

IGP 2003 Congress
Session 1: Saturday, September 20, 2003

Call to order was at 12:20 pm.

Officers Present: Pam Raider, Coordinator; Steps to Freedom/Sean Bagley, Coordinator; Maureen Barlock, Treasurer

Pam Raider gave a report on activities of the IGP CC in the past year.

Treasurer's report: Maureen Barlock gave the treasurer's report. 49 IGP Members as of beginning of the Congress. Treasurer reported on being questioned by the Indiana Elections Commission earlier this year and urged that all locals study the State mandates regarding political parties. Credentials Report Maureen Barlock delivered the Credentials Report which was adopted by consensus. The quorum for the session was established at 25 votes. 39 votes were represented by delegates and unaffiliated members. Delegates: Dave Vollrath/St Joseph Co. 7 votes, George Murphy/Monroe Co. 6 votes, Unaffiliated Maureen Barlock 26 votes. Adoption of Rules and Agenda Tom Brown moved to switch affiliations to first on the agenda. The motion passed by consensus.

George Fish moved that debate be limited to 15 minutes per proposal in order to manage our time effectively. The motion passed by consensus.

Pam Raider moved that Congress add Time for clarifying mandates to the new Coordinating Committee after the election of officers. The motion passed by consensus.

Jeff Melton moved that Congress allow time to endorse Green candidates for state office during the Congress. The motion passed by consensus.

Dave Vollrath moved that the discussion of endorsements take place after the discussion of choosing Presidential electors for 2004. The motion passed by consensus. Affiliations All groups seeking affiliation provided copies of their local bylaws.

Northwest Indiana Greens (NWIG). Jim Coplen moved that the NWI Greens be accepted as an affiliated local. The motion passed by consensus. Jim Coplen seated as delegate for NWIG with seven(7) votes.

Brown County Green Party (BCGP). Pam Raider moved that the BCGP be accepted as an affiliated local. The motion passed by consensus. Pam Raider seated as delegate for BCGP with six(6) votes.

Marion County Greens (MarcoGreens). Maureen Barlock moved that the Marion County Green Party be accepted as an affiliated local. The motion passed by consensus. Maureen Barlock seated as delegate for MarcoGreens with 13 votes. Proposals Regarding Unaffiliated Caucus There were several competing proposals for establishing local caucuses. The Congress decided by consensus to discuss all the proposals before voting on any one of them or suggesting amendments to any one of them. All proposals were read.

Proposal regarding locals affiliation process(Tom Brown)

Dave Vollrath moved that Tom Brown's proposal regarding the local chapter affiliation process be accepted after finding consensus on one bullet point. There were three motions re the language. Jeff Sutter "political goals, program or platform." Isabel Piedmont proposed "identifying positions on key local political issues." Bill Stant proposed "action plan and or electoral platform."

A straw poll showed preference for Jeff's language on a 4, 2, 3 vote. The motion then passed by consensus.

Proposal to Establish Local Caucuses(Tom Brown)

Dave Vollrath moved to approve Tom Brown's proposal to recognize caucuses. Jim Coplen moved that the minimum number of IGP members to form a local caucus be set at three (3). The motion passed 21 to 5. Jim Coplen moved for a 24 month deadline for local caucuses to apply for local chapter affiliation. The motion did not pass. Congress voted 23 to 16 to accept the original 12 month deadline to apply for local chapter affiliation. Steps moved to include sections 4.2.2.2 through 4.2.2.4 from his "Proposal regarding structure of unaffiliated caucus" in Tom's proposal. The motion passed by consensus. Steps moved that "or regional" be added to section 4.1.3 of Tom's proposal. "...shall recognize local and regional caucuses." The motion passed by consensus.

Proposal to offer Members in affiliated counties to choose to be represented by unaffiliated caucus(Steps)

Steps moved to allow IGP members to join any caucus or local of their choice. Pam Raider moved to amend the proposal accordingly:

4.2.3 IGP members not choosing to participate through their county local may opt to seek representation through an unaffiliated caucus by joining a local of their choice.
Strike the last sentence.

The motion passed by consensus.

Congress voted to break and reconvene in one half hour.

Proposals Regarding IGP Memberships and Dues

The proposals on dues are competing. Steps moved that Congress discuss all the proposals before voting. The motion passed by consensus.

Delegates and members discussed their ideas and reactions in round-robin order.

Proposal 1 on dues: Consensus was reached to accept the change in line 2.4.4.

Isabel moved that sections 2.4.6 and 2.4.6.1 should be stricken and referred to the CC as a mandate to clarify the membership dues process. Isabel's motion passed by consensus.

Proposal 2 on dues: Jeff suggested that Steps' second proposal 2 on dues need not be in bylaws but instead be offered as a mandate to the CC. Steps withdrew the proposal. Consensus was reached to mandate to CC that dues for IGP be coordinated with affiliated locals.

Proposal 3 on dues: Steps withdrew the proposal after discussion.

Steps' final proposal is designed to keep our registered membership as high as possible yet reduce the requirement for a quorum. The mechanism is three classes of membership (active, registered, supporter). Only active members count for a quorum. After lively discussion the proposal was voted down by consensus.

Proposals Regarding Voting Process for the CC

Steps' proposal to redefine the quorum for the CC passed by consensus with amendments. George Fish moved that 4.5.6.2 be amended to "a simple majority of the CC." The amendment passed by consensus. Bill Stant moved that 4.5.6.1 be amended to read "When consensus cannot be reached, a simple majority of the CC must vote in favor of a decision for it to pass."

