run for Elective Office", hasn't yet been finished, so hopefully it'll be completed before our next meeting, so we can then it out to local groups.

**5 -- Next meeting(s) --** Since our regular ("general") meetings are on the 4th Saturday of each month (at 10:00 am), our next meeting will be November 25. Except I now realize that that's 2

days after Thanksgiving so it "might" get moved, after I survey people on that. And as we previously decided, since our "Left Unity Slate" meetings with the Peace and Freedom Party are now also considered to be Candidates Committee meetings, and since those meetings normally have been held on the 3rd Saturday of each month (at 10:00 am), therefore, that next meeting will be held on November 18.

## APPENDIX C

### Communications Committee Monthly Meeting - Tue 10/31/23, 6:30pm

- 1- Attendees:** Nassim Nouri (Coordinator & Notetaker)
- 2- Notes:** Committee did not meet due to attendees' issues with meeting zoom link.
- 3- Next meeting:** (Assuming usual last Tuesday timing) November 28, 6:30pm

## APPENDIX D

### Finance & Fundraising meeting minutes - Thu, 10/26/23, 8:00pm

**(1) Note:** This contains the September Treasurer's Report and other items from the Committee Agenda, not from Notes.

**(2) Review 2023 schedules and deadlines** from FPPC when we need to turn in our forms: Political Parties committees:

<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/campaign-rules/where-and-when-to-file-campaign-statements/when-to-file-campaign-statements-state-local-filing-schedules.htm>

Twice yearly unless election year, or special election

### **(3) GPCA Treasurer's Report - SEPTEMBER**

<u>09/01-09/30/23</u>	<u>Income</u>
\$2,095.00	One-time donations (3)
\$396.50	Recurring monthly donations (36)
<u>09/01-09/30/23</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
\$10.45	Call Centric
\$125.50	WiredTree / Liquid Web
\$300.00	Treasurer's stipend
\$60.00	ISP
\$20.00	Basecamp
\$16.43	PayPal fees
\$71.48	NationBuilder fees
<u>09/30/23</u>	<u>Account Balances</u>
\$111.26	PayPal
\$1,107.94	Mechanics Bank (savings) Federal
\$19,345.77	Mechanics Bank (checking) State

**(4) Next meeting:** Due to Thanksgiving, either November 16 or 30, 2023 at 8:00pm\

## APPENDIX E

## **Membership and Outreach Committee meeting – 10/10/23, 7:30pm**

**(1) Attendance:** Richard Gomez, Laura Wells, Nassim Nouri, Sean Dougherty (facilitator and notetaker), June Brashares

**(2) General Assembly Sat Oct 21:** Discuss needed county quorum; NB says 17 people are tagged as registered. We need people from 12 of 23 active (at least one delegate from a county). LA, San Bernardino, Sacramento haven't submitted their GA/SGA delegates yet

### **(3) County Activation**

(a) Orange Debrief: "Really easy", Hardest part: Keep everybody online, maintain a quorum, Herd cats. Follow up, Give phone/email for a few key people. Need SMS for more immediate responses from GPCA; Cornel West energy was key

(b) Santa Cruz Plan, follow steps below

(c) For all counties leading up to March presidential primary election:

- \* Each county council candidate can gather 20 registered green signatures (up until Dec 8)
- \* To be safe, gather 30 sigs, maximum 40
- \* If county council size is 7, then if more than 7 people qualify, then they'll be on ballot
- \* Want more than 7 so we're present on the ballot.
- \* Same 20 people can sign for up to 7 candidates.
- \* If only one person gets 20 signatures, they can then appoint the rest of the council.

