

**Minutes – Nominating Convention, Green Party of Florida
Hampton, Florida
May 23-25, 2008**

Friday, May 23, 2005

Attendees:

Michael Canney
Shawna Doran
Cathy Gilbert
Steve Showen

Johnny Ardis
Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks
Bonnie Redding
Carol Mosely

Facilitator: Johnny Ardis

- Barbara reported on the state of formation of the Green Party and the ideas that were generated at a recent meeting in California:

The first national meeting was held in 1984 in Minneapolis. A conflict developed between the Green "movement" and those who wanted a political party. This led to a split which many regretted. At a recent meeting in California, a tri-branch organization was proposed which consisted of:

1. Political Party
2. Direct Action Organizations
3. Green Institutions

Caucuses could move out of the Party branch to another branch. There was some discussion on this structure after Steve raised questions about why the caucuses would need to move out of the Party. Cathy pointed out that a 501(c)(3) organization has the ability to raise money for educational purposes, while political parties do not, and reported on a conversation with Andrew Lewis who felt that when a movement is within a political party, integrity becomes compromised; while a movement from without helps anchor values.

- Report from various locals (further discussion on Saturday):

1. Escambia - Johnny Ardis reported that he schedules meetings but no one attends.
2. Miami-Dade – Steve reported that they are having infrequent meetings. He distributed copies of a project that Miami-Dade has been working on - the Local Platform Project - which could be used as a party building tool and a coalition-building tool. We would meet with organizations, show them our current platform as it applies to their particular issues, and ask them to contribute language to the Green Party platform. This informs them of our values and gives them an opportunity to talk about their values. Also, when candidates run for office, we could point out who does and does not represent the various platform planks. Along with this idea, the creation of a Green Institute of Florida was discussed. This institute could consult with other organizations and become a clearing house for Green policies. Cathy reported on a conversation with Andrew Lewis (American Black Caucus) where he felt that we needed to be canvassing the neighborhoods.
3. Alachua – Michael reported that their latest mailing for a county meeting did not generate enough attendees to hold an election.
4. Bradford - Carol reported that she is the only Green in her county. Carol Mosely suggested that we conduct a survey of values to find out what people believe in.
5. Palm Beach – Bonnie reported that they have regular meetings but no one attends except the usual three suspects. They have announced plans for an internet radio station and have received a lot of interest. They have one candidate who may be running for County Commissioner but was reluctant to run against the only person of color on the Commission. (Update: the candidate is now running for Soil & Water Commission).

- Cathy posed questions to the group: Why do we want a Green Party? What should we do to grow the Green Party?

Michael felt that we have a dream candidate in Cynthia McKinney and that there should be more excitement around this. Florida should at least be able to raise the \$5000 she needs for matching funds. He proposed that whenever a Presidential debate occurs that a video be sent to YouTube with Cynthia McKinney superimposed into the debate and discussing the issues. This could address the problem that most people don't realize that they have Green values and that the Green Party represents their values.

Saturday, May 24, 2008

Attendees:

Michael Canney
Cathy Gilbert
Steve Showen
Johnny Ardis
Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks
Bonnie Redding
Carol Mosely
Echo Steiner

Oliver Kofoid
Josh Pritchett
Jennifer Sullivan
Allen Joseph
Jerry Rose
[Alachua member]
Anita Stewart, new member
Don Heber, new member

- Welcome by the Alachua County Green Party (Michael Canney)

Michael felt that there had been much frustration over low participation, but that this will be the turn around year from our fade phase to our revival phase. This meeting should be the kick off for the upsurge.

- Introductions

There were 2 new members, Anita Stewart (Pasco County) and Don Heber (Marion County)

- A quorum was established based on a list of "active" locals where meetings were occurring. Those locals are: Palm Beach, Hernando, Alachua, Miami-Dade, Sarasota, Bay, Pasco, Monroe, Hillsborough, Escambia

- Welcome by outgoing Co-Chairs (Cathy Gilbert and Michael Canney)

Michael felt this was a revival year; that we need to think about the internal positions as the seeds of the revival. The 100+ people that responded to the ballot mailing could be brought into the fold. He felt that the McKinney campaign was crucial to our success as a Party and could be used as a vehicle to grow the Party.

