

# **GPCA COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING**

## **May 3, 2021 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM**

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### **(1) Roll call:** (5 minutes)

**There are currently 16 CC members.** This means quorum is a simple majority of 9.

Doug Barnett, David Bond, June Brashares, Eric Brooks, Mica Daniel (alt. female co-co), Barry Hermanson, Tarik Kanaana, James Lauderdale, Mimi Newton (female Co-co), Nassim Nouri, Karen Nyhus, Christine Pepin, Shannel Pittman, Nicole Raglin, Audra Walton, Laura Wells.

### **CC Members Present (14):**

**Quorum achieved at 7:36pm** with 10 CC members present: June Brashares, Eric Brooks, Mica Daniel, James Lauderdale, Mimi Newton, Nassim Nouri, Karen Nyhus, Christine Pepin, Audra Walton, Laura Wells.

Barry Hermanson (joined at 7:37pm), Doug Barnett (joined at 7:38pm), Nicole Raglin (joined at 7:43pm), David Bond (joined at 8:14pm)

Also in attendance: Justin Richardson (Treasurer)

Absent (2): Tarik Kanaana, Shannel Pittman

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### **(2) Roles** (2 minutes):

Facilitator: Barry

Notetaker: June

Timekeeper: Nassim

Vibes-watcher: Audra

Assisting Facilitator with Stack: Karen

### **Approved by consensus**

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### **(3) Approval of Agenda** (3 minutes)

(latest version of draft Agenda emailed to CC list at around 6:07pm on May 3, 2021)

\*Amendment to remove review of the April Meeting Minutes from tonight's agenda (postpone review of the April minutes to the CC meeting in June).

\*Amendment to add to Action Items Update a report on the candidates for CC and GPUS Delegation and put it as the last item on the agenda.

Agenda (version emailed 5/3 6:07pm) with above amendments **Approved by Consensus**

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### **(4) Approval of CC minutes** (5 minutes)

Approval of Revised Draft March 2021 CC Minutes as posted by Mimi on behalf of James to the CC list on April 26, 2021.

**Approved by Consensus**

*(April CC Minutes postponed to the CC meeting in June)*

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**(5) Consent Items (5 minutes)**

Background and Purpose: The consent calendar is intended to pass non-controversial items or items consented to prior to the actual meeting. Any item may be objected to and that item will be placed at the end of the evening's agenda.

\*Proposal\*: Accept the following committee reports for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

Clearinghouse and Grow monthly report Appendix A  
Finance and Fundraising monthly report Appendix B  
Media Committee monthly report. Appendix D  
ERWG Monthly Report. Appendix E  
Bylaws Committee Report. Appendix F  
SCSC Monthly Report. Appendix G

\*Amendment to add IT Monthly Report as Appendix H

**Approved by Consensus**

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**(6) Action Item Update**

[POST PONED TO JUNE 2021 MEETING]

*Added an update on the applications received from candidates for CC and GPUS Delegation and **put that update as the last item on the agenda** (See agenda item #9)*

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**(7) Review of the updated CC Internal Procedures (15 minutes)**

Sponsor: Nassim

Background: The GPCA CC recently passed a streamlined version of the CC Internal Procedures and this is a review of these changes to refresh our collective understanding of our rules and processes.

Proposal: Review of the updated CC Internal Procedures (Nassim Nouri, 30 min)

References: CC Internal Procedures - Appendix C

Nassim presented on the updated CC Internal Procedures. Followed by Q&A and Discussion

Suggestion was made to rotate meeting roles and to plan well in advance of CC meetings who will do each of the roles.

\*Proposal for the next CC Meeting in June for the roles to be filled as follows:

Vibes: Mimi; Timekeeper: Karen; Assisting Facilitator with Stack: June; Facilitator: Nassim; Notetaker: Barry

**Approved by Consensus**

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**(8) Proposal for CC Censure of Eric Brooks (30 minutes)**

Co-Sponsors: Mimi Newton, Mica Daniel, Laura Wells, June Brashares, Nassim Nouri, Christine Pepin, Nicole Raglin, Audra Walton, David Bond, Barry Hermanson, James Lauderdale

\*Proposal\* for CC Censure of Eric Brooks

Background and Purpose: Green activists working within the Green Party of California are prepared to work hard in the struggle for a better world, most with limited resources, time and bandwidth. Therefore we should not create nor accept a working environment that makes people feel alienated, abused, and stressed to the degree that they want to back away and even quit.

The purpose of this "proposal to censure" is to raise awareness and name the behaviors that Eric Brooks has exhibited in working within GPCA committees, the Standing General Assembly, GPCA email lists, and other public arenas in the past few years, and take steps to stop those behaviors as soon as possible.

**Problematic Conduct in GPCA**

1. **Abusive, threatening, demeaning, hostile communications.** Communications with/on CC, Committees, SGA, Facebook, emails other public forums etc. with GPCA committee members and volunteers, candidates, and members of the public in such a way that recipients feel personally attacked, insulted, patronized, silenced, demeaned, disrespected, and inclined to leave the interactions and/or organization, causing harm to people and also to the credibility of GPCA.

2. **Dominating behavior on the CC,** speaking on almost every agenda item, often multiple times, often engaging in time-consuming one-on-ones, and misuse/overuse of "point of information/clarification."

3. **Joining the process late** on significant GPCA decisions and demanding major revisions, such as on platform planks. This conduct disregards others' considered work and contributions, and ignores designated discussion and voting periods.