**(4) GPUS Volunteer Automation**

**(5) Volunteer Onboarding Debrief**

**(6) Cornel West**

**(7) Announcements**

**(8) Next meeting:** November 14 @ 7:30pm, second Tuesday

## **APPENDIX F**

## **Policy and Platform Committee Report, 10/26/23, 7:00pm**

**Attendees:** Shane Que Hee, Eric Brooks, Mark Adams (Liaison to GPCA CC),

### **Minutes:**

1. Minutes approved by consensus
2. Mark reported on the GA and CC meeting.

### **POLICY:**

3. Discussed Newsom's signing of recent bills, particularly SB423 (Wiener). This bill will force municipalities to build additional housing, which is often unneeded given the amount of unoccupied housing in the state. Eric mentioned that a ballot measure is in the works, gathering signatures now. Although sponsored by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association, it will undo SB423. The PPC will watch this situation through 2023 and look at possibly crafting a press release supporting the measure in early 2024. Newsom signed other YIMBY bills that need close scrutiny.

4. Shane provided links to bills signed/vetoed by Newsom, some of them anti-progressive. PPC discussed the possibility Newsom may move further to the right, gearing up for a possible Presidential run. He signed 890 bills and vetoed 156. Links to bills signed/vetoed by Newsom: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/10/13/governor-newsom-issues-legislative-update-10-13-23/> <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2023/10/07/governor-newsom-issues-legislative-update-10-7-23/>

#### **Politics:**

AB969: Hand counting of ballots in close elections (signed)

AB1248: Independent commissions to decide reapportionment in cities, counties and school districts over 300,000 (vetoed)

SB 799: Unemployment benefits for striking workers (vetoed)

SB478: Ban on junk fees (signed)

AB316: Ban driverless trucks (vetoed)

#### **Lifestyle:**

AB436: Repeals a state law that allowed cities and counties to ban cruising (signed)

AB374: Cannabis Café bill (vetoed)

SB540: Cannabis labeling (signed)

AB1207: Bans attractive labels to children on cannabis products (vetoed)

SB58: Psychedelics decriminalization (vetoed)

AB957: Judges to consider children's gender identities in custody disputes (vetoed)

#### **PLATFORM:**

5. Discussed changes to Transportation platform. See revised platform in **Appendix H**

6. Will discuss additional planks the next meeting Peggy attends.

**Next Zoom Meeting:** Thursday, November 30, 7:00 pm to 8:00 PM

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#### **APPENDIX G**

**Redacted for legal purposes**

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#### **APPENDIX H**

**Revised platform plank: Transportation**

The Green Party urges the adoption of a transportation policy emphasizing the use of mass transit and alternatives to the automobile and vehicles that use fossil fuels.

California needs transportation that minimizes pollution and maximizes energy efficiency [See the Energy, Climate & Community Resilience plank]. California alone is responsible for about 5% 1/20th of the global greenhouse gas problem. Transportation is responsible for more than half of the state's carbon pollution, 80 percent of smog-forming pollution, and 95 percent of toxic diesel emissions. Automobiles contribute a significant portion of this - the number of fossil-fueled cars in California is still increasing. at twice our human population growth rate. Governor Gavin Newsom in 2020 announced the phase out of gasoline powered cars to help fight the climate crisis. The California Air Resources Board voted in 2022 to set 35% of new cars must be zero emission by 2026, 68% by 2030, and 100% by 2035. This schedule needs to be sped up to 100% by 2030.



Surfaces impermeable to rainwater, polluted storm run-off, paved-over or polluted wetlands, the heat island effect (increased temperature from heat-absorbing pavement), air pollution, and acid rain are all directly related to an ecologically unbalanced transportation system.

Our current transportation systems depend on oil for energy. Petroleum is a finite resource, and it will run out some day. World oil supplies will decline in the near future. Postponing the development of conservation technologies and alternative energy sources will cause the inevitable transition from oil to be that much more expensive and difficult.

Massive subsidies to the auto and fossil fuel industries, as well as unworkable approaches by urban planners, maintain the auto's dominance of our cityscapes. The practice of upgrading streets to relieve traffic congestion just generates new traffic because access is now easier. People then take jobs further from their homes or purchase homes further from their jobs. Some people shift from public transit to private cars because the trip time in cars is shorter. When fewer people use public transit, it loses funding. As service deteriorates, even more people use their cars, and the cycle continues.

