

Georgia Green Party 2000 Nominating Convention

Americus Georgia, Saturday, March 18th, 2000

(as approved by the Coordinating Council Phone Conference 5/1/00)

The Convention was convened at about 10:30 am by Kerrie Dickson.

James Jones of Gwinnett County presented a Credentials Report asking that the Convention seat seven delegates: The report was adopted by unanimous consent. The delegates included: James Jones (Gwinnett County), Kerrie Dickson and Hugh Esco (Towns County), Doug Hertzler, Bill Harris and Kellie Cripe (Sumter County) and Reverend Zack Lyde (Glynn County). Over the next hour, James Jones asked unanimous consent to supplement this Report and without objection, the Convention recognized the following additional delegates: Ken Starrett (Oconee County), William Jackson (Clarke County) and Jodi-Beth McCain (Sumter County).

The Convention named Kerrie Dickson as its facilitator.

The Sumter County Green Party presented a Local Affiliation Application to the Convention because the Affiliation Committee had not had an opportunity to meet to consider their application prior to the Convention. Without objection, their Application was accepted and the local was extended four delegates, based on the turnout at their organizing Annual Meeting.

Hugh Esco, clerk of the 1999-2000 Council, presented the Council's recommended agenda to the Convention. The Council's recommendation was amended to permit the Convention to open partisan races for nomination, to discuss the possibility of endorsing candidates in races where the Green Party does not field a candidate and to consider a strategy for targeted races in which we did not have a candidate. Without objection, these amendments were adopted and the amended agenda was adopted.

The Convention heard a first reading of proposed platform amendments on its agenda for consideration. Those proposed platform amendments included:

Criminal Justice #1: prohibit incarceration or deprivation for misdemeanor possession of marijuana, eliminate sentencing disparity for powder and rock cocaine;

Criminal Justice #2: a call for the repeal to the XIIIth Amendment exception to the Constitutional prohibition against involuntary servitude;

Economic Democracy #1: restructure public welfare programs, oppose welfare programs;

Economic Democracy #2: protect the indigenous worldview from the free trade agenda;

Economic Democracy #3: support public funding for public broadcasting;

Education #1: protect young from manipulative recruiting practices;

Education #2: academic freedom, students rights and gateway testing;

Human Rights #1: Right to Parent without Unreasonable State Intervention;

HR#2: Human Rights: Right to Housing ;

ER#1: Electric ReRegulation: Promote Demand Side Efficiency and Conservation;

GP#1: Global Population: New Plank ;

HR#1: Human Rights: Right to Privacy;

TX#1: Taxes: Federal Budget Priorities; and these late arriving proposals:

EJ: Environmental Justice: Make the Switch to Renewable Fuels;

Environmental Justice: Water Resources;

Foreign Policy: War on Drugs.

Next we heard motions to open districts for nomination. Motions were made and seconded to open House District #8, House District #109 and House District #173 of the Georgia General Assembly, Glynn County Commission District #5 (to succeed Jerome Park) and Clarke County Commission District #___ (to succeed Hugh Logan) for Green Party nominations. Without objection, these motions were passed by unanimous consent.

We next considered a resolution to provide for an additional nominating convention. The text of the resolution read:

"Resolved, that the Coordinating Council is directed to provide for the filing of rules with the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's office, such rules to provide for an additional nominating convention, which may be called by the Council for the purpose of nominating any local candidates which may declare for the nomination of the Party in the same year as a previous Nominating Convention held prior to April 15th of each election year."

Without objection, the resolution was adopted.

We next opened the floor for nominations for all open seats. Each of the following individuals were nominated without objection for the indicated seats:

2001 Nominating Convention Convenors (2 seats): Kerrie Dickson and Hugh Esco.

GGP Coordinating Council (8 seats to serve the 2000-2002 term): Kerrie Dickson, Hugh Esco, Zack Lyde and Charles Sumblin.

Delegates on National Green Party Affairs (2 seats to serve the 2000-2002 term): Hugh Esco and Doug Hertzler.

Delegates to Presidential Nominating Convention, Denver Colorado June 24-25, 2000 (13 delegates and 13 alternates): Greg Barrett, Billy Cripe, Kelly Cripe, Kerrie Dickson, Hugh Esco, Bill Harris, Eve Howard (Rovene Askren), James Jones, Will Jackson, Jennifer Langton, Zack Lyde, Robert Randall, Ken Starrett, Charles Sumblin.

House District #8, Georgia General Assembly: Kerrie Dickson.

House District #109, Georgia General Assembly: Eve Howard (Rovene Askren).

