

Hampton Roads Green Party Minutes 01/09/22, 2-4pm

Join the online meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUkcuCrrDgpGNUSe_0k5MxVc2GghaMKq0PX

1) Procedural

a) Take Attendance/Introductions

Steffanie Aubuchon, Blaizen Bloom, Charles Brown, Garry Hubbard, Charlotte Jobe, John MacLeod

b) Establish Quorum

Quorum established

c) Establish Proper Notice for the Agenda was Provided

Proper notice was established.

d) Assign Notetaker

Blaizen was assigned as notetaker.

e) Ratify Last Meeting's Minutes – [December 19th](#)

The last meeting's minutes were ratified.

f) Unfinished Business

2) Officer/Committee Reports

a) Co-Chair – Blaizen Bloom

Blaizen had nothing to report.

b) Treasurer – Steffanie Aubuchon

Steffanie filed quarterly reports and is waiting to hear back on the Pride refund. Additionally, \$7.99 was spent for Blaizen's campaign website domain name.

c) IT – Blaizen Bloom

Blaizen had nothing to report.

d) GPVA Update

i) Local Rep – Steffanie Aubuchon (Vote to Affirm)

Steffanie was affirmed as the Local Rep by the general membership.

ii) Non-Male Co-Chair – Blaizen Bloom

Blaizen reported that the State Party meeting will be on January 29th from 1-5pm completely over Zoom, where the login info will be published over the lists prior to the meeting. Garry asked about nominations of Garry & Blaizen by the GPVA; Blaizen responded that it will be on the agenda.

Blaizen added that there has been additional discussions on a candidate questionnaire, with a new draft version drafted based on the GPWA questionnaire. They stated that the focus of the new draft was to focus less on policy and more on how a candidate intends to run their campaign, views on the TKV's, intended support, as well as policy. Garry asked if Garry & Blaizen will have to fill out the questionnaire; Blaizen responded that it is unlikely as both their endorsement/nomination and questionnaire vote will be at the same meeting, with the focus being on candidates seeking endorsement/nomination late into 2022, or 2023.

Blaizen offered a reminder for folks to renew their annual dues and website information for the GPVA. They stated that dues are as little or as much as you want, with the recommended amount being \$36/year. They further explained the purpose of dues, which is to help establish a membership base for the GPVA and provide a regular income. Garry asked where the link to pay dues is; Blaizen responded that it can be found on the GPVA's website and further clarified that dues are based from when you last donated, not what year it was paid in.

e) GPUS Update

i) National Delegate Update - Blaizen Bloom

Blaizen reported that a new budget was passed for GPUS, but was controversial due to its controversial nature whilst the GP is suffering in regards to a lack of fundraising.

Garry asked about calling, Blaizen started phone banking. Garry asked about phone banking with a given donor list; Blaizen responded that GPUS has been doing it, and that they've been participating in some of the banking sessions.

Garry asked about phone banking for his and their campaign; Blaizen clarified that this is strictly for national, but added that they would like the GPVA to offer phone and text bank services for Locals and Campaigns. Garry asked about the state of petitioning during Omicron; Blaizen responded that any need for funding can be voted on by the Leadership Council to help fund petitions. They further added the possibility of suing the state given the current positivity rates in Hampton Roads.

Blaizen further added some of the upcoming votes, which involved a proposal to revoke the SC Covid-19 statement as well as appointing two new delegates to the FVPA.

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

Blaizen stated that the ARC is currently brainstorming ideas for animal rights t-shirt merchandise to help fundraise for the national party. They added that the committee will meet on MLK Day to further discuss what's been in the works. In addition, Committee Co-Chair Craig Seeman of NY resigned because of health issues, with Blaizen as the most likely candidate to take over his role.

3) Officer Elections

The election of all 4 officers was held by consensus, which included Blaizen to Co-Chair & IT Admin and Steffanie to Treasurer & Secretary.

