

GPCA Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday Dec 2, 2019 7:30 to 9:30pm

(01) Roll call : (5 minutes)

There are currently 19 committee members. This means quorum is a simple majority of 10:

CC Members: Victoria Ashley, Doug Barnett, Marla Bernstein, Carol Bouldin, June Brashares, Eric Brooks, Mica Daniel (Alternate Female Co-Co), Sadie Fulton, Melissa Guevara, Colt Gonzales, Tarik Kanaana, James Lauderdale, Ann Menasche, Mimi Newton (Female Co-Co), Nassim Nouri, Christine Pepin, Shannel Pittman, Audra Walton, Laura Wells

Present (12): Doug Barnett, Marla Bernstein, Carol Bouldin, June Brashares, Mica Daniel, Tarik Kanaana, Ann Menasche, Mimi Newton, Nassim Nouri, Christine Pepin, Audra Walton, Laura Wells

Absent (7): Victoria Ashley* (joined the call at 7:55), Eric Brooks, Sadie Fulton, Colt Gonzales, Melissa Guevara* (joined the call at 7:40 pm), James Lauderdale* (joined the call for a minute at 7:55 and then left due to illness), Shannel Pittman* (joined the call at 8:03 pm).

Quorum was had at 7:37 pm.

(02) Roles (2 min)

Facilitator - Mica, Note Take - Mimi, Time Keeper. Nassim, Vibes Watcher Christine

(03) Decision: Approval of Agenda

Latest version sent out by Mimi at approx 6:32 pm on 12/2/19.

Melissa joined the call at 7:40

Laura sent in a media committee report, which has been added to the Consent Calendar, and is at Appendix D.

The proposed appointment of C. Spitzer to IT is not considered a late item, because, June explains, appointments are not considered late items.

Agenda approved by Consensus.

(03a) Decision: Approval of Late Items

Tarik had also submitted a late item about inviting non-Greens to the G.A. (see Item 7A)

Late item approved by consensus.

(04) Decision: Approval of prior months' Minutes: As posted November 9th, 2019 at 8:25pm by Mimi Newton

Mica asks for clarification re: the FBI issue being re-agendized. Tarik differentiates the specific request, which was voted on at the previous meeting, from a more generalized FBI discussion, which this item represents, or should represent.

James joins the call at 7:55, explains he is ill, makes sure we have quorum, and then leaves at 7:56.

Minutes approved by consensus.

(05) Decision: Consent Items: (5 minutes)

Background and Purpose: The consent calendar is intended to pass non-controversial items or items consented 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 for inclusion into the meeting minutes.

Clearinghouse and Grow Joint Mtg. Appendix A

Finance/Budget Committee Appendix B

Media Committee Report. Appendix D

Consent items approved by consensus.

(06) Decision Item: Appointment of Cameron L. Spitzer to the IT Committee (5 minutes)

Sponsors: Mimi Newton, Marin County

Background and Purpose: to help GPCA in reducing costs and improve efficiency in the utilization and implementation of IT-related activities and resources.

Proposal: Appoint Cameron L. Spitzer to the IT Committee

Implementation/Timeline/Resources: Upon confirmation by the CC.

References: Email dated Nov. 30, 3:51 pm:

Hello GP of Cal Co-co,

Nassim Nouri asked me to join the GP of Cal IT committee temporarily. This is so I can try to gather information off GP of Cal's Cpanel at Liquidweb and help move the services to a more accessible, standard, and cheaper hosting setup.

I originally asked to be relieved of moderator duty for the eight cagreens.org lists that send me daily moderator reminders. But the answer was nobody knows how to do that, or has the access to do it. On further inquiry, it seems GP of Cal is paying for support they are not getting. You pay \$90/month to Liquidweb for someone to walk you through fixing that kind of thing on the phone. (It's a service for small businesses who can't afford occasional IT help.) Without that level of support, Cpanel is worse than useless. And you have broken stuff you can't fix. Some of you may remember the Cpanel was contracted with a small company called Wiretree and we thought we had Green friends working there, but that company sold out to Liquidweb and the relationship was lost.

Nassim thought my résumé was relevant.

