

Green Party Spring Gathering  
April 28, 2012  
10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The meeting began at 10:30 a.m.

Attendees: Dick Paddock, Mark Hutton, Jan Martell, David Ireland, Anne Wolfley, Marcia Everett, Wayne Turner, Journey Pfifferling, Lee Hicks, Samiron Dutta, Larry Abbott, Kathryn Koppers, Gwenette Robertson, Michael Acquire, Roxanne Acquire.

Announcements

- Reminder that we should all vote in the primary against Amendment One. News & Observer reported that early voting is already on pace to set a record.
- There will be a mass mobilization on May 9th in Charlotte at the Bank of America Shareholder Meeting. To get more info about the NC Coalition Against Corporate Power see [www.ncagainstcorporatpower.org](http://www.ncagainstcorporatpower.org). This will be a regional gathering with more than 1000 people and we need to represent out there. There will be buses from the Triangle, Triad, South Carolina and potentially Fayetteville and possibly elsewhere in the South.
- There will also be protests for FLOC at the Reynolds Shareholder meeting in Winston-Salem on the morning of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. <http://supportfloc.org/marchonreynolds2012.aspx>

Treasurer's Report (Kathryn)

- Kathryn passed out the draft 2012 budget.
- Anne suggested that we raise the amount for membership/fundraising mailings to \$400 since we have to mail out primary ballots and should include self-addressed stamped envelopes.
- There was a little discussion about the state fair line item, particularly whether it is worth the expenditure and amount of time involved versus the number of petition signatures we actually get. We decided to table the discussion about collecting signatures to a later date.
- The revised budget (with the change to membership/fundraising mailings) is in the Appendix of the minutes (last page).

Delegates' Report (Jan)

- Not a lot of activity by the national committee lately.
- Platform amendments are about to make it to the national committee, which gives them the opportunity to feed back before the amendments make it into the updated draft platform (which will be presented at the convention for a vote). The new platform will be voted on at the convention.
- When the draft platform is ready, the web link should be sent to the NCGP Actions list so that we all have a chance to review and provide feedback. If we have feedback, we should provide that feedback to our delegates to the national meeting so that they can relay our feedback to the platform committee.
- Journey suggested that we set up a website (online forum) that is only available to North Carolina Green Party members to facilitate discussion outside of the Actions list. Journey, Wayne and Anne will form a committee to come up with a proposal for a new online discussion list.

Local Chapter Reports

**Buncombe**

- Feeding the homeless in the park on a bimonthly basis.
- Adopted a stretch of highway by the River Arts district, which is bringing attention locally because there is a sign on the road.
- Will be tabling at various events and festivals that are coming up.

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**Charlotte**

- Continuing work with the Abbie Lane candidacy, who will be speaking at lunch today.
- Elena Everett is interested in getting Greens more involved in the protest at the DNC.
- Charlotte Greens are also phone banking with Protect All Families NC against Amendment One.
- They continue to do stream cleanup.

**Triangle**

- Had a meeting recently for the first time in a while and had a good turnout. Two delegates were elected to the state party.

Report on previous night's meet and greet

- Jill Stein addressed a group of about 20 Green Party members on Friday night. She gave a brief description of her campaign strategy and how the campaign is focused on building the Green Party (outreach, party building, ballot access, etc.) She is doing a lot of travelling, interviews and is getting a lot of attention. Journey videotaped most of the event.
- Jill's campaign is pursuing matching funds from the federal government. They need \$5000 from each of 20 different states. You can go to her website to find out more information and/or to donate.

Fall Gathering Action Points for Review

- **Initiative to improve communication with our membership:** The action item was to begin to regularly send out announcements to the membership to give an overview of our current campaigns and major decisions made by the CC or at semi-annual meetings. This was not done after the fall gathering. Anne Wolfley will follow up with Bob Cooper (who originally agreed to be the point person). If Bob can no longer be the point person, Anne will seek out someone else.
- **Candidate vetting process:** The action item was to find the original vetting policy and amend (if needed). The original policy has been located and is on the Yahoo Group. The North Carolina 2013 Campaign Committee will review the vetting process and modify (where needed).
- **Ballot access / Electoral Freedom Act:** Dick contacted Ellie Kinnaird about reintroducing the Electoral Freedom Act in the May 2012 short session. She doesn't think that it has a chance of making it to the floor since this is a budget session. However, there is a lawsuit to extend the deadline to submit petition signatures. Nick Triplett is named on the lawsuit. Jan Martell is going to be the ballot access campaign coordinator for the next election cycle (which begins in 2013 and ends in 2016). We will have to do a write-in campaign after the national convention (when the party decides on a presidential candidate).
- **Cross the Line campaign:** Wayne has set up the basic structure for this campaign. This task will fall to the ballot access campaign coordinator, Jan Martell.
- **Planning for the DNC:** Anne was not able to get in touch with Heide Kober and has not followed up since. She will get in contact with George, who has had some contact with the planning committee. Anne suggested that someone from Charlotte join the committee. Samiron agreed and Anne will forward Heide's contact information to Samiron.

Nomination of ANM delegates

Six members were nominated to the delegate positions. There are four delegate positions and four alternate positions. After some discussion, the nominees agreed to the following slate:

**Delegates:** Dan Neuspiel, Jan Martell, Dick Paddock, Michael Aquaire

**Alternates:** Journey Pfifferling, Wayne Turner

The slate passed unanimously.

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After the nomination of delegates, meeting attendees had lunch and then heard presentations and participated in Q&A with Green Party presidential nominees Roseanne Barr and Kent Mestplay via Skype. The meeting was adjourned after the Skype meetings, at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Action items

- When the draft platform (for the Green Party of the United States) is ready, Jan Martell will send the web link to the NCGP Actions list so that we all have a chance to review and provide feedback.
- Journey Pfifferling, Wayne Turner and Anne Wolfley will form a committee to come up with a proposal for a new online discussion list.
- Anne Wolfley will follow up with Bob Cooper about the initiative from the Fall Gathering to improve communication with the membership. If Bob can no longer be the point person, Anne will seek out someone else.
- The North Carolina 2013 Campaign Committee will review the candidate vetting process and modify (where needed).

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APPENDIX

Draft 2012 Budget

<b>Draft 2012 Income/Expenses</b>				
<b>Income</b>	(Projected)	Actual	<b>Expenses</b>	(Projected)
			Online donation fees	\$100.00
			Website fees	\$200.00
2012 Sustainers (60 @ \$5/mo - 6 months)	\$1,800.00		membership/fundraising mailings	\$400.00
2012 non-sustainer donations	\$1,200.00		Travel	\$200.00
2012 Special/ Major Donor/Year End Appeals	\$1,000.00			
Bank Interest	\$90.00		Meetings/gatherings (space rental, refreshments, supplies)	\$600.00
			Annual Meeting	\$200.00
			Outreach/ballot access	\$200.00
			Administrative supplies; paper, envelopes	\$150.00
			Coalition dues and support	\$275.00
			General use postage & PO box rental	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,090.00</b>			<b>\$2,425.00</b>