Cathy felt that party challenges were (1) working with consensus, (2) being grassroots and (3) not having a leader. She felt that Nader was a draw but he was not sustainable for the Party. We need to substitute a vision for a lack of a leader figure. The fact that we don't have a concrete vision for Florida Greens is a problem. We also need a better infrastructure (website, wiki, etc.)

- Minutes of the last two State meetings (Steve Showen)

1. October 2007 Annual Meeting (Palm Beach):

A helpful Tool Kit was distributed by Palm Beach County and there were workshops on open source software, a Green Paper, and running a campaign (Brent McMillan). Major decisions were (1) create a Green Paper on energy in Florida, and (2) schedule a Strategic Planning meeting with Brent.

2. January 2008 Strategic Planning Meeting (Hernando):

There were break out sessions based on 4 key areas:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Election Reform | c. Running Candidates |
| b. Green Energy Paper | d. Party Building |

We need to review the committee reports on these 4 topics. Question: where are the reports?

- Treasurer's Report (Oliver Kofoid)

GPF received a check from GPUS for shared funds. Funds from the ballot mailer were \$1026. Balance in account is \$1894.

Various locals reported on plans to contribute their share to the GPF ballot mailing.

- Internal Nominations

Guidelines: 50% plus 1 votes

1. Co-Chair nominees.

Cathy read the bios and proposals by the 2 nominees, Jayne King and Bill Milner. She also read the By-laws on Co-Chair duties. There was a discussion on the proposals submitted and the preference for co-chairs to be from different locals.

Final vote: Jayne King, Co-Chair
Bill Milner, Co-Chair

2. Secretary

Final vote: Bonnie Redding

3. Treasurer

Final vote: Oliver Kofoid

4. Spokespersons

Proposal (by Jennifer): Limit the spokespersons to 2 people. PASSED

There was discussion on whether voting would be ranked choice or up & down. Decision: Vote for 1 male and 1 female.

Final vote: Julia Aires
Alan Kobrin

5. Board of Trustees

Cathy read the By-laws.

Proposal (by Barbara): to add Don Heber to the list of nominees. He denied but it was pointed out that he will automatically be added to the Council once he holds a meeting in Marion County.

Proposal (by Cathy): that the Board meet during the weekend and come up with guidelines for Board of Trustees, though Council will ultimately decide. She felt we needed more accountability and the establishment of liaisons to the various committees. Decision: This will be discussed during the Committee agenda item later in the day or the next day.

Final vote: Michael Canney
Cathy Gilbert
Brian Keane
Steve Showen
Anita Stewart
Jennifer Sullivan (withdrew from the Board later in the meeting)
Officers: Jayne King, Bill Milner, Bonnie Redding, Oliver Kofoid
(Don Heber, Observer)

6. GPUS Delegates

Jennifer was nominated and accepted. Echo asked to be removed as a nominee.

Final vote: Michael Canney
Julia Aires
Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks
Jennifer Sullivan

(Echo Steiner, Alternate)

7. Presidential Nominating Delegates (16 Delegates, 2 Alternates)

Final vote:

Julia Aires (T)	Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks (T)
Johnny Ardis	Steve Showen (T)
Michael Canney	Echo Steiner (T)
Shawna Doran (T?)	Anita Stewart
Cathy Gilbert (T)	Jennifer Sullivan (T)
Allen Joseph (T?)	Alan Kobrin
Brian Keaney	Josh Pritchett
Oliver Kofoid	(Jayne King, Alternate)
Bonnie Redding (T)	(Bill Milner, Alternate)

(T = attending GPUS National Convention in Chicago, July 2008)

Johnny reminded us that the Secretary needs to submit the names of the elected officers to the State Division of Elections. (Later discussion between Bonnie and Oliver: GPF Secretary will wait until after Treasurer has submitted the June filing to the State.)

