

## Hampton Roads Green Party Minutes 12/12/21, 2-4pm

Join the online meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83762353417?pwd=YWcyQ3p6VDJUSFF6NkVTN0dCMG5qUT09>

Meeting ID: 837 6235 3417 Passcode: 526063

### 1) Procedural

#### a) Take Attendance/Introductions

Steffanie Aubuchon, Blaizen Bloom, Garry Hubbard, Charlotte Jobe in attendance.

#### b) Establish Quorum

Quorum was Established.

#### c) Establish Proper Notice for the Agenda was Provided

Proper Notice was Established.

#### d) Assign Notetaker

Blaizen was assigned as Notetaker.

#### e) Summary and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes – [December 5th](#)

Minutes Approved.

#### f) Unfinished Business

### 2) Officer/Committee Reports

#### a) Co-Chair – Blaizen Bloom

Nothing to report and there are no updates on the interview with Andrew Bushard from the Alternative Parties Podcast.

#### b) Treasurer – Steffanie Aubuchon

Statements from the bank haven't been sent back and doesn't know if the HR Pride money has been refunded yet. Blaizen asked about how much money was in the account, and Steffanie responded approximately \$400 with HR Pride refund, \$150 if we haven't been refunded.

#### c) IT – Blaizen Bloom

Agenda and Last meeting minutes are now on the website. "hrgreenparty" is our new social media handle in addition to the current website address.

#### d) GPVA Update – Blaizen Bloom (GPVA Non-Male Co-Chair)

The 2022 Strategic Plan and Questionnaire have been under discussion. Garry asked about state funds for supporting locals, to which Blaizen responded that there is a possibility of funding although nothing has been set aside as there is currently no budget.

#### e) GPUS Update

##### i) National Delegate Update - Blaizen Bloom

The only thing to update is the Steering Committee (SC) released a statement on the COVID-19 pandemic, including measures of M4A, a Basic Income, and universal ppe and vaccines for all in America and abroad.

ii) Animal Rights Committee Update - Blaizen Bloom & Steffanie Aubuchon

The only discussions have been over harnessing and accompanying non-barn and not-feral cats outside, which is to be added to the developing candidate questionnaire, candidate pledge, and voter pledge.

3) Officer Elections - (First Notice)

a) Establishment of ad hoc Elections Oversight Committee

Garry Hubbard stepped up to serve on the committee.

b) Declaration of Candidacy

Blaizen announced they are running for reelection as Co-Chair and IT Admin. Steffanie announced they are running for reelection as Treasurer.

c) Election will be held at January Meeting

4) HRGP/GPVA Candidate Updates

a) Garry Hubbard, Candidate for CD-02

Blaizen reported that Tom Yager believes that petition signatures for Congressional races are to be sent to Richmond. Blaizen hasn't heard anything about the feasibility of a lawsuit against the state for lowering the petition signature requirements. Garry in collaboration with the rest of the membership agreed upon a logo for his campaign, with the next goal to start designing a business card. Garry reported that both Democrats and Republicans have reached out to ask why he's running against them. Blaizen updated Garry and membership on the newly proposed CD-02 redistricting map, although a decision will have to be made after the 20th of December when public comments have concluded. Garry has considered policies and is looking for general input from membership; Blaizen recommended a focus on the Green New Deal, transitioning the military industry to green industry, demilitarizing the police, legalizing weed federally, and a federal reparation program.

b) Blaizen Bloom, Candidate Chesapeake School Board

Blaizen reached out to a friend who expressed interest in managing the campaign. Blaizen proposed supporting a policy of fewer but more quality bus drivers and an increased walkability and bikeability of communities by students to combat the bus driver shortage, which could be worked on with Garry to get implemented.

5) Past Month Events/Endorsements/Sponsorships

a) Violation Vigil #NoMVP? - December 11th

There was a big Hampton Roads turnout from Green and Green allies (DSA). Blaizen will be sharing media about the event on social media later.

6) Upcoming Events/Future Event Suggestions:

7) New proposed Bylaws Amendments - Blaizen (Second Reading)

- a) Amend III.A to expand categories protected against discrimination in membership.
- b) Add III.B.X to prevent leaders of other parties from being a member of the Party.
- c) Amend III.C.2 to allow for a unanimous circumvention to the consecutive meeting requirements.
- d) Add III.C.X to require voting members to reside within an hours drive of Norfolk.
- e) Strike III.C.3 to require members be in good standing for a year before being able to vote.
- f) Amend III.G.4 to expand categories protected against abuse by HRGP members.
- g) Amend III.H.3 to allow alternatives to consensus for the Executive Board when recommending charges or lack thereof regarding complaints against members.
- h) Amend IV.B to require officers to be a member in good standing for at least one (1) year.
- i) Amend IV.B to eliminate the Secretary as a signer on financial documents.
- j) Strike IV.F.5 to eliminate the Secretary as a signer on financial documents.
- k) Amend IV.I.1 to encourage voluntary term-limits.
- l) Amend IV.I.3 to eliminate the Secretary as a signer on financial documents.
- m) Amend VI.A to come into compliance with membership requirements regarding serving on standing committees.
- n) Amend VI.E.2 to limit subcommittee chairs from serving as voting members on the Executive Board.
- o) Amend VII.C.2 to ratify the agenda at the start of the meeting.
- p) Amend VII.C.3 to eliminate the need to summarize past meeting minutes, but adds the requirement that they be ratified.
- q) Amend VII.G.2.B to require a stack be progressive.
- r) Amend X.C.4 to offer an alternative to consensus for the Executive Board when determining severability of the bylaws.
- s) Strike XII.B to eliminate the preferred candidate status.
- t) Amend XII.C to eliminate the preferred candidate status.
- u) Add XII.X to add an endorsement alternative to nominations for non-Green candidates in races without a Green running.