4. **Submitting late CC agenda items,** often on lengthy complex proposals, non-time sensitive, at times using **\*\*URGENT\*\*** false flags. These take up excessive agenda approval time, ignoring our process and disrespecting the CC members' time and energy.

5. **Routinely submitting CC proposals without engagement with others.** Submitting complex proposals without seeking expert input or engaging other CC members, which routinely fail to arrive at collective agreements.

6. **Failure to take responsibility** for follow through on sponsored proposals, shifting the work to others, or abandoning proposals that require follow up and additional work.

7. **Claiming ownership and authority** on other volunteers' work and assuming authority to speak on behalf of the CC or the GPCA inappropriately.

8. **Expressing expertise and experience in multiple areas that supersede that of others.**

9. **Disrespecting the ethic of consensus** through statements that are often heard by others as declarative and dismissive in the manner of the following, although it may not be word-for-word:

"I am right."

"You don't understand."

"You must..."

"Anyone who disagrees with this is wrong."

"I know better than the rest of you."

"This is what the prior person was trying to say."

"This is the final word."

"What I want to talk about is urgent and important."

"I have the most experience on ...."

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In summary, the sponsors of this proposal have experienced the impact of Eric Brooks' problematic behaviors. We have also heard from other Green activists who have felt bullied, personally attacked, and frustrated by some of these behaviors to the point of backing away and/or resigning. This is unacceptable particularly at a time of great need for our volunteers and activists to feel an increased energy for contributing toward advancing the Green Party and Green values.

Repeated efforts on the part of individuals on email lists, CC calls, group discussions and one-on-one conversations for the past three years have failed to persuade Eric Brooks to course-correct and take steps to repair and strengthen his working relationships within the GPCA.

### **Terms of Censure and Implementation:**

1 - The Coordinating Committee states that Eric Brooks' participation on the CC is not aligned with the mission and goals of the CC, and that his problematic behaviors have hindered the work of the CC. Therefore the members of the Coordinating Committee do not recommend re-election of Eric Brooks to the CC.

2 - The CC will defer any applications for Standing Committee appointments from Eric Brooks' pending his volunteering and participation on that committee's work for a minimum of three months, after which the application may be resubmitted with that committee's letter of support for his appointment.

3 - The CC will strictly limit Eric Brooks' speaking time at any CC meetings to a total of 7.5 minutes or less. This is to enable other members of the CC equal time. (Meetings are 120 minutes, 120 divided by the current # of 16 CC members equals 7.5 minutes per member).

4 - The CC will not accept any proposals from Eric Brooks unless he works with at least one other member of the CC as co-sponsors to ensure that format, timelines, implementation and follow through are done appropriately.

5. The CC will consider additional administrative action in case of failure to correct these or the commission of future abuses.

Laura presented the Proposal for CC Censure of Eric Brooks

Followed by Q&A, concerns, affirmations and discussion

Eric said he would stand aside and have his concerns recorded in the minutes. His concerns included that the last time the CC censured someone it was for a serious malfeasance while the actions Eric is accused of are not at the level that could be called unlawful or criminal. Eric stated he also has the concerns that were written in the email he sent to the CC on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:01pm, quoted below:

*"Subject: [gpca-cc] Please Read - Re: CC Agenda Item - Eric Brooks Censure*

*Hi all,*

*My response to all of this, and what I am willing to commit to in response to this censure motion.*

*Please take time to read this because there is no way that I will be given enough time in the meeting tonight to express all of this. (one page)*

*First, many of the problems listed below with regard to following better meeting processes look fine, I'm good with agreeing to them. And, they are warranted, not just for me, but for many CC members who similarly and regularly make autonomous proposals less than a week before CC meetings, and/or likewise talk far too long on CC items, and often talk down to others disrespectfully. A lot of other members do these things frequently, and yet they have not been mentioned. Besides my agreeing to terms about meetings themselves, a lot of these problems could also be solved by having good facilitation, vibes watching, and timekeeping (all of which have been sorely lacking - we all need to do much better on this). In my own case the fact that I am often the timekeeper is problematic because as timekeeper (and as a person who talks a \*lot\*) I can well imagine that I have \*not\* been doing a good job of reigning myself in on my own speaking time. So I am going to step back from time keeping for the CC altogether. Note also however that other timekeepers have not been setting firm individual speaking times either, and we all need to do far better at that - not just myself.*

*One issue that I have with these requirements however, is that some of them seek to get me to essentially back down from having firm views, sticking to them, and not backing down on my positions. We need more of this stick-to-it-iveness in the Green Party, not less. So while I will work harder to stick to my guns on things in ways that will not come across as bullying, I don't believe that there is anything wrong with making firm statements like "We absolutely should not do business with Discord because it silenced and kept from organizing together over 200,000 of its members." The Green Party cannot win any gains if it does not have members who have firm principles, stick to those principles, and use a strong voice with conviction to back them up.*

*Finally, on the issue of how I have and have not treated others in the party. As I've noted before this is very complex and needs to be worked out more collaboratively. I have been watching for the last few years as a very problematic narrative has been built up around me personally that is both fact and fiction mixed together, and some of the fiction is very damaging and has led to me becoming a pariah when it is not warranted.*

*Nearly all of you who are bringing this forward have had moments with me in which I pushed back (sometimes in a bullying and inappropriate way that was not ok) but in moments when I \*first\* felt bullied and disrespected by \*you\*. Conflict takes two people and we need to all acknowledge that. I will commit to doing better in how I react when I feel I am being pushed, but I need you all to give some inner reflection to the fact that things you have done may have been part of the problem.*

