

I. Minutes:

Massachusetts Green Party State Convention, April 27th, 2002

II. Location:

Charlestown, Massachusetts @ Bunker Hill Community College

III. Meeting Officials:

Facilitators: Karen Kraut, Grace Ross, Dan Melnechuk

Parliamentarian: Jeff O'Neill

Time Keeper: Tennis Lilly

Vibes Watcher: Larry Klay

Stacker: Betty Zisk, Gary Hicks

Chair of Credentialing committee: Rose Gonzalez

Secretary for minute keeping: Frank Gatti, David Agnew

IV. The course of the convention

- A. 10:15 Kate Harris brought the convention to order. 46 present at the start, increased to a 70 during the course of the convention. Kate reviewed the history of the Green party, its relationship to social activism not just electoral politics. Green party USA found 1984. 2000 election, Massachusetts one of the highest percentage in USA, of 6.7%. The essential unity of the personal and the political is the hallmark of the Green party philosophy, our deep roots in our lives and in the earth.
- B. 10:23 - Convention rules, presented by Jeff O'Neill, a written report of these rules were also in the convention packet.
- C. 10:39 - From registration: There are 54 voting Greens (green cards for voting), and 7 yellow, (Green party US), and Rainbow members (red cards). Only Green card bearers may vote on by-law changes and nominations for office.
- D. 10:44 - Endorsements
 - 1. Sue Bartone, from Easthampton, MA, a State Representative candidate for Second Hampshire District.
 - 2. Paul Lachelier, from Somerville, MA, State Representative candidate from 26th Middlesex District
 - 3. Jonathan Leavitt, from Lawrence, State Representative candidate from 14 Essex District.
 - 4. Ken Ostrander, State Representative candidate from Alston-Brighton.
 - 5. Peter White, State Representative candidate from Yarmouth, Second Barnstable District.
 - 6. Michael Aleo, State Representative candidate from Hampshire county spoke at 1:41, and was endorsed unanimously.

- 7, Ralph Lopez, a candidate for the State Senate from the First Suffolk and Middlesex county district, He was endorsed unanimously at 1:40 after an 'intro' speech on his behalf by Steve Iskowitz..
8. Merilice spoke on behalf of Gordon Davis, running in Worcester as a Rainbow Coalition candidate for State Representative - He was unofficially unanimously endorsed.

E. Nominations (statewide):

1. Jamie O'Keefe was nominated for State Treasurer.
2. Tony Lorenzen was nominated for Lieutenant Governor
3. Jill Stein was nominated for Governor.

V. Proposals:

- A. 11:06 - Rainbow coalition members were voted to be seated at this convention and have full voting rights except where prevented by state law.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

[Grace Ross assumed role of female co-facilitator.]

- B. 11:17 - Revision of the Sate Committee by laws (SECTION 8):

1. State has legal requirements for the first 80 members, one man, one woman from each state senatorial district, These elections are at presidential primaries for four year terms, requiring 50 signatures from the district to be on the ballot.
2. We wish to encourage diversity, to represent the proportion of the population of Massachusetts. There will be accomplished by addition of seats to be filled by the state committee to follow issues to bring diversity to our state committee. The goal for 2002 is 25% minority for people of color.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- C. - 11:24 (Gil Obler, proponent): To change the name of the Green party to the Green - Rainbow party of Massachusetts. This change will be filed with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to take effect after the November, 2002 elections. This change will occur only if it does not effect the registration or ballot status of the Green party. After hearing clarifying questions and beginning discussion, this agenda item was tabled at 12:15 for item VI (below).

VI. Acceptance speeches by James O'Keefe, Tony Lorenzen and Jill Stein.

VII. Rainbow Coalition Party

The Green Party was joined by members of the Rainbow coalition at 12:25 pm. 107 people were present at the time that the Rainbow coalition joined the Green convention.

[The convention adjourned for lunch at 12:40 and reconvened at 1:34, and we heard briefly from the Maine Green Party co-chair Karen Mayo, and then continued with State Rep endorsements noted above.]

VIII. Election of Administrative Committee Members (began at 1:50):

Nomination speeches. Grace Ross nominated from floor by Betty Zisk

IX. (V.C. continued at 2:30 with two straw votes to continue discussion):

Concerns were voiced: new name may discourage new members; full creative force of membership has not addressed the name change problem; change would undo 'branding' progress of last few years; and more. One concern (Mark O'Laler) was addressed by an amending the proposal to hold a non-binding full-membership straw poll on the change. No blocking concerns were heard and the proposal passed by consensus.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

X. Adcom election results were announced by Rose (at 3:15).

- Female Co-Chair: Grace Ross
- Male Co-Chair: Gary Hicks
- Secretary: Ken Ostrander
- Treasurer: Dan Corrigan
- Membership Director: Adam Sacks
- Communications Director: Patrick Keaney
- Fundraising Director: (vacant)

XI. Ratification of bylaws Section 9

Passed by consensus at 3:30 (with a small change to the wording that was inadvertently omitted in the printed handout: 9.16 point 2: omit all after Worcester county, and [point 3]: omit "East" and "sub").

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

XII. Ratification of Platform Changes

Acceptance of Rainbow Coalition Party Agenda in addition to MGP Platform with verbosity/redundancy to be resolved by issues/platform convention in September: passed by consensus at 3:36.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

XIII. Rainbow Coalition Party Reregisters

As a result of proposals passed today at this meeting and at the Rainbow Coalition Party (RCP) Convention also on this day, pending application to the State of the party name change, RCP members will reregister as Green-Rainbow.

Certified on this date: _____
 Position: _____
 Name: _____
 Signed: _____