

MINUTES
INDIANA GREEN CONGRESS 2005
August 27 and 28, 2005

Meeting was called to order 12:30 PM on Saturday August 27. Present were: Pam Raider, Sean Bagley (Steps to Freedom), Bill Stant, Rosemary Saurer, Steve Conard, Natalie Stant, Jeff Sutter, Dave Vollrath, Isabel Piedmont, Michael Berndt, Bethany Hayes, Jim Coplen, Karen Coplen, John Loflin, Marian Williams, James Gruntman, Leonard Gruntman, Lee Rezabek

Outgoing Secretary's Report:

Pam Raider reports 17 renewals and 31 new members during the past year. Total membership stand at 48 members.

Outgoing Treasurer's Report:

Bill Stant gives recommendation to new Treasurer for no-interest account. Reports that matching funds are available from the national party. We need only fill out a report. We brought more in than spent last year. An account has been set up for copying and printing of materials. Possible new chapters in the making: Vigo, Clarksville, Goshen, Richmond.

Locals Reports:

Brown County: participated in local county fair and state fair collecting signatures for Secretary of State ballot access race. Total of 18 members are busy participating in the campaign committee of Bill Stant. Bill Stant is local delegate.

Marion County: Doing better - the state fair seemed to help morale and may have brought some new members. Maureen Barlock is local delegate, Bethany is alternate.

Monroe County: Having regular meetings but still need to build organization. Steps is local delegate.

NWIG: Down to 4 members had display at La Porte County Fair. Karren Coplen is new delegate to IGPCC.

St. Joe County: Gathering signatures, opposing gasification plant in New Carlisle. Kathleen is serving on new committee. Green TV now has a year's worth of programs available to other chapters. Lined up three events for Bill to speak at. Dave Vollrath is local delegate.

Discussion of Proposals begins by renumbering them to expedite voting. Proposal 2- discussion of individual members being able to carry their own votes at the state Congress- passes unanimously. Section 4.4.4 insert to read: IGP Members may carry their own vote at Congress instead of delegate carrying all member votes.

Discussion of Proposal #3: All Members of local chapters will be included in IGP membership count. All local membership forms should include pledge agreeing to 10 key values. That said, vote was unanimous to add section 2.1.2.2 of the by laws to read: All persons who join a local

Green party in the state of Indiana shall be considered Members of the Indiana Green Party. However, voting privileges in Indiana Green Party shall be given to those individuals who sign the IGP Membership form and pay or waive their dues.

Discussion of Proposal #1: Clarify votes that delegates carry. Proposal passes 34 for, 2 against. Amend section 4.4.6.3.5 to read: Delegates shall have a number of votes equal to the number of active IGP and local members in their county unless otherwise represented by another local.

Proposal #5: Clarify language on voting procedure - section 4.4.6.3.1 with wording to read 66 2/3% of votes. Passes unanimously.

After short break the congress resumed with a round table of introductions.

Three Platform Proposals were discussed and passed unanimously as amended below:

- !) Under Public Health add: IGP supports public funding for Stem Cell Research
- 2) Under Economic Justice: IGP opposes agreements such as CAFTA, NAFTA, FTAA which export jobs and undermine workers rights and livelihoods and the environment both here and abroad.
- 3) Under Social Justice and Civil Liberties: IGP opposes the use of Eminent Domain by state and local government for the benefit of corporations or private entities.

Call for nominations for IGP CC officers:

Steps to Freedom – Secretary

Jim Coplen and Jeff Sutter - GPUS delegates with Steps as alternate

Pam Raider Treasurer

Marian Williams and Michael Berndt as Co-coordinators

Jim Coplen and Jeff Sutter give brief description of GPUS delegates' duties and the committees they serve on. Jeff served on accreditation committee and a strategic committee that did a survey of all green members. Jim wants approval to serve on ballot access committee and Steps wants to serve on Coordinated Campaign Committee. Both voted in unanimously.