*I also need all of you to lay aside citing accusations of 'conflicts', 'bullying', and 'abuse' that you have \*heard\* about from others \*with no proof backing up those accusations at all\* in order to somehow piece together a narrative of how I interact with others. There is, for example, no truth whatsoever in the accusations launched at me by Wanda Jean Lord and Steve Breedlove of 'bullying' and 'abuse'. It did not happen - just as we learned that there was no truth to the accusation that Stephen Zollman somehow left the Green Party because of anything I did.*

*This convolution of false stories mixed in with valid ones has led to me being perceived as some larger than life menace, far worse than how I actually behave in real life. So please rely only on facts that you can see right in front of you, rather than hearsay from others.*

*I have to strongly express, as a victim myself of serious childhood abuse by my stepfather, after which I spent \*years\* in therapy working out my problems from that abuse to become a good person, that being labeled as an 'abuser' by some of you has been both deeply unfair, deeply wrong, and deeply painful.*

*On that note I will conclude by repeating that the CC is dysfunctional, not just because of my own poor communication and crossing the line sometimes, but also because others of you \*often\* do the same, and you are likely not even aware of it. And we are never going to get to full resolution of all this by laying the blame solely on one person. Instead, we need to work with a mediator who can guide us through a safe process in a safe space, in which we can all express ourselves and strive to work better \*together\*.*

*in solidarity  
Eric Brooks”*

Karen stated she would stand aside.

With 2 standing aside, the proposal was **Approved by Consensus**

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**(9) Action Item Update - Report on Candidates**

Mimi gave an update on the applications received from candidates for the GPUS Delegation and for candidates for the CC.

There are 12 seats on the CC open for this election (at least 6 women are to be elected) and there are 17 candidates running (8 of the candidates are women).

There are 9 Delegates and 8 Alternate Delegates to be elected for the CA Delegation to GPUS. There are around 11 candidates for Delegates and around 10 candidates for Alternate Delegates. One current Delegate with a term extending to 2022 sent in applications to run for Delegate and Alternate Delegate. Someone will contact that Delegate and Mimi will report back.

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Meeting Adjourned at 8:49pm

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**APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX A - Clearinghouse/GROW NOTES - Tues, April 13, 7:30**

1. Roll Call & Facilitators  
Clearinghouse: Nassim Nouri (Santa Clara), Mica Daniel (Alameda) (CH Co-coordinators and call TIMEKEEPERS)

**GROW/Grassroots Organizing Working Group:** Laura Wells (GROW Co-coordinator, Alameda, NOTE-TAKER), Barry Hermanson (San Francisco, FACILITATOR), Richard Gomez (Fresno), Rick Greenblatt (San Diego)

**2. Zoom or Conference Calls?**

Decided to stay with conference calls for now. If someone would like to present something on-screen and tells us in advance, we can switch to zoom. We could use Santa Clara County's zoom account.

**3. GROW sponsoring EcoSocialism platform amendment**

Talked about whether it should start with what we reject, or start with what we want; about the length of the text on the landing page; and about community economics. GROW decided to be one of the sponsors to place this amendment on the agenda of the June 19-20, 2021 General Assembly.

**4. Greens want you back!** Regarding people who were registered Green before but not now, Rick sent out 5,000 emails with an open rate of 40% and a click rate of about 1-2%, and he received some email replies. He has 15,000 to go, and is coordinating with Alameda County on its project to reach out to local Greens.

**5. Clearinghouse project - Improved Medicare for All - AB 1400.** Got a media release drafted, with graphics, emailed it to 114 media contacts with a 26% open rate; and to 8,500 Greens with about 17% open rate.

**6. Clearinghouse project of thank you notes for donations.**

Mica and Barry are working on it, with Barry having received a nice one from Mica.

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**7. Next conference call.** Second Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 7:30 pm.

**8. Adjourned** at 8:45 pm

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**APPENDIX B - Minutes of the Finance Committee, April 22, 2021**

Present were: Mica Daniel, Facilitator, Justin Richardson, Treasurer, Frank Lambert, Notetaker

1. Agenda - Approved by consensus.
2. - John Schmitt resigned from the CC, the Finance Committee, and as co-co of the Fundraising committee.
- 3 - The March Minutes was approved by consensus.
4. - Rusal C. paid part of the fine to the State from his credit card, over the phone. Justin and Rusal are discussing a way to reimburse Rusal.
- 5 - Announcement! - Justin R. has an official email address to use for Green Party correspondence.
6. Discussion: regarding what Finance can do regarding Fundraising until we get that Committee functional. We are already short of members on the Finance committee but Frank Lambert will draft a fundraising letter for approval. Our intent is not to take over the Fundraising but try to provide a platform for the next Fundraiser Coordinator.
8. The next Finance Committee Meeting will be on Thursday, May 27, at 6:30 pm. Frank Lambert, April 22, 2021, Recording Secretary

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**APPENDIX C - Coordinating Committee Internal Procedures**

(Last amended and approved 4/4/21)

**Table of Contents**

Article I. Coordinators

Article II. Work Plan and Long-Term Agenda Planning

Article III. Meetings

Article IV. On-Line Proposals

Article V. Appointments to Standing Committees and CC liaisons

Article VI. Appointments of CC Liaisons for Standing Committees and Working Groups

Article VII. Sub-Committee

Article VIII. GPCA General Assemblies and Gatherings

## **Article I: Coordinators**

1-1: Selection, term and vacancy

1-1.1 Selection - As per the GPCA Bylaws Section on Coordinators, all GPCA Standing Committees shall have two Coordinators, including the Coordinating Committee (CC). This Article establishes that for the CC, there shall be one female and another of any gender or sex Coordinator and in a supporting role, one female Alternate Coordinator and another of any gender or sex.

