

Indiana Green Party was scheduled to meet at the Solidarity Book Store at 860 Virginia Ave. in Indianapolis from noon to 2pm. Let's hope this is the lowest ebb of party participation as only three people showed up and the bookstore was closed. All was not lost however as Jim Polly, an interested new person, joined Pam Raider (co-coordinator) and Maureen Barlock (Treasurer). Jim Polly just had a piece printed in the current issue of NUVO; he is a member of Students for Democratic Reform and is organizing a campus chapter of the Greens at IUPUI. He was very upbeat and enthusiastic and we talked about holding some joint or consecutive meetings. We exchanged emails and expect to hear more from him.

At 12:30 pm, Pam and Maureen decided to conduct a meeting anyway. Pam Raider served as Secretary and facilitator. The Treasurer, Maureen, reported \$517.44 in the treasury. This is after depositing dues collected at the Congress and deducting business expenses of PO Box for \$36, last year's Secretary re-imburement for supplies in the amount of \$31.49, and new bank checks totaling \$24.55.

Minutes of the Congress were accepted as read.

A discussion ensued regarding the email sent to all ingreens members about the lack of official quorum at the Congress. If they had a problem with the items listed they were to send their comments. Since there have been no dissenting comments sent to the email site as requested, it is presumed that all business conducted at the Congress is thus official.

In the matter of joining the GPUS as mandated by earlier meetings and votes, Pam reported that Jeff Sutter had emailed that he would begin initiating the paperwork. Pam also agreed to follow-up and see what the status of that is now.

Visiting local groups was another idea that was suggested at the Congress and was brought up for discussion. Maureen has volunteered to attend the IUPUI group once it gets going and also stays in touch with the Marion County Group. Pam is a member of the Brown County group and has attended some Monroe County functions. If we could schedule the Indiana Green Party meeting to coincide or follow directly after the IUPUI meetings on campus on Saturdays that might raise membership and attendance.

Another topic discussed briefly at the Congress was the possibility of email discussions and holding meetings by email. So in that vein we would like to hear from members and will probably send a separate email in case people don't read the minutes thoroughly.

Here are some of the questions we would like people to ponder and respond to:

Where do you see the IGP going?
What would you like to see happen with this group?
What duties and functions do you think this state group should perform?
How can it be helpful to you and your local affiliation?
What don't you like about it?
Would you respond to email discussions?
Do you have some other ideas for the future?
What about sponsoring speakers, tape or discussion group?

We discussed local group issues or news. Maureen stated that a local fund raiser event had been in the works for Marion County branch but seems to have fizzled. Pam reported that Monroe County is busy with the campaigns of its two candidates. Julie Roberts, who spoke at the Congress, is running for Monroe County Council, district 2, her web site address is www.electjulieroberts.org. Jeff Melton is the Green Party candidate from Bloomington running for 9th Congressional district seat. There was a problem of not getting enough signatures to get on the ballot, but apparently the commission made up of two democrats and two republicans split over whether he should appear and thus in the case of a tie, he was allowed on the ballot. Jeff can be reached at melton@meltonforcongress.org There have been several fund raisers for both these candidates. Pam reported that Brown County also has a candidate, Timothy Baer, running on the local ballot for County Commissioner. The Brown County chapter's website is browncountygreenparty.org. The Green Party name will be appearing three times on ballots this November.

Maureen talked about the possibility of teaming with other groups to bring a speaker. She is particularly interested in David Cartwright, President of the Fourth Freedom Forum. The Fourth Freedom Forum derives its name from FDR's list of four essential freedoms of which the 4th is freedom from fear. The Fourth Freedom Forum is an international peace organization with an office in Washington DC. Professor Cartwright hails from the South Bend area where he teaches at Notre Dame. He has co-authored two books: Smart Sanctions: Restructuring UN Policy in Iraq and Sanctions, Inspections, and Containment: Viable Policy Options In Iraq. The cost of bringing this speaker is \$1000 and travel expenses. This discussion was tabled since there is not that much cash in the treasury and hardly anyone at the meeting.

This lead to the topic of peace vigils against the war in Iraq. Pam reported that Nashville has a peace vigil which has been going since last October. It is downtown Nashville at the courthouse on Saturday evenings from 6 to 7pm. She added that Monroe County also has a peace vigil which is held every Wednesday evening from 5 to 6 pm at the SE corner of the Monroe County courthouse. Attendees are of course welcome

Under new business: A letter was received from the Post Office regarding rates and regulations for mass mailings. Anyone wanting further information should contact Maureen, the treasurer and current holder of the letter. Also Pam as co-coordinator received a strange letter, presumed to be a hoax or scam, about some African inheritance money that could be applied for she will send this email on to the treasurer.

Obviously because of lack of support, the IGP will be low-key until after the elections when it is hoped people's will attend the meetings. Meanwhile Maureen will pursue the idea of joint meetings with the Campus Greens. Future meeting date and time and place will be posted in NUOVO and emailed and on the web site. Any comments, ideas or items to be on the agenda should be sent to website or coordinator or treasurer. At the next meeting we will be playing a tape of a speech Michael Moore made about his new book Stupid White Men. and related political facts and opinions.

The Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Pam Raider
Acting Secretary