

Indiana Green Party

MINUTES - JUNE 12, 2001

Present

Isabel Piedmont, Peter Drake, Bethany Hayes (Coordinator), Sean Bagley (liason MCGP), Julie Roberts, Tom Brown (Website Manager), and Michael Berndt (Secretary/Treasurer).

1. Quorum vs. practical voting

After a spirited discussion of decision-making protocol for state meetings, it was decided that recommendations on activities/policy decided upon during meetings would be submitted to the list for a vote, with a formal tally not to exceed one week (7 days) thereafter. All list members and active Green Party people could vote, at least until the charter is ratified.

Problems with the quorum related to the inability to make timely decisions with average meeting attendance. The practical approach of working with whoever made it to the meetings was challenged because of issues of fair representation (i.e. direct or grassroots democracy).

2. Treasury report

I reported that the Indiana Green Party has a new address of

PO Box 3393, Bloomington, In 47402

which was needed in order to get a EIN for the Party, which is necessary to set up a bank account. The bank account for the party will then be set up at Bloomfield State Bank, a locally (to Bloomington) owned bank with affordable rates, hopefully in the coming week.

A check was brought in by Tom, which represented a Saint Joseph's Valley Greens contribution to the party's coffers. That put the INGreens treasury at \$247.31, which will be reduced \$25. for Common Bonds and another similar amount for printing expenses, once the checks are sent out.

3. GPUSA state party affiliation

It was decided that the Indiana Green Party would affiliate with the Green Party USA, subject to vote of the ingreens and county elists. One reason proffered for delaying such an action was the desire to sign up with the newly unified party, once the Boston Proposal was agreed to. Bethany addressed the prospect of interminable delay as the national greens got it together, and with a review of requirements for affiliation provided by Steps, it was decided that it was time to act. Tom noted his admiration for the GPUSA, and that it was not a traditional hierarchical party like those in power historically.

4. May meeting minutes

May meeting minutes were approved without further comment (see discussion

thread relating to meeting point 1 above).

5. Status of Charter

The charter for the state party is still being drafted, but most of it is ready for review through the www.indianagreenparty.org Website. Tom explained that his target date for completion of the draft would be one month before the convention, so that everyone's issues could be addressed.

Bethany agreed to explore some guidelines as to what would be required of individuals to allow them to officially ratify the charter at the convention. One point she mentioned was that individuals would have to attest that they were not "active" members of any other party.

6. State Convention

The IGP Congress has since been postponed to August 3rd and 4th, still at the Old Centrum.

The Indiana Green Party convention will be held at the Old Centrum building, at 420 E. 12th St., in Indianapolis, on Friday July 27 and Saturday July 28, 2001. The time for the events are roughly from 9am-5pm. Because of some people's work schedules, substantive issues will be tackled on Saturday.

The cost for the rental of the building is \$100./day, which will probably come from the IGP account. Any assistance in setting up this event would be appreciated and, to do so, contact Bethany Hayes.

7. Outreach Committee

Bethany reported for Tracy Carson, who did not make the meeting. Planning was in the works for training potential candidates for office, to be held at the convention. Other activities of the outreach committee would be posted to the IGP Website.

8. ICFEL, SB 329

The group discussed plans for opposition to the legislation regarding moving up the required petition submission date for candidates to get on to the ballot (SB 329). Peter planned to attend the Indiana Coalition for Fair Election Laws meeting and was also working with Senate Majority Leader Mark Kruzan to come up with a bill to change the sad situation for third party access.

Bethany noted that the ACLU lawsuit, already applied for, would address only the June deadline for submission of signatures and not the high number of signatures (2%) required for ballot access. The idea of pursuing a lawsuit of our own was bandied about, and Bethany said she would attempt to get a list of lawyers we might contact who might be sympathetic to our cause.

9. Planned actions

This item was tabled in light of issues already discussed and time limitations.

10. 11th key value: Democracy

Bethany suggested a possible addition of Democracy for consideration as a key

value of the Indiana Green Party. Isabel noted that Grassroots Democracy was already on the list, and other attendees supported the notion that this was sufficient to encompass the broader issue raised. Once again, because of limited time, no further action was taken on this point.

Because of the proprietors' need to close up the Unleavened Bread Cafe, the meeting was terminated at this point. The schedule for the meetings should put the next on July 14, at the same location, to be followed shortly by the General Convention.

Any corrections or additions to the minutes should be forwarded to the list.

Submitted by,

Michael Berndt
Secretary/Treasurer

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