1-1.2 Term - Coordinators and alternates shall serve two-year terms, with no term limits. Terms shall run from February of odd-numbered years for the female Coordinator and female Alternate, and from February in even-numbered years for the other Coordinator and Alternate of any gender or sex.

1-1.3 Vacancy - A Coordinator vacancy shall exist when a Coordinator has submitted a written resignation to the CC, is recalled by the CC or the electing body to the CC, is no longer registered Green; or misses three consecutive General Assemblies or regular CC meetings.

1-1.4 In case of a vacancy Alternates do not permanently assume the position of Coordinator. Rather, the corresponding Alternate fulfills the duties and authority of Coordinator until their term ends, upon which time the nomination process shall be initiated as described in 1-3.

1-2: Duties and Authority

The Coordinators and Alternate Coordinators shall work collaboratively to facilitate the CC's work and to meet their duties and responsibilities, including to:

1-2.1 Ensure that CC actions are in accordance with GPCA Bylaws and Rules and Procedures, and the CC Internal Procedures;

1-2.2 Draft agendas for CC meetings, ensure meetings are held as scheduled, and facilitate CC on-line voting;

1-2.3 Administer and monitor the CC email list to maintain an accurate CC roster and promote effective communication and working decorum among members.

1-2.4 Respond to general external and internal inquiries directed to the CC,

1-2.5 Provide welcome and orientation to new CC members and address their questions regarding policies, rules and procedures.

1-2.6 Conduct new delegate orientation at GPCA plenaries;

1-2.7 Communicate on behalf of the CC with the GPCA Liaison to the Secretary of State, GPCA

Spokespersons and the Coordinators of Standing Committees and Working Groups;

1-2.8 Ensure CC members and GPCA Committees and Working Groups complete tasks and actions approved by the CC, such as ensuring the IT Committee updates CC web pages with new information and CC meeting minutes.

1-3: Nominations

1-3.1 Nominations for Coordinators and alternate Coordinators shall open 15 days before the current Coordinators' terms end and announced by posting to the CC email list. Nominations shall be posted to the CC email list and maybe accepted by candidates



through email. Self-nominations shall be accepted when made. Nominations of the same person may be made and accepted for both Coordinator and alternate Coordinator. Nominations shall close at midnight two days before the CC meeting.

1-3.2 Candidates must submit a written candidate statement to the CC email list, no later than two days before the CC meeting. The statement should include a brief biography and a list of relevant experiences and perspective on how the candidate will perform their duties.

1-4: Elections

1-4.3 If there is more than one candidate, each shall make a brief statement, followed by a call for questions and concerns, after which the candidates address concerns.

1-4.1 Coordinators and Alternate Coordinators shall be selected sequentially via a CC meeting at the close of the previous Coordinator's term, via the process described below.

1-4.2 If there is only one candidate, the candidate shall make a brief statement, followed by a CC decision through the consensus process.

run-off voting and shall include a No Other Candidate option. All CC members may cast votes,

Voting shall be by instant

using the best platform depending to how the meeting is conducted (in-person, by phone, or

video). A candidate receiving a majority of votes cast is considered elected.

## **Article II. Work Plan and Long-Term Agenda Planning**

On an annual basis by the end of August each year, the CC shall prepare:

2-1 A yearly work plan along with any budget requests. 2.2 A draft schedule for the CC meetings

2.3 A Strategic Plan and Calendar to ensure the CC meets its responsibilities. The draft schedule shall guide, but not mandate, individual CC, Standing Committee, and Working Group agenda planning, except when legal or bylaws deadlines must be met.

## **Article III. Meetings 3-1 Meeting Agendas**

3-1.1 Agenda items

Agenda items are accepted from CC member, county Green Parties or Committees and Working Groups. For regularly scheduled CC monthly meetings, agenda items must be sent to the CC email list at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

3-1.2 Late Agenda items

Items sent later than 7 days prior to the CC meeting are considered 'Late Items', and will only be considered for addition to the agenda if they are 'time-sensitive'.

3-1.3 Draft Agenda Approval

A CC meeting draft agenda shall be submitted to the CC email list 6 days prior to the meeting. During the meeting's agenda approval process, meeting roles are assigned, items' order and timing revisions are made, Late Items are considered, and the final agenda is approved by consensus or a majority vote.

3-1.4 Proposal Format

Proposals to the CC shall be submitted in this format as needed:

Subject/Title:

Co-sponsors:

Background and Purpose:

Proposal:

Implementation/Timeline/Resources:

References:

### 3-2 Quorum & Attendance

3-2.1 Quorum for CC meetings shall be a majority of seated members, according to the proposal passed by the General Assembly in October 2009

(<http://www.cagreens.org/plenary/archives/agendas/0910proposals.pdf>).

3-2.2 CC members shall be considered to have attended a CC meeting if they are present for at least half of the scheduled meeting time, and considered present starting upon announcing themselves as present.

3-2.3 The minutes taker for a CC meeting shall record the time at which roll call has been taken and quorum established (at the beginning of the CC meeting or before a decision item), and shall also clearly record the time of arrival of any CC member who announces their presence after roll call has been taken and quorum has been established.