8) General Discussions

9) 2022 Monthly Meetings: 2nd Sunday of each month from 2-4pm over Zoom

## Appendix

Amend III.A to state:

Non-Discriminatory Membership in the Party is open to anyone, regardless of age, race, color, national origin, *citizenship status*, spiritual belief, *class, sex, gender identity or expression*, sexual orientation, *romantic attraction*, or physical ~~challenge~~ *or mental disability*, subject to the conditions of this article.

Add III.B.X:

*Individuals shall not be an officer, official spokesperson, candidate, or central committee member of another competing political party.*

Amend III.C.2 to state:

Individuals shall attend three (3) consecutive general membership meetings. A voting member shall not miss more than three (3) consecutive general membership meetings in a calendar year (as defined in Article VII) and had such attendance recorded by the Secretary in the official minutes. If an extended absence of three (3) months or longer is anticipated or arises, the individual must submit a written statement of absence to the Secretary or an Executive Board member as soon as possible but no later than one (1) week after the second missed meeting. Voting privileges will be suspended and the absent member shall not count toward a quorum during an excused absence. Upon return, voting privileges shall be restored after attending three (3) consecutive general membership meetings. *Exceptions to this section may be made on a case-by-case basis by consensus or a unanimous vote of all voting members.*

Add III.C.X

*Individuals shall reside within an hours drive of Norfolk.*

Strike III.C.3:

~~Individuals shall have been a member in good standing for a period of one (1) year as defined by all membership requirements in Article III. An exception may be made on a case-by-case basis by consensus of the voting members or 2/3 vote if consensus cannot be reached.~~

Amend III.G.4 to state:

Knowingly practice or advocate for any acts of discrimination based on age, race, color, national origin, *citizenship status*, spiritual belief, *class, sex, gender identity or expression*, sexual orientation, *romantic attraction* or physical ~~challenge~~ *or mental disability*.

Amend III.H.3 to state:

Recommendations for sanctions by the Executive Board must be reached through regular consensus *or by a simple majority vote if the recommendation is less than dissolution. If dissolution is recommended the vote must be 2/3 if consensus cannot be reached.*

Amend IV.B to state:

To be eligible to hold an Officer position, one must be a voting member in good standing (per Article III requirements) *for a period of at least one (1) year*. The minimum age to hold the positions of Co-Chair, ~~Secretary~~ and Treasurer shall be the same as the legal age to serve as a signatory on any relevant and necessary legal documents.

Strike IV.F.5:

~~The Secretary may serve as an authorized signatory for the Party's financial accounts.~~

Amend IV.I.1 to state:

No term limits, *although officers are encouraged to serve no more than two (2) terms as co-chair or two (2) terms in any other elected officer position*. Terms shall last one (1) year for each elected office.

Amend IV.I.3 to state:

The minimum age to hold the Executive Board positions of Co-Chair, ~~Secretary~~ and Treasurer shall be the same as the legal age to serve as a signatory on any relevant and necessary legal documents.

Amend VI.A to state:

The following standing committees are permanent bodies. Additional standing committees may be added by approval of the General Membership through the amendatory process. Only ~~voting~~ members in good standing *who have met all other general membership requirements may serve on standing and ad-hoc committees*.

Amend VI.E.2 to state:

Subcommittees may elect any number of chairs to serve as spokespersons for the subcommittee to the standing committee and General Membership *but are not to be considered voting members of the Executive Board*.

Amend VII.C.2 to state:

Ascertain that proper notice was given and *ratify the agenda posted*.

Amend VII.C.3 to state:

~~Reading/summary~~ *Ratification of minutes* of previous meeting *minutes*.

Amend VII.G.2.B to state:

Three (3) rounds of *progressive* stacking will be permitted. Each round will begin with a call, by the meeting facilitator, for the presence of objections.

Amend X.C.4 to state:

Consensus *or 2/3 vote* of the Executive Board.

Strike XII.B:

~~In the event no Green Party candidate is available the Party may, by consensus or 2/3 vote of the voting members, confer one-time Preferred Candidate status if:~~

- ~~1. The candidate is an independent or;~~
- ~~2. The candidate is not running in a corporate funded party.~~
- ~~3. The candidate generally supports the Party's platform positions.~~
- ~~4. The candidate understands that to receive further support in future elections, the candidate must join and run as a Green and be endorsed by the procedures listed in Article XII, Section D.~~

Amend XII.C to state:

Any candidate for public office who runs on the ballot of the Party ~~or as a Preferred Candidate~~ must agree to:

Add XII.X to state:

*In the event that there are no competing Greens candidates in a race, the Party may choose to endorse a candidate by consensus or a 2/3 vote given the candidate is in line with the following criteria:*

- 1. The candidate is an independent or is not running in a corporate-funded party.*
- 2. The candidate supports the Ten Key Values.*
- 3. The candidate generally supports the Party's platform positions.*