Perhaps I should have introduced myself. I'm a hardware engineer. If you're old enough, you may have used an Etherlink 3 or [Etherlink XL](#) Ethernet adapter. I designed or [debugged](#) some of those boards. I have [a few lines](#) in the [Linux kernel](#) because they were misusing my chip and

I sent them a patch. I also wrote the first [Linux Loader Howto](#), distributed by the Linux Documentation Project, and contributed to the [Ethernet Howto](#). I was unemployed for several years after the dotcom crash in 2001, and let my skills get stale. These days I do IT work at Nvidia.

I was introduced to unix in 1984, when I worked on a 68K-based unix workstation at Motorola. I never got comfortable with MS-DOS or Windows. In 1991, I established a Usenet News node and email server on my home PC because I didn't want to depend on my employer or somebody's BBS for political work. I switched that system from SCO Unix to Linux in 1993. Besides Usenet, I ran a mailing list for Rainforest Action Network on there, using [Majordomo](#).

I registered Green in 1991 and volunteered in the ballot qual drive. In 1994, I attended a national Green Party meeting in New Mexico and handed out a flyer (designed in [LaTeX](#)) describing the World Wide Web and explaining to Green activists why they would soon need to have Web sites. In 1996, I ran the largest of several Ralph Nader for President web sites, because Ralph's campaign wouldn't do it. Majordomo wasn't cutting it, so we moved to [GNU Mailman](#) around then. By 2002, when the movement peaked, I had 230 users on three servers maintaining web sites under about fifty domains. Some of those Mailman lists are still active, on my virtual machines at Linode and Digital Ocean. And I've been running domain name service for [cagreens.org](#) since 1996.

-Cameron

[Vic joined the call at 7:55 pm.]

Discussion.

Approved by consensus.

[Shannel joined the call at 8:03 pm.]

(07) UPDATE on GA from Tarik Kanaana, GA Agenda Team

Discussion.

(07A) Decision: Invitation to non-greens to attend the Fresno General Assembly on December 7th & 8th. (5 min)

Sponsor: Tarik Kanaana (on behalf of the GA Planning Committee)

Background and purpose: According to Article XI of the CC Internal procedures, non-party individuals can attend a GA only if invited by the CC to do so. There are two items on the agenda which include presentations given by members of three different groups. These individuals might or might not be Green Party members. Because this needs to be done on a short time schedule, we ask that the CC delegate this authority to the GA Planning Committee for this GA meeting only.

Proposal: The Coordinating Committee delegates its authority to invite non-GPCA members to attend the Fresno General Assembly on December 7th & 8th.

Discussion.

Approved by consensus.

(o8) Decision Item: Bylaws Interpretation Allowing Greens a 2 Month, Temporary Inactive, GPCA Membership Status, To Vote In Other Party Primaries

Sponsor: Eric Brooks (10 minutes)

See message from Eric Brooks, dated 10/28/19, at Appendix C.

Discussion - Nassim has concerns for which she is not willing to step side; the Item goes to a vote, the results of which are as follows:

Yes (0)

No (14): Victoria Ashley, Doug Barnett, Marla Bernstein, June Brashares, Mica Daniel, Melissa Guevara, Tarik Kanaana, Ann Menasche, Mimi Newton, Nassim Nouri, Christine Pepin, Shannel Pittman, Audra Walton, Laura Wells.

Abstain (1): Carol Bouldin

Not present - Eric Brooks, Sadie Fulton, Colt Gonzales, and James Lauderdale.

Proposal Fails.

If Eric Brooks is not present, the following item has been requested to be postponed another month:

(o9) Proposal: That the Coordinating Committee and its individual members will in no way voluntarily interact with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, or any other federal law enforcement agency – and that any interaction with such agencies will only be done in response to a legal warrant or order.

See Eric's email Message [appears to be from Mimi] dated Mon. Nov. 25, 2019 at 11:54 pm.

Appendices

Appendix A.