Proposals Regarding Officers, Delegates and Candidates

Proposal to Define Treasurer Duties

Mareen Barlock proposed to amend the bylaws to reflect the need for the state party Treasurer to adhere to state election laws. Isabel Piedmont moved to simplify the amendment: "The Treasurer shall be responsible for complying with Indiana election laws." Isabel's amendment passed by consensus. Maureen's proposal passed by consensus.

Proposal to Extend Terms of Office

Maureen Barlock proposed to amend the bylaws to allow officers to serve for five one-year terms.

In section 4.5.4, strike second sentence.

Amend third sentence to read "No person may serve in one officer position for more than five consecutive years."

The proposal, as amended, passed by a vote of 27 to 5.

Proposal to Create New Officer Positions

Maureen Barlock proposed to amend the bylaws to create three new CC officer positions: media coordinator, tech coordinator and campus liaison. The Members present discussed the proposal in a round-robin. Then opened the floor for debate. Maureen withdrew her proposal and agreed to a proposal to mandate the CC to establish a media committee and a media coordinator (not an officer). The CC will not establish a campus coordinator or committee. The mandate passed by consensus.

Proposal Regarding Candidate and Officer Standards

Steps' proposed to amend the bylaws, section 3.2.2.4, to include the state party chairperson. Isabel moved to place the amendment in section 3.2.1.2 and 3.2.1.3. Isabel's motion passed by consensus. Maureen Barlock moved to amend the proposal to reduce the minimum IGP membership to six months instead of 12 months for the state party chair. The motion passed 22 to 10. George Fish's motion to also change the candidate language to match the Chairperson amendment was ruled out of order. Isabel Piedmont called the previous question to end debate. The motion passed and Congress voted to accept Steps' proposal, as amended, 31 for and 1 abstain.

Bill Stant moved to suspend the Congress for dinner at 6:30 PM. The motion passed by consensus. Steps called Congress back to order at 7:05 PM.

Proposal to Aid the IGP Secretary Establish Credentials for Congress and Special Congresses

Steps proposed to amend the bylaws to require local secretaries and the organizers of the Unaffiliated Caucus and local or regional caucuses to inform the IGP secretary one week in advance of Congress regarding delegates. An amendment was accepted to insert on line 4.3.4.2 unaffiliated "local or regional" caucus. Bill Stant proposed an amendment to add the sentence "Congress shall have the discretion to recognize delegates and delegations not communicated to the Secretary in timely manner." Proposal as amended was accepted by consensus.

Proposals Related to Technology

Ingreens Yahoo Group

Vicki Webb proposes that the IGP email listservs be redesigned to support true IGP activism and preserve the wide-open discussion of news items and other issues.

Cable Access Programming

Vicki Webb proposes that IGP use the St. Joe Valley Green's cable access project to broadcast news and relevant issues to a larger audience.

Dave Vollrath moved that the tech proposals be changed to mandates rather than bylaws changes. The motion passed by consensus.

Selection of Persons to Fill GPUS Committee Assignments

GPUS has asked the IGP to supply committee members for several national committees. Volunteers to work within the GPUS program were collected.

Elections

IGP Officers

Steps read the duties of the IGP officers and pointed out that IGP has operated without a secretary.

George Fish nominated Maureen Barlock for Treasurer, and Maureen accepted. Maureen Barlock nominated Jeff Sutter for Secretary. Jeff did not accept. George Fish nominated Bill Stant for co-Coordinator. Bill accepted. George Fish nominated Steps for Secretary. Steps accepted. George Fish nominated Pam Raider for co-Coordinator. Pam accepted. Bill Stant nominated Tom Brown for co-Coordinator. Tom did not accept.

Dave Vollrath moved that the slate be accepted by acclamation. The motion passed by acclamation.

Discussion On How to Choose Electors for the GPUS 2004 Presidential Convention

Dave Vollrath moved that the CC investigate the procedure for choosing electors. The motion passed by consensus.

Candidate Presentations

Clark Field and Jeff Melton spoke to the Congress regarding their plans to run for the U.S. Congress from the 8th and 9th districts and

seeking IGP endorsements. Although there have been membership lapses, both candidates have been IGP members for over one year each.

Pam Raider moved that:

The CC issues a request for other candidates to come forward to seek endorsement.

The candidates send a candidate statement to the Coordinators to publish on Ingreens and Ingreens-discuss.

The candidates answer questions raised on Ingreens-discuss.

The CC will hold an endorsement election at the second CC meeting after the Congress.

Steps and Pam adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Mandates to the Coordinating Committee:

Establish credentialing so the Congress and CC know which delegate represents the votes of IGP members.

Establish an IGP fundraising committee.

Coordinate dues paying with local officials.

Inform local chapter treasurers of Indiana election laws and compliance requirements.

Establish media committee. Encourage local efforts to use media for public education efforts.

Establish two discuss lists, one for IGP activists to accomplish work and the other for the wide open discussion of news and other topics.

Continue the 2002 mandate to reach out to minority and under-represented groups.

Continue the 2002 mandate to implement a year around video conferencing system.

Investigate the process of choosing electors for the June 2004 GPUS Convention.

Open candidate endorsements and hold endorsement election at the second CC meeting after the Congress.

IGP Congress minutes, edit