House District #173, Georgia General Assembly: Zack Lyde.

Presidential Preference Caucus: Stephen Gaskin and Ralph Nader.

By unanimous consent we affirmed our slate of Presidential Electors nominated by the 1999 Nominating Convention of the Georgia Green Party: Kerrie Dickson, Hugh Esco, Tom Goodman, Sarah Hatch, Lew Lieberman, Hugh Lovel, Zack Lyde, Debbie McAdoo, Sean Michael, Deborah Valentine, Jane Waddington, Tom Wilson and Peter Wright.

We next took up the possibility of endorsing candidates in races where the Green Party does not field a candidate and to consider a strategy for targeted races in which we did not have a candidate. We authorized the Council to explore opportunities for cooperation with other political parties in fielding an opposition candidate in HD-141 and instructed the Council to bring a report and a recommendation on an endorsement to a subsequent nominating convention, if one were to be called.

With unanimous consent, it was agreed to authorize a subsequent nominating convention or the state Council to fill any vacancies on the state's delegation to the Denver Nominating Convention.

With unanimous consent, it was agreed to authorize the state Council to fill any vacancies on the state Coordinating Council of the Georgia Green Party.

We next broke for lunch, prepared by Kerrie Dickson during which we heard from **Stephen Gaskin, candidate for the Green Party nomination for President of the United States**. By the end of lunch, the ballot had been printed and was distributed to each credentialled delegate.

On reconvening, we took up the proposed Platform Amendments. Hugh Esco presented the Platform process outlined in the rules adopted by the state Council and posted on the internet. Due to the inactivity of the Platform Committee, no pre-convention work had been done to recommend a consent and debate agenda as provided by the rules. The Convention, without objection, adopted a process modified from the Rules.

We proceeded through the text of the proposed Platform amendments and set the Consent Agenda and the Debate Agenda as follows:

Consent Agenda:

Criminal Justice #2, Economic Democracy #1, Economic Democracy #2, Education #1, Education #2, Human Rights #1, Electric Reregulation #1.

Debate Agenda:

Criminal Justice #1, Economic Democracy #3, Human Rights #2, Global Population #1, Human Rights #3, Taxes #1 and Environmental Justice: Make the switch to renewable fuels, which had been drafted by James Jones across lunch.

Due to lack of language available for our consideration, the following items were postponed for consideration at an additional nominating convention: Environmental Justice: Water Resources and Foreign Policy: War on Drugs.

Without objection, the following Platform Consent Agenda was adopted.

Consent Agenda

CJ#2: Criminal Justice

Zack Lyde (Glynn County) and Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Criminal Justice plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by striking paragraph 6 and inserting in its place, the following new paragraph:

6. Protect Workers from Slavery

Prohibit private prisons from using inmate labor that would leave Georgians working in unsafe conditions for declining wages in competition with unpaid, inmate slave labor. Amend the XIIIth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to repeal the exception to the Constitutional prohibition against slavery and involuntary servitude.

ED#1: Economic Democracy

Debbie McAdoo (Stephens County), Kerrie Dickson and Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Economic Democracy plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green

Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by renumbering the balance of the plank as appropriate and inserting after paragraph 1., a new paragraph, to read:

2. We recognize that children are entitled to housing, food, healthcare, education, and the care of their parents. We oppose those aspects of Workfare which we feel violate the Constitutional prohibition against *involuntary servitude* and the punitive sanctions created by the 1996 Congressional welfare reform act and the 1997 Georgia Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act. We commit to restructuring the public welfare program so that children have the benefit of their parent's time and energy; and that respects the autonomy of single parents.

ED#2: Economic Democracy

Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Economic Democracy plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end a new paragraph 5, to read:

5. Protect the Indigenous Worldview from the Free Trade Agenda

We endorse the Indigenous People's Seattle Declaration adopted on December 1, 1999 on the occasion of the Third Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization in Seattle Washington. We oppose the Agreement on Agriculture which has encouraged export competition and import liberalization destroying ecologically rational and sustainable agricultural practices that have formed the basis for the food security of Indigenous Peoples around the world. We call for the repeal of the provisions of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPS) which permit the patenting of life forms and have given rise to bio-prospecting projects to colonize indigenous cultural and biogenetic resources. We urge that scientific researchers and corporations be prohibited from appropriating and patenting indigenous seeds, medicinal plants, and related knowledge about these life-forms. The principles of prior informed consent and right of veto by Indigenous Peoples must be respected. We oppose the General Agreement of Services (GATS), with its focus on liberalizing investment rules and privatization of the service sector.

