



GPAMA Monthly Meeting
April 18, 2017, at 6 pm
Held at The Source, 1111 Carlisle SE, Albuquerque

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Six people attended, including three officers.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account balance is \$91, with \$5 in savings and \$5 in cash yet to be deposited for a total of \$101. Some work remains to be done to transfer authority for the account from the previous to the current Treasurer.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 26, 2017, GPAMA Annual Meeting/Convention were approved with a spelling error corrected.

Future Meetings: Two suggestions were met with great enthusiasm, as follows:

1) Since GPAMA represents four counties, meetings should be rotated around all four counties, not just Bernalillo. Co-Chair Verchinski agreed to seek out meeting places in Sandoval, Valencia, and Tarrant Counties.

2) At least one meeting every quarter should be a social event, such as a potluck, hike or movie, instead of a business/organizational meeting.

Common Causes: There was discussion of how or whether GPAMA could (or if we even should) try to join forces with or participate in events organized by other organizations that espouse similar values to the Greens, such as the Sierra Club or the ACLU. These groups tend to be primarily Democratic Party enclaves and have been generally unwelcoming.

Publicity/Increasing Visibility: It was suggested that GPAMA members look for opportunities to upload photos of our participation in civic events, protests, and other actions to news websites such as KOB, KOAT, KRQE and other media outlets, as well as our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GreenABQMetro/>) and <http://gpabqmetro.org/> web site. Also discussed, and tabled for now, was getting together to make a new lighted GPAMA/Green Party sign.

Voter Rolls: Verchinski shared information about voter purging being conducted by the Secretary of State. He has obtained and printed out a list of all registered Greens in our four counties comprising some 400 pages. Some of the listings include phone numbers; the plan is to call each of those numbers and invite that person to attend a meeting in their area and to give us their email address so they can be notified of GPAMA and GPNM events. Michal took pages 1-50, Francine took pages 106-135, Suzanne took pages 136-195.

Opportunities for Participation in Public Events/Actions:

- 1) PERA Actions: The Retired Public Employees of New Mexico group is planning an action in the courtyard of the Santa Fe Marriot to demand that PERA divest from DAPL, on May 5.
- 2) GMO-Free New Mexico is sponsoring a BEES and SEEDS Festival at Tractor Brewing in Wells Park on Saturday, MAY 20. This is part of the Global March Against Monsanto.
 - a. Verchinski will get us a table.
 - b. Event goes noon to 9 pm and we need people at the table at all times
 - i. Francine can commit to the 11am to 1 pm shift
 - ii. Em is available from late afternoon to closing.
 - c. GPAMA needs to create some new literature and handouts – Em requests that we base our material on credible scientific evidence.
 - d. Verchinski will draw up PETITIONS on glyphosates and styrofoam.

Before we can teach others, we need to educate ourselves: John’s suggestion that before we take on too many tabling events or try to devise new handouts we need to know what we’re talking about resonated with everyone present. Verschinski added that we need to tie in the general principles of each of the Ten Key Values to local situations and realities on the city, county and state levels. The following people agreed to research and write something up on at least one topic:

- Verchinski - Community-Based Economics
- John and Francine - Ecological Wisdom
- John will also look into the rest of the Four Pillars
- Suzanne - Social Justice
- Michal - Future Focus.

John recalled in the past having regular study sessions using the Brian Tokar book “The Green Alternative” as an informal text.

Other business and/or discussion:

- Being branded as the pro-marijuana stoner party 10 or 15 years ago may not have helped the cause. We need to change the focus to Industrial Hemp for the economy and the environment.
 - The State Co-Chairs haven’t provided delegate numbers for the State Convention to the locals. Can we nudge them on this? Verchinski will try to get some answers.
 - A member of GPAMA needs to present the proposed amendment to the bylaws (regarding the requirement that elected office holders either maintain their Green Party registration or vacate their offices if they change their party affiliation) at the State Convention. This proposed amendment needs to be added to the convention agenda.
 - Growing the mailing list: Francine and Michal will provide Suzanne with access to older email lists.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.