- Lunch break

- Results of the internal GPF elections were announced as shown above.

- Award Ceremony

Cathy reported that the Green Party was born in Florida in 1988 and was official in 1992. She introduced Johnny Ardis who presented Barbara Rodgers-Hendricks with an award for service. The award will be a sculpture but it is not yet completed. Barbara spoke about her first national Green Party meeting in 1990 in California and her run for Congress in District 1 in 1992 where she won 4% of the vote. She was the first Green Party candidate in Florida.

- Fundraising Report

Cathy reiterated Brian Keaney's comment that in the 1990's the Greens were a dues paying party. Echo felt that any dues should have a right to waive option. Oliver pointed out that dues must be called "contributions" unless a 501(c)(3) is set up.

Michael felt that we needed to focus on calling everyone on the National list and on the list created from the ballot returns. We should look at these as pieces of a puzzle as we don't currently have a fundraising committee. We need goals followed by a strategy. Fundraising proposals must match strategic planning. Then put the projects together with people who will fund them.

Barbara suggested that we hire a professional fundraiser on a commission basis.

Echo suggested that one of the Board members be the fundraising lead.

Jennifer proposed 2 goals: (1) increase number of new members, and (2) increase funds. She volunteered to make phone calls. She emphasized more use of the media such as radio and ad campaigns.

Proposal (by Jennifer): to organize a campaign to email or call WMNF regarding the 1-2 pm show, every Tuesday-Thursday promoting Green Party values. No decision was made (Update: this Proposal was accepted on Sunday).

Michael recalled that the most successful fundraiser was in 2002 organized by Democracy Rising. 6,500 people attended along with celebrity speakers. He suggested that something like this be done for Cynthia McKinney using 100 coalition organizations.

Steve reported on the model used by Democrats. They have an Executive Committee which does all the work and these people are required to pay dues.

[Correction submitted by Julia (6/2/08): our most successful fundraiser (in 2002) was not organized by Democracy Rising. It was a separate event. We were able to have the opportunity, due to mega help we gave to the DR organizing (with little or no "credit" due to the 501c3 of theirs), but we took advantage of their presence and organized the "Reception/Fundraiser" with Nader and Medea ahead of the DR event (which also included Michael Moore, Patti Smith, Jello Biafra and Iris Dement). I had just recently joined the GPUS fundraising committee and we were just bringing out the 1000 for a \$1000 campaign and held it as a joint fundraiser with GPUS. They fronted the upfront money for the catering, etc. and we made all the arrangements locally. I know because I worked on it and with DR for 3 solid months, I think it was. Our event was attended by about 150 - 175 people if I recall.

We raised about \$25,000, some paid out over years on folks credit cards (like mine). This was a great source of income for GPF for several years, and one of the most successful that GPUS had ever had, and usually helped us to help our delegates to the National Annual Meeting.]

- Budget Proposal

Anthony had presented a proposal which was never discussed. Bonnie handed out a summary of his proposal.

Cathy would like to set aside funds for web development.

There was a discussion of funds for the GPUS delegates. Jennifer agreed to give back any funds allotted to her as a GPUS delegate.

Proposal (by Oliver): We currently have \$2,000 in our account. Hold \$500 in the General Fund and use \$1,500 for the 4 GPUS delegates (delegates must present a request for funds). PASSED.

- GPF/GPUS Presidential Primary

Various mailing problems were discussed. Phone append numbers and the registered Greens list were used to make the robo calls. Oliver felt that the number of returned ballots (bad addresses) was too high. Cathy asked for us to report names and counties for those who did not receive ballots.

Michael asked about the procedure for getting Green candidates on the state primary. We need to research how California does this. Steve reminded us that there is a new law which requires us to participate at the state level and that we need to research this also.

1. GPUS Platform Amendments

Barbara reported that there was no voice of support for the content of the amendments or the process. There was discussion on how to move forward.