Educ#1: Education: Military Recruiting and JROTC in Public Schools

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Education plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting after paragraph 2., the following:

3. Protect our young from manipulative recruiting practices. We are committed to a future without war. We expect our schools to prepare young people for meaningful employment in a peace economy. While some appreciate the role that JROTC programs have played in providing structure, discipline and self-confidence among some students, we oppose these programs militaristic propaganda and their role as recruiting programs for the armed services. We insist that if military recruiters are invited to schools, that others are also invited who can tell the truth about the military and its enlistment promises and offer young people viable alternatives to enlistment. We oppose the practice of public schools using school hours for ASVAB testing and their providing lists of the student body to military recruiters.

Educ#2: Education: Academic Freedom, Students Rights and Gateway Testing

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Education plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end, the following:

#. Academic Freedom

We advocate that teachers, like all workers exercise their right to organize on the job site. We support the right of collective bargaining for teachers and other public employees. Teachers like all working people deserve the right to collective bargaining and protections from unreasonable termination. We believe that the quality of our children's education is dependent on protecting the academic freedom of teachers.

#. Student Rights

We will establish independent student advocates in each school to speak on behalf of students, especially in disciplinary cases. We will ensure that students have reasonable due-process protections in school disciplinary actions. We call for the end of mandatory silent lunches for students. We call for the end of dress codes as they are unconstitutional and deny students freedom of expression and individuality.

#. Gateway Testing

Gateway testing is not an accurate means of determining the achievement or intelligence of our children. We oppose proposals to hold back students based on the score of one test or battery of tests. This practice can cause irreparable damage as some children do not test as well as others.

HR#1: Human Rights: Right to Parent without Unreasonable State Intervention

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Human Rights plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end, the following:

#. Rights to Parent without Unreasonable State Intervention

We affirm the need for community and in some instances state intervention to protect children from abuse and deprivation. It takes a village to raise a child. Still we are concerned about the cultural, classist and racist biases of DFACS workers that so often result in the needless destruction of families without contributing substantively to the safety and welfare of children. When DFACS becomes involved, it can take up to four years for children to be reunited with their parents. In many cases children are placed in situations far worse than the homes from which they were removed. We recommend that the definition of deprivation be narrowed to prevent the Department of Human Resources and the Juvenile Courts from breaking up families for 1) refusing to participate in compulsory schooling that the child or parents find irrelevant to the child's education or harmful to the child's psyche; 2) refusing to participate in the dominant religious institutions of their community; 3) for choosing non-traditional living conditions; 4) for choosing vegetarian, vegan or other non-traditional, yet healthy, diets; 5) for refusing vaccinations, ritalin or other invasive pharmaceutical products or medical treatments; or 6) for following the reasonable advice of the child's competent health care practitioner.

ER#1: Electric ReRegulation: Promote Demand Side Efficiency and Conservation

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Electric Re-Regulation plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by renumbering the plank as appropriate and inserting a new paragraph 1., to read:

1. Demand Side Investments

Use the rate setting and regulatory powers of the Public Service Commission to encourage investment in demand side efficiency and conservation improvements over investments in new generating capacity.

End of Consent Agenda

We next proceeded through the following debate agenda, taking up these papers one at a time.

Platform Debate Agenda

CJ#1: Criminal Justice

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Criminal Justice plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by striking paragraphs 3 and 5 and inserting in their places, the following new paragraphs:

3. Declare Peace in the War on Drugs

In the interest of saving tax dollars and maintaining non-violent offenders as contributing members of our communities, we urge that the state offer ~~Offer~~ treatment for addictions instead of a war on drugs. Replace a criminal justice response to substance abuse with treatment and addiction counseling. Focus on shifting resources away from the prosecution of victimless crimes. We advocate that simple misdemeanor possession of marijuana be dealt with with minimal fines and that we stop incarcerating our citizens for this offense or using this, unsupported by other evidence, as a basis for a finding of deprivation. We advocate the repeal of all mandatory minimum sentences for simple drug possession. We will correct the sentencing disparities between crack and powder cocaine that have resulted in the disproportionate incarceration of African-Americans in Georgia and across the country.

5. Rehabilitate Inmates

Reclaim public resources from the prison industry for reinvestment in prevention. Make rehabilitation the purpose of incarceration. Respect for the humanity of all inmates must be the foundation of incarceration. We will redirect public resources from incarceration to fund drug rehabilitation programs available to all regardless of income or offender status.

Esco offered the following amendment, accepted as friendly by the author.

