

**Green Party of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Area
Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 6:12 p. m. Present: Em, Rory, Muhajir, Stephen, Beverly, Pete, Michal, Cheryl (Minimum officer requirement and other member requirements met.)

MINUTES: The January GPAMA minutes were accepted as read (Em's version).

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$5 in Savings, \$62 Checking (with new donation of \$2 for button). PayPal transfer process still not resolved. **Michal indicated that she needed to contact Zacary about this.**

GREEN COUNCIL MEETING REPORT: Carol Miller spoke on Circle of Love for New Mexico Children. Sky Tallman presented Senate and House bills for endorsement/opposition. Rick Lass and Em Ward were appointed to the Ballot Access Committee and Co-ordinated Campaign Committee, respectively. **Em will check that this information has been sent to the national Secretary.**

NEW BUSINESS

1) Payday/Title Loan Issue: Stephen presented information on current Senate and House bills, including SB166 and SB15. He shared that Steve Fischmann is interested in talking to Greens about predatory lending. After discussion it was determined that **Pete and Muhajir will write letters to the editor, Em will contact GPDA to find out if they are doing anything on the issue, and Stephen will provided the information needed for an e-mail blast to the appropriate legislators.** A press release was discussed.

2) Open Primaries Issue – Em shared that GPAMA was contacted trying to get in touch with the state co-Chairs about the open primaries initiative. Rich was sent the information.

3) Em reported that a blog was added to the GPAMA web site.

4) It was recommended to check the Prosperity Works Legislative Priorities on their web site. No decision was made about joining a coalition or participating in a day at the Roundhouse.

5) Annual Meeting/Convention: It was determined that the Annual Meeting/Convention will take place on a weekend in March and at a restaurant with Taj Mahal the leading candidate. **Michal and Stephen will get more restaurant information. Em will check Spring Break dates.**

6) Rio Grande Trail: Stephen presented information on this walking trail project proposed to run from El Paso, Texas to the Colorado border. Discussion indicated that not all Greens would agree about trails in the *bosque*, although other potential benefits were presented. **Michal and Stephen will check on segments to adopt.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Upcoming Rallies and Events were listed and discussed:

- a) Water, Wildlands, and Wildlife Day at the Roundhouse – February 8
- b) César Chávez Day, **parade with banner** – April 1
- c) Tax Day March – April 15
- d) Science March on Earth Day – April 22
- e) Celebrate the Earth Festival in Nob Hill – April 22
- f) Citizens' Climate March – April 29

OLD BUSINESS: GPAMA had a good presence at the Healthcare Rally and the Women's March Rally in ABQ. A few of us handed out flyers at the Guild. Municipal Elections were discussed, and it was noted that there is no known Green running for office in Albuquerque or Rio Rancho.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p. m.