Ideas:

A. A 3-tier platform consisting of (i) a short summary with bullet points on each plank, (ii) a mid level of content volume and (iii) an inclusive and full range of Green viewpoints, plus pet projects not considered for the Platform.

B. An umbrella model which would be an ongoing process, not once every 4 years, with web-based contribution

Barbara felt there was nothing GPF could contribute at this point. A hearing is scheduled for the National Convention. The problem is that we will not be able to vote on individual planks as the vote will be up or down on the entire Platform.

Michael asked how GPF could push for a process change preferring an ongoing discussion that could be voted on anytime within the 4 year period.

Proposal: Echo will submit a proposal to the Steering Committee meeting on May 25, 2008 asking if approval could be voted on plank by plank.

2. Rules for Delegates

Echo stated that the goal is to limit business at the National Convention. Michael asked what the rules were if we have Florida delegates voting for Nader. Echo reported that the floor rules were thrown out,

that there were 2 options: (i) send BRPP (Bylaws, Rules, Procedures and Policy) Rules forward or (ii) change BRPP Rules. There was further discussion on the no-nominee problem.

3. Announcement of Presidential Ballot Results

Cynthia McKinney	84 votes	11 delegates
Ralph Nader (write-in)	18 votes	2 delegates
Kat Swift	13 votes	2 delegates
Kent Mesplay	10 votes	1 delegate
Jesse Johnson	<u>5 votes</u>	<u>0 delegates</u>
	130 votes	16 delegates

Michael asked why Nader should be able to affect the final count. Cathy pointed out that write-ins had been considered in the past. There was further discussion on how GPF should represent our votes. Barbara reported that California actually names each delegate and which nominee they are voting for. Echo felt the announced delegates should vote as a group with the following loophole: in the event something happens, the state delegate vote must be unanimous minus 1.

Proposal (by Michael): Anyone who is not a declared nominee should be eliminated. There was some objection and he removed the proposal.

Echo felt that the GPF ballot contained a write-in offer, so we have to carry those votes to the National Convention. Steve suggested they should be carried through the first round only.

4. Affiliation Agreement with GPUS

GPF submitted an affiliation agreement to GPUS on May 9, 2001 signed by Brian Keany and Moe Cazell. There was no proposal to rewrite the agreement at this time.

5. National Delegates Report on National Business

Echo reported that 60 of the national delegates who are Yahoo users are not able to participate in emails with National committees. This is also happening on the local level. Anita reported that it is happening in other organizations such as Code Pink, and that it appears the emails are being interpreted by Yahoo as spam.

Michael pointed out that Greens don't need to be national delegates to be on a national committee. If anyone is interested, they would need to be approved by GPF Council.

(Steve offers as an aside those now serving on national committees. Alan Kobrin - Media Committee, any others? / Barbara - Presidential Campaign Support Committee, Platform Committee / Julia - Presidential Campaign Support Committee, Fundraising Committee (on leave of absence) / Any others?)

- State of the Party Reports

1. GPUS

Echo discussed her concerns over the financial state of GPUS due to overwhelming Conventions costs, in particular the hotel rooms, which could bankrupt the Party. She also reported her concerns that GPUS is pulling funds from different accounts with little oversight.

Proposal: Echo will report to GPUS that GPF would like to discuss alternate Convention venues if the option was still open.

There was discussion on the need for more Sustainers so GPUS can count on the funds. Michael felt the process needed improvement with less bickering, arguing and debating.

Jennifer analyzed the growth of GPUS since GPF signed the Affiliation Agreement:

<u>1991</u>	<u>2008</u>
5 ballot lines	21 ballot lines
5,000 members	289,177* members (2006 Nationwide)/6,607 (Florida)
20 elected officials	230 elected officials

(*per Brent McMillan. Does not include those not permitted to register Green)

Jerry asked about the strategy for upcoming Presidential debates. Echo reported that there was no strategy at the National level and suggested that each state may be able to effectuate the process.