Amend CJ#1, by inserting at the end of paragraph #3, the following: "We will extend amnesty to any offender who was previously sentenced in a manner inconsistent with these sentencing parameters."

Without objection the friendly amendment was accepted by the body and the amended Platform amendment was adopted.

ED#3: Economic Democracy

Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Economic Democracy plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end a new paragraph, to read:

#. Arts Funding

We recognize the importance of public funding for public access and public broadcasting. Our ownership of the public airwaves is meaningless unless people have the resources to access those airwaves and set the priorities for programming.

On the author's motion, and without objection, the paper was amended to strike the words, "public access" and to insert in their place the following: "the arts, public access television and radio".

Without objection, the amended Platform amendment was adopted.

HR#2: Human Rights: Right to Housing

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Human Rights plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end, the following:

#. Right to Housing

We support a constitutional right to housing and life-time tenancy and statutory tenant protections from excessive rent increases, condo conversion, unsafe living conditions and eviction without representation and sixty days notice. We support a prohibition on housing discrimination on the basis of age, children, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, nationality, religious faith or lack of faith, practice, (???)

On the motion of Jodi-Beth McCain, the paper was amended by striking the last sentence and inserting in its place, the following: "We support a prohibition on housing discrimination on the basis of age, children, race, ethnicity, gender, sex, sexual orientation, disability, HIV status, nationality, religious faith or lack of faith or practice."

The author accepted this amendment as friendly. Without objection, the Convention accepted the friendly amendment and adopted the amended Platform amendment.

GP#1: Global Population: New Plank

Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting after the Forests Plank a new plank to read:

Global Population

"We must demonstrate our leadership for equity and sustainability."

The exponential growth of the impact of the global human population is arguably the most serious threat to environmental integrity our planet now faces. We would like to stabilize this impact. But we reject the easy answers. This is a complicated issue with no clear "bad guys."

We reject the short-sighted premise that this is solely about population control. Throwing contraceptives and access to sterilization at this issue won't address the underlying causes of the exponential growth in the human population. People have large families to provide for their security. Creating meaningful security for everyone is the only guarantee we have of our own security. Our first priority is to recreate Georgia's infrastructure and our very culture of consumption.

Immigration is not the cause of declining real wages, growing income disparity, inequality and oppression. The cause is corporate exploitation. The solution is not nativism or protectionism. It's engaging in the sort of consciousness raising that enables us to see how these divisions are exploited to the advantage of a slim minority. The solution is to fight racism, sexism, classism, homophobia and heterosexism in ourselves and our own community. The solution is to join together to fight exploitation (of both people and the environment) on a local level and globally.

The United States does not have an overpopulation problem. The world does. Eliminating immigration would not do a single thing to ease the population burden on this planet. The US does, however, have an over consumption problem. 6% of the world's people live in the United States, but we use 50% of the world's resources.

We're all interdependent. As Greens, we will

1. Support Women's Voices

Working for a political voice for women is a prerequisite for women accessing education and family planning services on their own terms. These are the factors which have tracked declining family sizes.

2. Stop the Exploitation of Immigrant Labor

American workers are being pitted by the forces of fear and division against immigrant workers in a race to the bottom. It is time we loosen (if not eliminate) our restrictions on immigration. We must create an environment where workers subject to substandard wages and working conditions are safe from deportation when they organize on their job site or seek the enforcement of basic worker protections. Our failure to protect immigrant workers from exploitation dooms native born workers to declining wages and working conditions. The elimination or severe reduction of legal immigration won't stop illegal immigration. People are going to keep coming to this country as long as we live in a world where wealth is concentrated in the hands of a few. Slowing or stopping immigration is not a solution to any problem. Reducing inequality is.

3. Minimize income disparity.

Higher standards of living usually correspond with lower birth rates. We endorse the maximum wage bill proposed by United for a Fair Economy, which would cap the deductibility from corporate taxable income of employee or contractor compensation which exceeds twenty times the annualized wages or salary of the lowest paid employee or contractor in a firm. It's time we stopped using our tax dollars to subsidize corporate behavior which has led to such great income disparities. No other mechanism is more apt to encourage responsible corporate behavior than creating this economic incentive.

4. Forgive Foreign Debt.

We endorse the Jubilee 2000 Campaign's call for international debt relief. The US must reduce its consumption and help developing nations increase the standard and security of their living.

5. Addressing Global Population Growth

We as a nation can lead the way in building a global consensus to encourage smaller family sizes. To do so, we must address within our borders the inequalities in wealth and income distribution and health care. We must focus on unsustainable consumerism. We can have comfortable lives with out consuming the worlds resources. The US is the primary destroyer of the earth, we must accept responsibility for this and change our ways.