Clearinghouse Committee & GROW joint Meeting Minutes – V2

Tuesday, Nov 12th, 2019 7:30 - 9 pm

1. **Roll Call:** CH members/Cocos: Mica Daniel, Nassim Nouri. Both present, quorum at 7:30
GROW present: Laura Wells, Richard Gomez
2. **Roles:** Facilitator: Laura Wells, Notes: Nassim Nouri, Timekeeper: Mica Daniel
3. **CH prep for GA** (CH, 10 min) - Nassim will drop off literature and other items with Mica, and will make a t-shirt sign for GA.
4. **GA preparation** & delegate recruitment
 - The last GA organizing call had Mica, Tarik and Rick Greenblatt (SDC) attending. The next call is tomorrow, Laura and Richard will be on that.
 - Laura & June will send the strategic plan proposal to the GA agenda team asap.
 - Mica and Laura will be managing the registration table, and looking for 1-2 more volunteers.

- Laura thought likely 40-50 delegates will be attending. GA dels may include alternates, appointed by the county to be GA delegates.
- Laura will draft content for an email to request GA delegate lists from county councils and remind new people of the basics, and she will email this to SGA delegates and the County Council members.

5. Go Green voter registration drive (Laura 10 min)

- Laura mentioned that for those Greens who want to register for another party for the primary the time period to be registered for that party is Feb 18 – April 10th.
- Laura: there will be thousands more Greens if everyone who changes for a primary will switch back to Green afterwards, so we should communicate these timelines to those who might change for a primary.
- Nassim: in Santa Clara while phone banking for county council petitions some Greens who had changed their registration in 2016 and had not remembered to change back were reminded by the call to re-register Green. To remind Greens to come back, it may take a big phone banking and outreach effort to remind ex-Greens to re-register.
- Nassim notes that the Inform list needs to be updated, can anyone in GROW do this? No, so Nicole and Nassim in IT will do that ASAP.
- Laura proposed a brainstorm session for a voter registration drive for the GROW/CH breakout session at the GA occur at the GA (for after the March 2020 primary to maintain our ballot line).

6. County council election reminder (Nassim 5 min) - Nassim will draft and send a new email to inform list, based on the previous notice Laura sent to remind counties of the election deadlines, Laura will confirm content, GROW/CH will follow up with another reminder at the end of Nov.

7. Confirm next meeting - in-person joint breakout session at GA Dec 7-8. Confirmed
The next GROW/CH call scheduled second Tuesday call, Jan. 14th. Confirmed

Appendix B
November Finance / Budget Committee Meeting

Saturday, November 23rd, 2019, 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Dial-in Number: (515) 604-9861
Access Code: 616301*

Present:

Victoria Ashley – Finance Co-co, Budget, CC Liaison
Ruscal Cayangyang – Treasurer
Maxine (Mica) Daniel – Co-co
Frank Lambert – Finance
Mimi Newton – CC Co-co, Bylaws Co-co, Budget

1. Agenda Review

Approved by consensus

2. Review of Last Month's Minutes

Approved by consensus

3. Next General Assembly - Budget Discussion

Reviewed the final numbers on the Budget and plans for the GA. Ruscal will create a presentation to discuss section by section as in previous years. The Budget presentation will be Saturday from 10:30 – 11:30 am. Ruscal is still requesting an invoice for the venue

reservation, Rusal mailed the check made out to the venue. There is a break-out meeting for Sunday for the Finance Committee, but no one will be there on that Sunday.

Google doc spreadsheet -

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gEXituISMVW2AFobkBJ9rPkJFRIMzBW6dim7Sj2i80U/edit#gid=0>

4. Next Finance Committee Meeting: Saturday Dec 21st at 6 pm

Appendix C

Hi all,

Since it is very likely that some GPCA members serving on the Coordinating Committee, the Standing General Assembly, and/or other committees or working groups, will wish to vote for Bernie Sanders in the March 2020 Democratic presidential primary, I am proposing a very strict Bylaws Interpretation that will allow any GPCA member to temporarily register as a Democrat for ***only two months and not more than two months*** solely for the purposes of voting in another party's primary.

This Bylaws Interpretation will establish a Temporary Inactive GPCA status, during which the temporarily inactive member will retain their committee, assembly, and/or working group status, but will ***not*** be allowed to count toward quorum, take part in consensus decisions, or vote, in the GPCA bodies on which they serve (including the GPUS delegation) while they are temporarily inactive.