Suggestion (by Michael): GPF should work with the Presidential nominee so that whenever there's a debate we're ready within 24 hours to superimpose the nominee into a YouTube video.

Suggestion (by Anita): Anyone with a blog should be announcing such a video on their site. Also could use Facebook, Indymedia sites, etc.

Other avenues were: labor unions, League of Women Voters, DemocracyNow, Laura Flanders Show (promised to host 3rd party debates).

2. GPF Locals

Pasco County: Anita has received a cd with all of the registered Greens in Pasco county and will be calling them.

Suggestion (by Michael): add Anita's contact information for Pasco to the GPF website.

Alachua County: Michael reported that there is a large number of registered Greens in the county but the local cannot get them to become active. He felt this was partly because there is a large faction of progressive Democrats. A recent annual meeting did not generate enough people to hold internal elections. He felt that Green issues are being promoted but the Greens are not getting any traction. The local Labor Party has 2 paid staff members due to Sustainer donations.

Monroe County: Oliver reported that they are holding peace vigils every Friday and there has been some police harassment over noise violation. They have teamed up with FIRM (Fair Insurance Rates), GLEE (Green Living), and Last Stand (anti-development issues). Developers are now using re-development attempts which don't require permits.

Miami-Dade County: Steve and Cathy reported that Cynthia McKinney will be in Miami to attend N'COBRA (National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations). They have also proposed the Local Platform Project (see discussion on Friday for details). Steve will send an invite to GPF list regarding the project. Their last meeting drew 15 people (after much phonebanking), but they felt the local did not have anything for them to do.

Palm Beach County: Bonnie reported on plans for an internet radio station which has generated a lot of interest. Echo reported that at least 2 candidates are running for office (probably Soil & Water), but that Cara is still considering a second term for Lake Worth City Commissioner based on whether we can find another like-minded candidate to run with her. She has spoken with a political science professor at Palm Beach Community College who stated an interested in holding a political forum, perhaps in June when Cynthia McKinney is here. Bonnie reported that a Green who teaches criminology/sociology at Barry University in Miami is also interested in hosting a forum.

Hernando County: Jennifer reported that they hold meetings consistently at the same location, same time and for 1 hour only. She felt that people are aware of the Green Party in Hernando County. She also felt that more media is needed and asked GPF to commit to calling or emailing WMNF during their 1 pm shows, Tuesday through Thursday. Echo suggested that the message be organized and consistent.

Bay County: Barbara reported that there are 4 Greens active in the county. Steve Wilkie is running for U.S. Congress though he did not make the petition deadline and now needs \$10,000 as a filing fee. Steve is a very good communicator and felt that many people understood and supported Green values. The local also tables on Main Street and on Earth Day. Regular meetings have been stopped, but they hold film nights that generate about 8-10 people.

Escambia County: Johnny reported that there are no regular meetings. He distributes the GPUS Green Pages in racks (which he purchased) at colleges and cafes.

Leon County: Allen reported that in 2000, Leon was the largest local. Since then the Green Party newspaper is no longer published as the key players have moved. The progressive center was lost when it was sold to a health care clinic. He also reported that a Green Party member began writing articles to the newspaper regarding a troop who died in Iraq. This led the family to respond negatively about Greens. He felt that the publicity had been so negative that they should not hold meetings for 2 years. He offered the \$300 in their account to any GPF locals. There was discussion on the need to immediately counter any negative publicity and that even now there may be an opportunity to address the issue.

- Next GPF State Meeting

Decision: October 4-5 in Palm Beach County. As there are Green candidates running for office, attendees to the meeting could help with canvassing, phonebanking, rallies, etc.

- Reconstituting GPF Committees

Michael felt that Board members need to choose a committee to liaison with and agree to be accountable to that committee.

Barbara stated that she would like to go ahead and send thank you cards before we come up with a strategy to reach out to the ballot mailing list.

Further discussion on committees was moved to Sunday.