4) HRGP/GPVA Candidate Updates

a) Garry Hubbard, Candidate for CD-02

Garry committed that Elaine Luria, the current Democratic incumbent, is moving back into the newly redistricted district but is being primaried by another candidate. Between meetings, Blaizen met with Garry to discuss his campaign. Garry added that he wants to create a new Facebook and Twitter account, a DonorBox account, and a Website which he needs to transition over from his City Council campaign to his Congressional campaign. Blaizen threw out their name for help if Garry needs help transitioning the website. Garry asked about necessary paperwork to be done for his Congressional campaign

b) Blaizen Bloom, Candidate Chesapeake School Board

Update on signatures and paperwork. Aaron and Declan volunteering. Website is up BlaizenBuckshotBloom.com. ordered 2000 business cards. Garry asked about Blaizen's donation link.

5) GPVA Upcoming Votes

a) Confirmation of Interim Committee Appointments

i) Steffanie Aubuchon - Animal Rights Committee

Consensus was achieved to affirm the decision.

ii) Blaizen Bloom - Alternate National Delegate

Consensus was achieved to affirm the decision.

iii) Davion Washington - Diversity Committee

Consensus was achieved to affirm the decision.

b) Affirm Interim Decision: "Healing a Broken Agricultural System" Co-Sponsorship

Consensus was achieved to affirm the decision.

c) Affirm Interim Decision: "Agriculture as a Weapon of Domination" Co-Sponsorship

Consensus was achieved to affirm the decision.

d) Election of State Officers

i) Co-Chair

There are currently no announced candidates.

ii) Press-Secretary

There are currently no announced candidates.

iii) Webmaster

There are currently no announced candidates.

iv) General-Secretary

There was consensus to support reelecting Sid Smith.

e) Blue Ridge National Platform Amendments

There was consensus to accept Blue Ridge's amendments on changing "Defense Industry" to "Military Industry".

f) Revised Social Media Policy

There was consensus to accept the newly revised social media policy.

g) 2022 Strategic Plan Discussion

There was consensus to accept the 2022 Strategic Plan

h) Candidate Questionnaire

There was consensus to accept the Candidate Endorsement/Nomination Questionnaire

i) State Platform Amendments

There was consensus to remove the two outdated platform amendments.

John spoke on using Democracy John to support local movements, understand local people, & grow the Green Party. Blaizen spoke on the importance of growing Green and Green friendly media, or to "be our own media" like with John MacLeod's Democracy John or Andrew Bushard's Alternative Parties Podcast. John and Garry spoke about connecting for an interview series for Garry Hubbard's campaign for CD-02.

6) Past Month Events/Endorsements/Sponsorships

a) NYE No Jails Noise Demo

Blaizen attended the NYE No Jails Noise Demo.

7) Upcoming Events/Future Event Suggestions:

a) VA Beach Rally for City Workers - January 18th (5:30pm)

i) At Virginia Beach City Council, Building 1, 2401 Courthouse Drive

Charles Brown added that the event's also being used to bring attention to MLK's struggle for labor rights.

b) Newport News Rally for City Workers - January 25th (6:30pm)

i) At City Council Chambers located behind City Hall at 2400 Washington Avenue.

Charles Brown added that the event's also being used to bring attention to MLK's struggle for labor rights.

c) GPVA State Party Meeting - January 29th

i) Over Zoom

d) VA Reproduction Equity Alliance Rally - January 31st (11:00am)

i) Bell Tower at Dogwood Dell Park, Richmond

Blaizen asked if members would be okay blasting out the event on the HRGP's socials, which there was consensus.

8) General Discussions

John added using Democracy John to help Fairfax Greens. Blaizen commented on showing commitment by being in the public by talking about the Green Party.

Blaizen asked about membership meetings. John stated Sunday's worked best. Garry is ok with most days. Charlotte and Charles will try to attend, but will

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

a) Next Meeting - February 13th

10) Hampton Roads-Fairfax Brainstorming Session - [Zoom Link](#)