3-2.4 CC members who join late must announce themselves as present at the meeting prior to any item being presented and discussed in order to be able to vote on that item. The minutes taker shall record if and when a member arriving late has joined in the midst of a decision item making them ineligible to vote on that item. CC members who join late may vote on any items for which they are present during the entire item.

### 3-3 Consensus and Conduct

3-3.1 Proposal sponsors shall be called upon first by the facilitator to present their proposals. Facilitators shall then call for clarifying questions followed by an opportunity for the sponsor(s) to respond, then call for concerns and affirmations followed by an opportunity for the sponsor(s) to respond.

3-3.2 Once questions have been answered and concerns addressed, the facilitator shall ask whether there are any outstanding concerns. If not, the facilitator shall announce there is consensus. If yes, the facilitator shall ask whether the concerned person(s) are willing to stand aside. If yes, their stated concern will be recorded in the minutes and the facilitator shall announce that there is consensus. If no, the sponsor may ask for a vote or withdraw the proposal. If the proposal goes to a vote, the facilitator shall ask the minutes taker to call the roll. The Facilitator or their designee then calls each CC member for their vote and the minute-taker records the vote and announces the results.

3-3.3 Conduct – CC members shall abide by the following principles:

- We have the right to a safe, respectful, collaborative, and inclusive space devoid of oppression, bullying or marginalization in any form.
- - We commit to consider the impact of our conduct over our intent.
- We treat others as we expect to be treated; engage in direct and open communication and transparency, share and distribute power equitably, and hold ourselves accountable to each other and the community at large.
- According to our Email Rules of Decorum, we will not engage in discussions that are; personality-based, biased, offensive, prejudicial, dismissive, minimizing, misrepresentative of another's work, judgmental, repetitive, or off-topic.

3-3.4 Facilitator's role – Facilitators of the CC meetings shall implement the principles in 3-3.3 in the following manner:

- "Course Correct"; stop discussion and address any problematic conduct. Present a reminder of the forgoing principles, call for a member check-in, capture concerns, and allow the person to course correct.
- Ensure that no one dominates discussions immediately, usurps power, claims higher knowledge over others, abuses the tools of consensus decision-making, breaks stack, or uses oppressive practices.

- In case of repeated breaking of the principles without appropriate course-correction, stop the discussion and remove member's participation privileges if any of the above-mentioned conduct is continued.

#### 3-4 Minutes

3-4.1 The note-taker shall use the agenda as a template to capture minutes of CC meetings which shall consist of the date, time, location (where applicable), members present, absent those who join late or leave the meeting early. Also included are assigned meeting roles, agenda modifications, items heard, decisions-made, (including vote tallies of who voted for, against, abstained, or stood aside), the text of all proposals (including amendments and concerns of those who stood aside), and the monthly reports submitted by GPCA Committees and Working Groups listed under Consent items and included in Appendices.

3-4.2 The note-taker shall submit draft minutes to the CC email list at the latest 10 days prior to the next CC meeting. The CC members may post proposed revisions to the CC email list. The note-taker shall make a good faith effort to incorporate proposed revisions for the most factually accurate minutes before submitting them for approval to the CC.

3-4.3 The CC shall approve previous months' minutes by consensus or a majority vote.

3-4.4 Approved minutes shall be posted to the CC email list and the IT Committee Liaison will ensure the minutes are posted to the public CC minutes webpage.

#### 3-5 Executive Session

3-5.1 The CC shall go into Executive Session for discussions on personnel matters, sensitive legal and financial matters in which the Party itself is involved in actual or, sensitive conversations concerning Green candidates or elected officials, and when dealing with proprietary information of vendors and contractors. No other circumstances are appropriate for Executive Session. Only CC members and invited persons whose participation is necessary to address the agenda item are allowed to participate.

3-5.2 The CC shall refer to an Executive Session parts or all discussions on any proposed items to the CC if it meets the criteria listed in 3-5.1.

3-5.3 Minutes of all Executive Session shall include the time of entering and exiting Executive Session, those present and a general summary of topics discussed, without including specific information precluded under 3-5.1. Decisions made in Executive Session shall be reported in the CC minutes, subject to any legal limitations on disclosure.

### **Article IV. On-Line Proposals**

#### 4-1 Purpose and application

The CC may make on-line decisions about proposals via the process described in this Article. The same standards for quorum and approval threshold apply as with other CC decision. Use of on-line decision-making is restricted to:

4-1.1 When a proposal has been discussed at a regular CC meeting and a decision is made by majority vote or by consensus to put the item to an on-line vote. The CC may direct that the voting period shall begin upon conclusion of the meeting and run through the next two or seven days;

4-1.2 When there is a need for the CC to make certain time-sensitive decisions to meet legal, project, and/or party deadlines, and that decision cannot wait until the next regularly scheduled CC meeting;

4-1.3 When a proposal has been scheduled as part of the CC's annual Strategic Plan and Calendar schedule, there shall be one week discussion, beginning on a Monday and

ending at midnight on Sunday followed by one week of voting commencing immediately thereafter, ending at midnight the following Sunday.

#### 4-2 Posting

All proposals shall be posted with "ONLINE VOTE: [TITLE]" in the subject header of the email and shall be in the format described in 3-1.3. The email shall clearly state the dates for a two- or seven- day discussion/vote period and the vote close date, such as: VOTING PERIOD STARTS NOW and continues through Friday, May 1, at 10:30 pm. Please vote by replying to this email with your vote of "Yes", "No", or "Abstain". An on-line vote requires a majority of members for quorum and a majority of yes plus no votes for approval.