- Announcements

Michael reported on a church that was for sale at a very reasonable price (\$350,000) in Gainesville which would be perfect for a Green/Progressive center. It would require about \$50,000-75,000 in repairs. Allen suggested that this building could fit the same model as he used in Leon County, the difference being that his location did not require repairs which meant they were able to sustain themselves immediately from renters.

Sunday, May 25, 2008

- There was discussion on how to address the spreadsheet created from the ballot mailing. Jennifer volunteered to coordinate the process. Echo has been forwarding Florida contacts received by National to Oliver, Cathy and Michael.

- Weighted voting

Previous Method: each local had roster of local Greens they considered active

Current Method: all registered Greens

Brian had previously suggested the Democratic Party model where locals have executive committees consisting of those who step up to be active with 2 requirements (i) each member has a portfolio and commits to do something, and (ii) each member must be consistently present and must give money.

Johnny suggested having 1 or 2 votes per county.

Oliver felt it should be 1 person/1 vote

Echo pointed out that this is not a problem as we need to actually have members; those who showed up this weekend are the active members.

Cathy reported that the Social Party has steep dues requirements.

Steve pointed out that this is an important issue. Our current system has inequities. For example, it is possible that he could carry 800 votes to Jennifer's 20 votes.

Michael felt our system is currently vulnerable and we need something in place. Two options: (i) 1 person/1 vote or (ii) _____.

We need a Sustainer Club instead of dues.

Decision: Michael will draft 2 proposals.

Problems with representation for registered Greens:

- not direct representation relationship (Greens who have no contact with their local are counted by the local for their weighted votes)
- delegates vote with unreal support
- one Green/1 vote

Problems with old system:

- lists are not necessarily "registered Greens" or are not current
- the issue around a lawsuit threatened by Schmidt where he felt we may be disenfranchising voters by defining "party membership" as active members only

Problem with changing the system:

- takes time and energy

Conclusion:

- We need support, money would help
- We need to respond to ballot mailer respondees who indicated they would volunteer for different areas of interest. Point persons were named to contact those potential volunteers, as below:
 1. Send thank you notes to all who sent money – Barbara
 2. Put email addresses on GPF list of members – Jennifer
 3. Volunteer coordinator - ____ (unfilled)
 4. Candidates – Echo
 5. Door to Door Canvassing – Echo
 6. Web Design – Cathy
 7. Fundraising – Jennifer to find a point person
 8. Music and Entertainment – Echo
 9. Strategic Planning/Workshop – Cathy
 10. Coordinating Projects or Candidate Campaigns - _____ (unfilled)
 11. Media/Research – Michael
 12. Legal – Michael
 13. Public Speaking – Julia (Alan ?)
 14. Campus Outreach – Michael/Anita
 15. Hosting an Event – Bonnie (Anita ?)

- Reconstituting GPF Committees (continued from Saturday)

Michael distinguished between regional outreach vs. regional chairs.

Board of Trustee Members should commit to be liaison between Board and Committees. Each BOT member has one or more committees in their "portfolio."

One responsibility is to recruit members for under-membered committees.

BOARD of TRUSTEES LIAISON COMMITTEES:

Jayne –

Bill -

Oliver -

Bonnie - Fundraising

Michael - Media, Legal, Outreach

Cathy - Web/It

Steve - Platform

Anita - Web, Outreach, Media

Brian – Electoral (confirmed for Electoral)/Election Reform

Jennifer (not on BOT) - Outreach

Tips:

* beware of too many chiefs and not enough indians syndrome.

* review guidelines and rules, but don't get anal. Aim for streamlined but responsible process.