It will require that any GPCA member must formally notify that they have adopted this Temporary Inactive primary voting status, to the GPCA coordinating committee (throughapplications@cagreens.org), any GPCA decision making body on which they serve (through the committee/working-groups' listservs), and if they are a Standing General Assembly member, the SGA vote administrators (through sga@lists.cagreens.org) ***before*** taking part in the next meeting or email discussion for a committee, working group, or the SGA. The member must inform each decision making body that they may not count toward quorum or participate in consensus decision making or voting, while they are on Temporary Inactive status.

This Bylaws Interpretation will allow a GPCA member to register to vote for another party on or after the 15th of the month prior to a primary election and then re-register as a Green by the 15th of the month ***following*** the month of the primary. If the GPCA member fails to re-register as a Green by the 15th of the month following the month of the primary, their active membership will be forfeit and they will be removed from all GPCA decision making bodies.

Elections & Appointments: While a GPCA member is on Temporary Inactive status, they may apply, run, be elected, and be appointed, for any GPCA decision making body, but they may not be seated, count towards quorum, or participate in decision making or voting, unless and until they have re-registered as Green by the 15th of the month following the month of the primary for which they went on Temporary Inactive status. If they are not re-registered as Green according to this schedule, their election or appointment will be nullified.

For purposes of attendance, any GPCA member on Temporarily Inactive status, will not be counted as absent for any meetings of a GPCA decision making body on which they serve, as

long as they ***attend*** those meetings (even though they cannot participate in decision making or voting).

Important Note: The reason for allowing a full two month inactive period is as follows. I contacted the Secretary of State's office about this subject and was told that a change in registration should be done at least two weeks prior to the primary, and that to avoid confusing primary vote tallying, a voter should wait one month and one week before changing their registration back to their preferred party. (Primary results are required to be finalized one month and one week following the primary election.)

Also note that the reason this Bylaws Interpretation will not limit registration switching to a No Party Preference voter status, is because in the 2016 election there was ***extensive*** mishandling and incorrect administering of No Party Preference ballots that in many cases prevented voters from effectively voting in the 2016 Democratic presidential primary.

Example of Implementation Timeline: What this Bylaws Interpretation would mean for the March 2020 primary is that a GPCA member would be allowed to register as a Democrat on or after February 15, 2019 and to then re-register as a Green on or before April 15, 2019.

This interpretation is important to retain unity and continuity within the GPCA regardless of where individual members stand on Sanders.

I'll send more formal proposal text soon.

Eric Brooks
SF, CA

Appendix D

MEDIA COMMITTEE REPORT

CONFERENCE CALLS

7:30pm - generally 4th Tuesdays (3rd Tuesday in December)

August 27, 2019

PRESENT: Diana Brown, co-coordinator, Susan Lamont, Laura Wells

ABSENT: Sid Akbar, Mike Gonzales

September 24, 2019

PRESENT: Diana Brown, co-coordinator, Susan Lamont, Mike Gonzales

ABSENT: Sid Akbar, Laura Wells

October 22, 2019 - no call in October

November 26, 2019

PRESENT: Diana Brown, Laura Wells

ABSENT: Mike Gonzales, Susan Lamont

NEWS TOPICS that were discussed, drafted, and/or published in either press releases, Op-Eds, or the "Green Party of California [monthly] News" include:

- * Bolivia, Latin America Indigenous, Evo Morales
- * Fires in the Amazon and California
- * Green New Deal
- * Immigration

- * Monterey County Water Desalination
- * Prop 13 Reform
- * Public Banking
- * Ranked Choice Voting - update: Newsom's veto

OTHER POSSIBILITIES

- * Thanksgiving truth
- * Green Candidates/Why we run

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

A. Ongoing challenges and discussions include how to effectively organize and use our time and energy within the GPCA Media Committee (when each of us is also involved in many other issues and Green Party campaigns and other efforts):

- mainstream and alternative media
- social media, including multi-media, graphics, videos
- internal Green Party publications

B. Discussed how to list contacts. For external publications, contacts may include the author and/or experts on the topic, and the GPCA spokesperson if necessary. For internal publications only list contacts as above if necessary, generally without personal cell phones or personal email addresses.

C. Expanding our Media contacts to include multiple languages.

NEXT MEDIA CALL

December 17, 2019, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. 605-313-4179, 806166#

(Note that it will be the 3rd Tuesday rather than the 4th which is December 24.)