#### 4-3 Voting and Discussion

The two- or seven-day online period serves as both discussion and voting period. During this time members shall: ask clarifying questions, express concerns and affirmations, hear responses from the sponsors, and vote. During this period amendments may also be offered and considered or the sponsors may choose to withdraw the proposal.

#### 4-4 Vote Reporting

At the conclusion of the voting period, the proposer will tally the online votes and post the results to the CC email list listing who votes yes, no, or abstained on the proposal. The Agenda preparer for the next CC meeting will include all the online proposal details and the results conducted in the last month in the agenda for the next CC meeting.

### **Article V. Appointments of CC Liaisons for Standing Committees and Working Groups**

GPCA Bylaws outline the CC role in the appointment of CC Liaison (Section 8.1.6).

Further details include:

5-1 Duties – According to GPCA Bylaws each committee and working group shall be assigned a CC Liaison, who will serve as the Committee Coordinators and a voting, ex-officio member of that committee or working group. The Liaison responsibilities are to:

5-1.1 Facilitate communications between the committee or working group and the CC.

5-1.2 Post monthly meeting reports on the committee or working group's work to the CC email list for inclusion in the CC minutes, at least seven days prior to each CC meeting.

The report should include the dates and times of the meeting, list of present and absent members, any major decisions, status of work on CC action items, progress and major accomplishments, and the date and time of the next meeting;

5-1.3 Bring to the CC any issues of concern such as challenges or obstacles hindering the committee or working group's function.

5-1.4 Provide feedback on applications for committee appointments.

#### 5-2 Appointment and Terms

The CC shall fill open Liaison seats on an annual basis and/or whenever vacancies occur at a regularly scheduled CC meeting to two-year terms or for as long as they serve on the CC. If there is only one candidate for Liaison, the CC shall first test for consensus. If consensus is reached, the candidate shall be considered appointed, if not, the Liaison is appointed by a simple majority a vote. The Liaison position shall be considered vacant upon the Liaison's term or their CC term ending. There are no term limits on the Liaison position.

### **Article VI. Appointments to Standing Committees**

GPCA Bylaws outline the CC role in Committee and Working Group Appointments (Section 8 and 9). Further details include:

6-1 Criteria for appointment - When considering appointments to standing committees the CC shall consider: candidate's biography and statement, candidate's working knowledge of GPCA bylaws and procedures, candidate's skill set relevant to the Committee's mandate, compliance with the committee's internal procedures (if any), input and nominations by the CC and standing committee Coordinators, liaison and membership.

6-2 Appointment - If there are as many or fewer candidates than open Committee seats, the CC shall first test for consensus on the full list of candidates. If consensus exists, then all candidates shall be appointed. If there are more candidates than open seats or if there is not consensus, each candidate shall be considered individually. If consensus is not reached on any individual candidate, there shall be a call for a vote to be conducted with a 2/3 threshold.

### **Article VII. Subcommittees**

When needed for addressing specific issues or completing specific projects, the CC may decide to form temporary and ad-hoc sub-committees, other than those listed below.

#### 7-1 Strategy Sub-Committee

7-1.1 Duties - The Strategy Sub-Committee is charged with facilitating the CC's role in GPCA Strategic Plan, including to:

7-1.1.1 Plan and Facilitate an annual General Assembly strategic retreat, including a review of the draft Strategic plan (calendar);

7-1.1.2 Annually prepare a draft two-year Strategic plan (calendar) for the GPCA by using the individual work plans from the Working Groups and Standing Committees (as described in GPUS Bylaws 11.2 Work Plan), relevant information regarding election cycles and other deadlines affecting the GPCA from the state of California and the U.S. Government, internal deadlines of the GPCA, and deadlines of the Green Party of the United States affecting the GPCA;

7-1.1.3 Propose a draft two-year Strategic plan (calendar) for approval by the General Assembly at the same time of budget approval.

7-1.2 Membership - The Strategy Sub-Committee shall be made of six members appointed by the CC, each serving two year terms, with three members appointed each year and appointments to occur in the third quarter of each year.

7-1.3 Appointment - If there are as many or fewer candidates than open seats, the CC shall first test for consensus on the full list of candidates. If consensus exists, all candidates shall be appointed. Without consensus, or when there are more candidates than open seats, candidates shall be appointed by ranked choice voting, per GPCA Bylaws 7-1.8.

### **Article VIII. GPCA General Assemblies and Gatherings**

#### 8-1 Attendance at GPCA General Assemblies

GPCA General Assemblies shall be open to County Delegates, Party Officers, members of the Coordinating Committee, Coordinators of Standing Committees and Working Groups. Space-permitting, all other members of the Green Party of California are also able to attend.

The only non-party individuals who may attend shall be those invited by the Coordinating Committee, either at its own initiative or at the recommendation of other party committees, working groups or county party organizations, for purposes pertinent to the business of the GPCA.

#### 8-2 General Assembly Income and Expenses

All income and expenses associated with GPCA General Assemblies and Gathering shall be reported by the GPCA in its filings with the FPPC.