LIST OF COMMITTEES:

Outreach

Media

Electoral

Electoral Reform

Web/IT

Fundraising

Legal /Research

Platform

Political Actions

Activities to capture:

- database
- platform
- volunteer coordinator
- position papers

OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

1. support/start new Locals
2. network with organizations, coalitions
3. outreach to new constituencies
4. stay in touch with membership
5. follow up with volunteers (key)
6. stay in touch with donors
7. sell/market GP
8. auto-dial

MEDIA COMMITTEE:

1. press releases
- be able to do a 24 hour release.
2. pre-approved talking points
3. speakers bureau: spokespersons - topic-related
4. virtual outreach
5. edit /maintain position papers
6. newsletter or articles

ELECTORAL COMMITTEE (National, State, Local):

1. run candidate campaigns
2. canvassing
3. vet candidates
4. recruit
5. trainings
6. prepare resources. evaluate (what GPF can commit to), advise potential candidates
7. promotion/events
8. clearing house of material
9. post-op

10. pro-active strategy (consider possibility of coattail events, eg, Cynthia McKinney to help network with black activist communities)

ELECTORAL REFORM COMMITTEE:

1. IRV, Proportional Representation
 - high priority issue for GP. Should be part of every campaign.
2. Election Reforms Package endorsed by GPF
3. strategize and conduct Election Reform campaigns (e.g. - use Spoiler card for leverage)
2. educate, promote (what would Democracy look like)
3. network with 3rd parties
4. network with diversity/issue organizations (community, black, enviro, peace, etc)

WEB / IT COMMITTEE:

1. website
2. new media, "indy" media (non-corporate)
3. PR newswire
4. database
5. email blasts
6. calendar - events, etc.
7. auto-dialing
8. digital democracy: wiki input on policy development, voting, etc. ("wkinomics," "policopia")
9. project management
10. online conferencing
11. chat
12. 2x2 ads

Note: Media Committee needs person to be liaison to Web/IT Committee

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:

1. marketing on line
 - a. on website
 - b. new media (facebook, youtube, etc.)
 - c. gimmicks
 - d. contests
2. get money
3. keep in touch with donors
4. maintain donors list
5. fundraising events
6. fundraising campaigns/drives
7. raffles, incentives, contests
8. strategize
9. have goals (e.g. thermometer on website)

LEGAL / RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

1. know election laws, ballot access, constitutional law
2. legal standing of GP actions
3. list of counsel for Greens in trouble (via Green actions)
4. legal language for petitions, policy

PLATFORM COMMITTEE:

1. maintain GPF platform

2. support locals' efforts to build platforms
 3. develop outreach method for coalition with organizations to flesh out planks
- organizations become allies, are think tank/ research resource for GP platform, as well as for future candidates/campaign support.

POLITICAL ACTIONS COMMITTEE:

1. actions relating to national campaigns (eg, presidential candidates touring Florida)

- There was a discussion on a need for goals. There are opportunities e.g.:
 - Cynthia McKinney
 - Palm Beach candidates
 - Electoral Reform
 - Energy issues
 - Marketing – need branding

- Summary

We need more direction, need to be focused on energy issues, be specific with issues (e.g. No Nukes with Green Party as the clear sponsor)

There was discussion on branding using Jennifer's graphics (Buck Stops Here). What would an advertising campaign look like? Jennifer wanted a decision on using the graphic but some were reluctant to make a decision on an advertising campaign at this meeting. Anita suggested that she create a "free" space on the MySpace pages for creative ideas that weren't yet approved to alleviate Jennifer's concerns over the decision process being too slow.

Jennifer asked that we commit to calling and leaving a message (40 seconds or less) or emailing WMNF (email: dj@wmnf.com) in support of Cynthia McKinney and Green Party issues:

Oliver – Wednesdays, June 4th and 18th

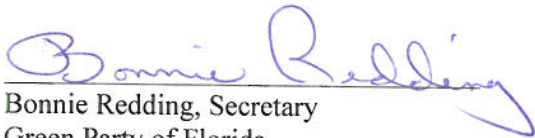
Bonnie – Tuesdays, June 3rd and 17th

Anita – already calling

- Additional Items

1. Next Council conference call will be Wednesday, May 28, 2008
2. Professor Goswami at USF is a proponent of solar energy. It was suggested that we reach out to him, although he is also pro-nuclear energy.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED:



Bonnie Redding, Secretary
Green Party of Florida
May 25, 2008