



2017 Annual Meeting/Convention  
March 26, 2017, at the Taj Mahal Restaurant

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. with eight people present, including two officers.

Treasurer's Report: Checking account balance is \$91, with \$5 in savings. There may be some funds donated via the PayPal button on the website, precise quantity unknown at this time.

ACTION ITEMS:

1 - The minutes of the Feb. 1, 2017, GPAMA meeting were accepted as presented.

2 – Officer elections were held. The nominees were as follows:

- Co-Chairs: S. Verchinski and M. Romero
- Secretary: S. Barteau
- Treasurer: E. Ward
- Green Council Representatives: M. Mudd, J. Lockridge, S. Barteau, S. Verchinski.
- Green Council Alternate: F. Cronshaw

A motion to accept the slate of nominees as offered passed with all in favor.

Additional notes: Ward agreed to continue to act as webmaster for the GPAMA website at <https://gpabqmetro.org/>. Mudd agreed to continue to run the GPAMA Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/GreenABQMetro/>.

3 – The following future meeting schedule was agreed upon: GPAMA will meet on the third Tuesday of every month, at a venue to be determined. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

4 – It was agreed that GPAMA will participate in the following upcoming events:

- Saturday, April 1: Cesar Chavez – Dolores Huerta Justice March. We'll gather at South Valley Gateway Park, 100 Isleta Blvd SW, between 9:30 and 10:30 am
- Saturday, April 22: Science March on Earth Day. Michal will provide updates on the time and place as information becomes available.
- Saturday, April 29: Citizen's Climate March. Francine will provide updates on the time and place as information becomes available.

5 – An amendment to the Rules and Regulations of the Green Party of New Mexico was drafted for presentation at the GPNM Annual Convention on April 30, pertaining to Section IV (Qualifications) Part B (Elective Party Office).

Section IV Part B currently reads:

Elective Party Office: No person shall qualify to be elected to a Party office unless he or she is a Member or a person excepted by these Rules.

Section IV Part B as amended would read:



#### Elective Party Office

- i. No person shall qualify to be elected to a Party office unless he or she is a Member or a person excepted by these Rules.
- ii. **Any person elected to or holding a Party office must maintain Green Party membership throughout his or her term of office; failure to maintain Green Party membership will be recognized as a de facto resignation from that office. In the event a Party officer changes his or her party affiliation, that person is required to notify the State Steering Committee.**

#### DISCUSSION

- 1 – A Letter to the Editor by GPAMA member P. Rogers on the failure of New Mexico’s Democratic and Republican elected officials to take action on predatory lending practices was printed in the Albuquerque Journal in February.
  - 2 – Verchinski shared his efforts on behalf of the Industrial Hemp Bill which was vetoed by Gov. Susana Martinez, and his discussions with growers in the Mesilla Valley area who would have benefited from the opportunity to plant hemp, a crop better able to tolerate the existing water conditions (a low water table and a water supply contaminated with chemicals) than the cotton they normally plant.
  - 3 – Cronshaw described the Circle of Love for New Mexico Children event at the Roundhouse during the Legislative Session. She also talked about the Methane Coalition and shared information about PNM’s underhanded tactic of moving the enormous debt run up by operating coal power plants from shareholder liability to consumer liability. Cronshaw agreed to update the GPAMA membership about PNM, the Methane Coalition’s efforts, and opportunities to get involved.
  - 4 – Barteau agreed to include a summary of issues before the Legislature that may have been of particular interest to Green Party members, and how they ended up, in an email to the GPAMA membership in the near future.
  - 5 – Looking ahead to elections in 2017 and 2018, at this point there aren’t any known Green running for office.
  - 6 – Ward reported that the national Green Party is asking for word to be spread about its online store (<http://www.gp.org/store>) - it has free downloadable materials plus merchandise for sale. Also from the national party, an invitation to participate and serve in various Identity Caucuses, including the Women’s Caucus, Black Caucus, Lavender Caucus, Latinx Caucus and Youth Caucus. Caucus members do not need to be elected or appointed in order to participate.
  - 7 – Cronshaw made a recommendation to the new Co-Chairs that at the end of each meeting there should be a recap of what each member has agreed to do.
  - 8 – Verchinski announced Vecinos United is hosting a talk by Richard Wolff on April 19, with the exact time and location still to be determined. He’s also looking into the cost of contacting every registered Green voter in Bernalillo County by mail, to try to increase participation.
  - 9 – A discussion of whether the GPAMA Facebook presence can or should be converted from a Page to a Group was tabled until the next meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.