8-2.1 Expenses All expenses for GPCA General Assemblies and Gatherings, other than those deemed to be petty cash expenses by the State Meeting Planning Committee, shall be paid for by the GPCA and not any County Party or individual

8-2.2 Income - All income generated by GPCA General Assemblies and Gatherings shall be

received either through the GPCA's web site and/or checks written to the GPCA, and shall be deposited in the GPCA's bank accounts. No income shall be received via any County Party or individual's web site nor through any checks or cash to any County Party or individual.

8-2.3 Funds to County Party Hosts - Where funds are to go to County Parties as a result of their expenditures on hosting GPCA General Assemblies and Gatherings, it shall be in the form of a payment from the GPCA to the County Party for services rendered or reimbursements in hosting the meeting. If necessary, such arrangements shall be made by the State Meeting Planning Committee in advance of said General Assemblies and Gatherings.

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**APPENDIX D - GPCA Media Committee monthly call - Tuesday, April 13,  
5:00 - 6:00 pm**

1. Roll Call, members: Laura Wells (Alameda), Thomas Leavitt (LA County) [Welcome Thomas]
2. Volunteers present: Nassim Nouri (Santa Clara County), Jarred Booth (LA County)
3. Roles: Facilitator Laura, Notetaker Nassim
4. Build and approve agenda – amended and approved
5. Media Release: Laura gave a background on press coverage and media
  - a. Thomas: are there any independent media contacts we have that are willing to cover us?
    - i. Jarred: Carl Peterson is a blogger in LA area that covers Green
    - ii. Thomas will pull a list together of media outlets that have published Greens before: Counter punch, the Fulcrum, Sacramento Bee, SF Bay View...
  - b. Press release on AB1400 published 4/7/21 was sent to media list in NB and full contact list of supporters ~8300
    - i. <<https://www.cagreens.org/green-party-california-endorses-assembly-bill-1400>>
    - ii. Nassim has asked Diana about a Media list, and will pass on any list she shares
    - iii. Laura will check in with Cres Vellucci to check out PR and tune to share with contacts
    - iv. Plan distribution to media outlets, social media, etc.
6. **GPCA Podcast** - Jarred Booth (see the proposal below)
  - a. Proposed a “Green” podcast. Name and branding to follow up by email. Laura asked how does the GP show up on the podcast? Jarred: in each episode we could have a policy section to talk about where GP stands and what we propose.
  - b. First idea about a podcast was the certification of organic products that may or may not be actually organic, allowed through loopholes. Recommendations: check GPCA platform positions and find out what bills, laws are specific to CA. Second episode will be an interview Laura on her recent delegation trip to Nicaragua
7. **Social Media Platform**

Platform list below needs to be filled in by Laura if she has the information (done) with a lot of information still needed for the records, including all passwords. Jarred found 2 different YouTubes. Thomas suggested we remove any unused (active) platforms. Jarred noted Instagram is a great platform with a wide reach for GPCA, and is willing to help populate Instagram and also keep up with the YouTube channel.

**Facebook** - Need pw - Admin Diana Brown - Posters Diana Brown, Steve Claassan

Page: <https://www.facebook.com/cagreens> (Many current posts)

Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/8071416222> (Many current posts)

**Twitter** - Need pw - Admin: ??? - Posters: ???

<https://twitter.com/gpca> (Many current tweets, look like LA, CA and US)

**Instagram** - Need pw - Admin: ??? - Posters: ???

<https://www.instagram.com/greenpartyofcalifornia/> (1 post, approx 2015)

**Flicker** - Need pw - Admin: ??? - Posters: ???

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/greenpartyofcalifornia/> (1990s to early 2000s)

**YouTube** - Need pw's - Admin: ??? - Posters: ???

Future uploads? Videos of EcoSocialist events co-hosted by GPCA, Jarred's Podcast

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Af1wEWGrYzo> (Looks like 1 video, ASL GPCA Statement)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cagreens> (This link goes to the URL below, ending in LzA)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHjVKBVnwlOHf35mlpsLzA> (17 videos, from 9 years ago to 2 years ago)

#### 8. **Monthly meetings schedule:**

a. Should we switch to zoom or stay with conference calls? General agreement to move to Zoom

b. Is there a better time for everyone? Thomas and Jarred cannot attend Tuesdays 5-6pm

9. **Next meeting** (if unchanged) May 11, 2021, 5-6pm – Laura will propose possibly Monday 5/17 5-6pm

10. **Adjourned at 6:15**

## APPENDIX E - ERWG Monthly Report

For the monthly report from ERWG, below are the minutes from ERWG's meeting on April 7th meeting. (Thanks to Caledon Myers for doing these minutes!)

Next Meeting of ERWG will be on May 5th at 6:30pm.

(1st Wednesday of the Month at 6:30pm)

Electoral Reform Working Group

April 7, 2021, 6:30pm

Draft Minutes

Present: Caledon Myers, Nassim Nouri, Eric Brooks, Charisse Cordero, Michael Feinstein

Note: GPCA rules regarding Working Groups define voting members as anyone who has attended two meetings within the past two years.

Roles -- Facilitator: Caledon, Notetaker: Caledon, Timekeeper: Caledon

Proposal Presentation: The California Plan

Highlighted a three step plan to incite major electoral reform in California.

- 1) Build a broad coalition of minor parties, unions, and marginalized communities to specifically focus on electoral reform.
- 2) Construct a citizen-led ballot initiative that allocates CA government funding to the creation of an expert, nonpartisan commission on electoral design.
- 3) Hold a follow-up citizen-led ballot initiative that allows the public to vote on whether to adopt the alternative electoral design proposed by the commission or maintain the current system.