Lengthy discussion on Proposal to change the minimum number of members needed to form a local chapter. After much discussion and caucus amendment passes 32 for and 5 against. Section 4.1.1 to read: Local chapters shall be comprised of a minimum of three (3) members of the Indiana Green Party. Isabel points out that section 4.1.3 also needs to be revised.

Next by-law proposal on the Agenda – add GPUS delegates to the CC bringing number to 11. Vote passes unanimously. Simple majority on the CC will now be six votes.

Last by-law proposal - to limit number of positions one person can hold on the IGPCC. Lengthy discussion and some concerns re smaller chapters being able to get a delegate besides an officer to the meeting. No formal motion made...proposal tabled until possibly next year.

After a break, Congress resumes with presentation of the proposed additions to the Education Plank by John Loflin, Marion County member. The current Marion County Educational plank had been boiled down to ten points for inclusion into IGP Platform. These ten plank points were

reviewed by the Congress point by point and the language amended. They were then voted on to be included in our platform as amended and language added such as IGP recommends.

1. IGP recommends Expansion and/or duplication of current magnet schools and learning options that have a waiting list. Also create new learning alternatives of choice within the public school system to meet the needs of a variety of families and learners.
2. IGP wants the Indiana legislature to review and make appropriate recent state graduation and dropout rate calculation formulas.
3. IGP highly recommends encouraging the practice of democratic processes with student and teacher participation in school governance. Democratic classrooms and schools offer the best hope for the development of civic-minded citizens and support of our public schools.
4. IGP further recommends reviewing current special education and alternative education policies. Critique over-representation of black males students in special education and abuse of alternative schools for disciplinary purposes
5. IGP would like to see public schools working toward the goal of all students being able to read at grade level by the end of the 3rd grade.
6. IGP recommends customizing learning and democratizing intelligence; which means abandoning the “one-size-fits-all” approach and the bell curve mentality.
7. IGP recommends turning parents/guardians from clients to partners in all school decisions by abandoning the limited definition of parental/guardian school involvement.
8. IGP calls on public schools to abandon the deficit model of so-called low-performing students. Our model should assume positive qualities exist in the culture, the abilities, motivation, or coping skills of the children and their families.
9. IGP recommends teaching creativity as the 4th R. To reach all students, promote creativity through media literacy: the understanding and use of all types of media (the performing, writing, and graphic arts) in teaching, learning, and assessment.
10. IGP encourages understanding that technology is youth culture. Therefore IGP encourages educators to reflect on the ways technology influences the Information Generation and on what they need to know about its impact on teaching, learning, and assessment.

After a brief break we rejoined with a call for any other nominations for new officers. There were none, call for vote. Slate was unanimously voted in. Meeting was adjourned for Saturday evening meal.

After dinner we met again for a role-playing workshop on petition signature gathering presented by Kathleen Petitjean, Steve Conard and Bill Stant.

David Philbrow arrived and set up his equipment to show the film “End of Suburbia” which is about the coming oil peak and gas shortages that will profoundly affect the American way of life. The film was followed by discussion.

SUNDAY AUGUST 28:

Meeting was held at Bill Stant's home. After wonderful breakfast prepared by his wife Nancy Goddard we began the day's proceedings at about 11:45 with introductions starting with the new Co-coordinators. Several new people joined the group: Sarah Dillon, Gwynn Mettetal, Neal Smith and Stan Clark.

Neil Smith, the head of NORML and Marion County co-coordinator led a very informative workshop on Industrial Hemp. It seemed to answer many questions raised by last night's movie and we had to finally break of discussion at 12:40.

Meeting resumes with a candidate's speech given by Bill Stant addressed to the group, which then unanimously endorsed him as our candidate for Secretary of State 2006. Discussion followed about the importance of gathering signatures and attending various events and building the party. Invitation was issued to join Bill and other members at Labor Day parade in Terre Haute the following Monday.

Congress adjourned at about 2 Pm and lunch was served before members departed for their homes.

Pam Raider
Outgoing Secretary
Indiana Green party