



Green Party of New Mexico
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Minutes from the 2021 Annual Convention of the Green Party of New Mexico

The 2021 Annual Convention of the GPNM was held remotely using Free Conference Call. It was scheduled for 2:30 P.M. but due to technical difficulties and waiting for some people to check in, the meeting was not called to order until 3:14 P.M. Those attending were Em Ward, Armando Romero, Michal Mudd, Chanel Espinosa, Stephen Verchinski (who lost connection and dropped out early), and Rick Brown. Kerri Barber, delegate from GPAMA, was logged in for a while and had to leave and gave her proxy vote to Em Ward by e-mail prior to the meeting being called to order. Chanel started off facilitating but passed this on to Em because she had a poor connection, and we had difficulty understanding her at the beginning. (She partially resolved the problem later.) Rick served as secretary.

The first topic to be discussed was the progress of the Holtec application for storing nuclear waste. The NRC staff has revised their schedule for completing their review, a revised EIS is due by July 21. A Safety Evaluation due on May 21 was determined to be incomplete. With the final EIS we will get more opportunity for public input. The GPNM is already on record as opposing Holtec's application. **We decided to move on and move this topic for future review.**

New business – planning for regaining ballot status. Em said that the procedures are defined by State statute, a period for collecting signatures will be announced by the Secretary of State in 2022, and an official signature form will be sent out by the State at that time. Em and Michal remember going through this whole process before in 2014. However, there is currently a blank form on the State web site that doesn't have a year. Chanel said that she looked on the Secretary of State's web site and didn't see anything about a penalty for collecting signatures early. Em said that that might be possible. Rich asked the question, do we need to resubmit letters of attestation? Someone responded that that was for local governments not the State but we may need to do that again. Stephen says that there is no time limit on collecting or submitting signatures. Em asked him to provide a link for that. Em looked at what he provided, the web site says that a blank petition form can also be found on the web site. So there may not be date specific signature forms any more? The site also says that to requalify the party shall again comply by filing. Another place relating to elections allows about 2 months for the process. It also mentions a filing fee. Em and Chanel then said that we need to find out what is the earliest we would be allowed to start collecting signatures. If we rely on tabling for collecting the signatures, Em thinks it would be better to wait until things have opened up more and there are larger public gatherings. Other methods of collecting signatures were discussed included sending out petition forms in the mail to registered Greens with

instructions to collect original signatures and mail back in. **Stephen will send informaton from the SoS.**

Chanel suggested that we work on ending poisoning of wildlife on public land as well as trapping. She said that this has passed in Colorado. Em suggested that we look at what “Roxy’s law” covers – someone reported that it does cover poisoning, and also if there are any other laws with regard to poisoning. **There was consensus that we encourage Chanel to do further research on this.**

We then moved to a discussion of the “Greener New Deal”. This comes from a webinar put on by the Green Party of St. Louis, which looks at the lack of consideration of environmental effects of green technology and production of components and materials necessary for this technology. **GPNM adopted a resolution based on a draft of one from the Green Party of St. Louis/Gateway Green Alliance.** The resolution adopted by the GPNM is as follows:

Toward a Greener New Deal

Whereas, energy sources that are not fossil fuels themselves require fossil fuels in their extraction, production, and delivery;

Whereas, industrial solar and wind power, hydropower, geothermal power, and nuclear power all carry a range of negative effects on the environments and communities surrounding sites of extraction and production that may or may not be offset to some degree by the benefit of energy production;

Whereas, resource extraction is often linked to loss of land, resources, rights, culture, and life of indigenous or impoverished communities around the world;

Whereas, energy consumption and production can be reduced through decreased demand;

The Green Party of New Mexico resolves the following:

A. To stand in solidarity with global communities negatively affected by energy resource extraction and production and to demand that these communities be given the power of informed consent, adequate compensation, and on-going reparation and management of resulting environmental, cultural, and health degradation resulting from extraction.

B. To support implementation of public and private policies that a) reduce the standard work week without forcing increased production from individual workers, b) strengthen and enforce efficiency and emission standards in transportation and construction, and c) promote and provide accessible public transportation and human-powered transportation opportunities without displacing historically and culturally under-represented communities.

C. To support amendments or additions to the Platform of the Green Party of the United States that meaningfully address the concerns and conditions listed above.

Question – should we get involved in redistricting? One person reported that the leadership of Fair Districts New Mexico pretty much had confidence in the people on the current redistricting committee, which includes non-major party members.

Next we discussed the need to increase the number of locals. Someone asked whether a petition from a new local for acceptance needs to be made to the Green Council or brought to a convention? We talked about the possibility of regional locals; locals rep[resenting contiguous counties are allowed under current rules. We then discussed outreach to southern New Mexico. Possibilities mentioned included having people speak on radio stations, and placing ads in college newspapers. Someone said that we need to make sure that what we do is in accordance with election codes, and Em said that we need to keep in mind that we have limited

funds. Chanel asked what has been the most successful in the past. Someone responded that timing is important, that some times are more favorable than others for attracting new people to the Green Party. **We agreed to continue this discussion at future Green Council or Steering Committee meetings.**

Officer Reports:

We tried to text Stephen to see if he had anything to report from the National Party but were unable to contact him. Michal gave the Treasurer's Report. We have an account with only \$5 in it to hold it. We have \$1206.54 in our checking account and \$3553.93 in our savings account. The ~\$400.00* from the dissolved Taos Local was deposited into checking. This needs to be earmarked. Someone suggested moving it to the \$5.00 account.

Next item was election of officers. **Rick Brown was elected Secretary, and Michal Mudd was elected Treasurer. Stephen Verchinski, who was currently serving as National Representative, was reelected to this position even though we had lost contact with him. Armando Romero was also elected as a National Representative. Em Ward offered to serve as Co-Chair and was elected to this position. Chanel Espinosa agreed to continue as the other Co-Chair and was also elected.**

There will be a national virtual convention in July. Since this is not an election year we don't need to elect delegates, anyone who wishes to can attend. However it will be necessary to register by July 5 and there is a \$100.00 registration fee. It may be possible to attend for only one of the three days, but we aren't sure about that.

The convention was adjourned at 6 P.M.

**Note: this amount was reported at a later date to be incorrect.*