Unanimously voted yes to present proposal to GA. Voters: Nassim, Eric, Charisse, and Caledon.

Review: ERWG Endorsement of AB20

Briefly summarized efforts to reform California's campaign finance laws through AB20. Working group will vote on endorsement next meeting.

Proposal/ Discussion on Citizen Assembly to discuss electoral alternatives

Led by Michael: discussed the merit of creating a citizen's assembly to discuss electoral systems.

Meeting Finished: 8:14 PM

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## **APPENDIX F - April 2021 BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Monthly Bylaws Committee Report to the GPCA Coordinating Committee

From: The GPCA ByLaws Committee

To: The GPCA Coordinating Committee

Date: May 3, 2021

Submitted By: Mimi Newton and James Lauderdale, GPCA ByLaws Committee

Date of the last ByLaws Committee Meeting:

Sunday April 11, 2021

Present: Mimi Newton (Marin), James Lauderdale (Los Angeles)

Date of the next ByLaws Committee Meeting:

Sunday May 9, 2021 at 12:30 pm

Any significant actions the Committee is taking:

— We evaluated the Bylaws provisions regarding recall of CC members and discussed the pros and cons.

Continued work by the Bylaws Committee will include:

1. Continued effort to ensure Bylaws on GPCA Website are up to date.

1. We will invite June to our May Bylaws call in order to discuss the Bylaws relating to membership in Working Groups.

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## **APPENDIX G - Monthly Committee/Working Group Report to the GPCA Coordinating Committee**

From: The GPCA Statewide Candidates SubCommittee

To: The GPCA Coordinating Committee

Date: May 2, 2021



Submitted By: Greg Jan

Date of the last Committee/Working Group Meeting:

Saturday, April 22 (Earth Day!), 7 pm

Present: Committee members Steve Breedlove (Butte), Greg Jan, facilitator (Alameda), Jared Laiti (Sacramento), Jake Tonkel (Santa Clara);

Date of the next Committee/Working Group Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 7 pm

Any significant actions the Committee/Working Group is taking:

1. We have now met twice with the Peace and Freedom Party and have worked out most of the logistics regarding how we can "split the statewide races" next year (so we won't "take votes from each other"). Both parties will need to identify their candidates early enough this year in order for this idea to become a reality. P&F has currently identified US Senate and Insurance Commissioner candidates, and we have identified a State Controller candidate. (All 3 of these candidates have run for these offices before with their respective parties). At our next meeting late this month we will try to agree on a name for our "joint slate" -- right now "Left Unity slate" is the leading contender, but that's certainly not definite.
2. (2) To help increase the likelihood that Green candidate(s) in at least one of the statewide races will be able to get 2% or more of the vote (the minimum needed to maintain our ballot status), we have now contacted five Californians with relatively high name-recognition (Erin Brockovich, Angela Davis, Danny Glover, Dave Anthony, and Matt Gonzalez) to consider running for Governor, on our slate. None has yet replied back, except for Anthony, who was flattered, and declined, but he said he'd try to think of other people who might possibly run. (Our reply back to Anthony mentioned that we were also looking for candidates for other statewide races). At this point (regarding Governor), we'll probably move on to contacting activists, such as Pennie Opal Plant
3. (3) The IT committee sent out our email message to individual Greens a few weeks ago, asking for suggestions of statewide candidates, and also inviting people to volunteer and donate for the statewide candidate campaigns. A few Greens replied back that they're interested in volunteering (most likely when the campaign begins), and we received one candidate suggestion which we're following up on.

Continued work by the Committee/Working Group will include:

1. We're continuing to go through lists of previous Green candidates and activists to identify good statewide candidate prospects
2. We will also be working on a "Needs Assessment", which will list various "needs" for the GPCA to undertake in order to have the best campaign possible for our statewide candidates. However, our top priority right now is to identify some more good candidates.
3. We are now meeting every other week, on Thursday evenings

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## **APPENDIX H - GPCA-IT Meeting Minutes - April 18, 2021**

1. Roll call GPCA-IT members: David Bond Co-Co (LAC), Nicole Raglin Co-Co (NC), Audra Walton, CC Liaison' (MC),  
Members present: David Bond Co-Co (LAC), Nicole Raglin Co-Co (NC), Audra Walton, CC Liaison' (MC)

2. Roles: Facilitator: Audra Walton, Note taker: David Bond Timekeeper: Vibes:  
Discussion (d), Decision (D), Information (I) \* *Decisions made* \*\* **Action Items**

3. Approve or amend the agenda (3 min) (dD): - All approved

4. Approve last month's Meeting Minutes (2 min) (dD): All approved

5. Nation Builder Training (30)

- 2 levels of IT training for Audra and David with Nicole
- New Permission sets for Researcher and revise Intern-Communication; need help with People, and Communication blasts
- New Approach for updating website (use Google Drive for committee pages)

6. Discussion on website Launch(30)

- New website is on CA GREENS - DEV
- New website can be made available through changing DNS ([www.cagreens.org](http://www.cagreens.org))
- Old website can be made available through new DNS ([drupal.cagreens.org](http://drupal.cagreens.org))
- Need a team to help with website updating

7. Voting - GA(15 mins)

- Opavote; Open for a week; but requires daily updates for current Vote result
- Survey Monkey; doesn't do rank choice properly

8. Discord - (5 min)

- push to next meeting

9. New IT member - (5 min)

Eric Burt

- push to next meeting Thank you to David Bond for taking and submitting the minutes

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