To counteract these trends and reduce auto use, the Green Party advocates the following strategies:

#### Pedestrians, and Bicyclists, E-Bikes and skateboarders

1. Make streets, neighborhoods and commercial districts more pedestrian-oriented.
2. Increase the greenery on streets to encourage people to get out of their cars or other vehicles like SUVs, and trucks. This also helps reduce the heat-island effect.
3. Implement traffic-calming methods such as speed bumps and camera surveillance so that the design of local streets promotes safe speeds and safe interaction with pedestrians. Create small, walkable auto-free zones.
4. Develop extensive networks of bicycle, E-bike and skateboarding lanes and paths.
5. Include bike, E-bike and skateboard racks on all public transit. Provide adequate bike, E-bike and skateboard parking at all transit stations and other public destinations.
6. Provide free bicycles, E-bikes and skateboards and their necessary support services for tourists, visitors or others without such transportation bicycles so they can ride around town pollution-free. Provide necessary support services to encourage the use of bicycles.
7. Ensure pedestrian safety by mandating that bicyclists, E-bikers and skateboarders observe pedestrian traffic signals and a maximum speed of 5 miles per hour.

#### Mass Transit

8. Redirect resources and subsidies that currently go to enhancing auto capacity into expanding transit options like mass transit that provide service to the most people at the lowest financial and environmental costs.
9. Develop affordable, flexible and accessible mass transit systems - they should be more economical and convenient to use than private vehicles.
10. Deploy non-petroleum powered or highly efficient buses. Such technologies as fuel cells, hybrids, biodiesel and electric are currently available or are close to full development.
11. Encourage employer subsidies of transit commuter tickets for employees, funded by government congestion management grants.
12. Use existing auto infrastructure for transit expansion where possible. Light rail could be established in expressway medians through metropolitan high-density corridors.



13. Include transportation issues in land use decisions, such as the need for mass transit to have a market and be viable, and cross commuting (people commuting to a place where they could and should live). [see Urban Land Use plank.]
14. Provide easy-to-understand and thorough information concerning mass transit schedules, routes and rates, and speed limits. Make this information convenient and accessible to potential commuters.
15. Design mass transit with roll-on access for the physically disabled. Hoists and lifts are clumsy and time-consuming.

#### Autos

16. Place a moratorium on highway widening and use the money for mass transit and facilities for pedestrians, and bicyclists, E-bikes, E-vehicles, and skateboards.
17. Lower toll fees and provide further incentives for carpools and rideshares.
18. Discourage unnecessary auto use by limiting free parking in nonresidential areas well served by mass transit.
19. Substantially increase the taxes on gasoline but allow some compensation for low-income drivers. [see Creating the Right Incentives plank.]
20. Legislate a "gas guzzler" tax on new and current vehicles that get a lower mpg than the CAFE (Corporate Average Fuel Economy) standards and offer "gas sipper" rebates for vehicles that get a higher mpg.
21. Schedule an increase in CAFE standards to 60 mpg for cars and 45 mpg for light trucks within five years.
22. Develop and market fuel-efficient cars to the general public, such as hybrids, as well as fuel cell, solar, electric and other non-fossil fuel powered vehicles for local travel.
23. Ban the sale of new fossil-fueled cars and other vehicles by 2030.
24. Mandate that all operators of transporters obey the same road rules.

#### Long Distance Travel

25. Make airports accessible by local transit systems.
26. Legislate further incremental reductions in aircraft plane noise and air pollution.
27. Emphasize the use of light and heavy rail for freight transportation as an alternative to air and truck freight.
28. Build high-speed rail systems between cities as an alternative to aircraft, planes, and cars and other vehicles that use fossil-fuels- especially over highly traveled medium-length routes like San Francisco to Los Angeles and to San Diego.
29. Ensure renewable fuel use instead of fossil fuels for all ships and boats
30. Do not exempt the military, police, national guard and coast guard from the above transportation objectives except in emergencies.

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**-END-**