6. Sex Education, Family Planning and Infant Mortality

We encourage domestic and international education that urges individuals to take personal responsibility for the impact on the global resource base of population growth. We oppose policies for coercive sterilization or contraception. We urge sensitivity in these educational efforts to the diversity of cultures on the planet. We encourage policies and education to honor and respect cultural viability/ integrity and personal autonomy both in the U.S. and globally. We must reduce infant mortality globally. We must focus on preventative health care. We must help improve the likelihood that newborns will survive into old age themselves. We will restore aid cut off in previous administrations to countries that include education on abortion in their family planning programs.

After some discussion and concerns mostly centered around the title of the proposed plank and the content of paragraph #5, the author withdrew the paper.

HR#1: Human Rights: Right to Privacy

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Human Rights plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by striking the words "As Greens, we will:" and inserting in their place, the following:

"We recognize that privacy, autonomy and personal sovereignty are fundamental human rights. We intend to transform a culture of fear into a culture of hope, creativity and possibility. We are profoundly committed to the preservation the Bill of Rights and those future changes to the U.S. Constitution that have expanded our conception of human rights and human freedom. We are now responsible to make our contributions to this document which written and ratified by slave and property owners, still has offered some seminal theory of human freedom. We

intend to turn that theory into reality for all who find themselves in this country and for our global family.

"As Greens, we will:"

And then inserting after paragraph 6., the following:

7. We will reclaim and protect our right to privacy.
We will oppose and roll back the ever expanding web of corporate and governmental intrusion into our lives and persons experienced in so many ways, including random and universal searches of our persons and our property at schools, transportation centers and government buildings; police road blocks and random police stops; mandatory fingerprint, retinal scans, etc. identification for government or corporate uses; governmental eaves-dropping on its citizens whether by random searches of voice phone conversations or surveillance of political associations, absent a warrant issued in the investigation of an actual past crime; property seizures absent conviction of a crime.

After some discussion and without amendment or objection, the paper was adopted as introduced.

TX#1: Taxes: Federal Budget Priorities

Hugh Esco and Kerrie Dickson offer the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Taxes plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by renumbering the Taxes Plank as appropriate and inserting a new paragraph #1, to read:

1. Federal Budget Priorities
It is time our tax dollars were spent on the general welfare, instead of the welfare of generals. We call for an immediate 50% or greater cut in U.S. Military spending. We urge the investment of the peace dividend in 1) the creation of a Peace Force committed to non-violent strategies, 2) retraining and job placement of workers displaced by changing federal spending priorities, 3) the containment and restoration of the Department of Defense's nuclear and hazardous waste sites, 4) the retirement of national debts incurred to prosecute wars, 5) grants for assisting impacted communities in making the transition to participation in a peace economy, 6) programs to foster food, water and environmental security. We urge comprehensive cuts in corporate welfare and subsidies which undermine worker and environmental protection. We recommend the following programs as priorities for cuts: nuclear weapons development, testing, manufacture and deployment, including depleted uranium weapons.

After some discussion, the author offered the following amendment: Insert in the first sentence, between the words, "welfare," and "instead", the following: "as provided for in the preamble of the Federal Constitution,". The amendment was accepted without objection. Without objection, the amended Platform amendment was adopted.

EJ: Environmental Justice: Make the Switch to Renewable Fuels

James Jones (Gwinnett County) offers the following Platform amendment:

To amend the Environmental Justice plank of Platform - 1999 adopted by the Georgia Green Party's 1999 Americus Convention on April 17th, 1999, as ratified by the Coordinating Council on June 29th, 1999, by inserting at the end, the following:

#. Make the Switch to Renewable Fuels

Greens advocate the conversion of the economy to truly renewable and clean fuels. Out of sight, out of mind pollution schemes are discouraged including electric power derived from coal burning and nuclear power plants. But we encourage the development of electric cars that derive their power from green energy, in particular, solar, wind and organically grown biomass (ethanol) fuels and power sources. We urge that ethanol be substituted for lead as a no-knock additive.

This language was adapted on the floor from a rough draft presented by James Jones. Without objection, this language was adopted.

The Convention next took up its non-platform business.

The Convention resolved to authorize the Council to call in its own discretion an additional Nominating Convention to nominate additional candidates for local partisan office, consider endorsements in races in which we do not field candidates, consider additional proposed platform amendments, including platform papers withdrawn or tabled by this Convention, fill vacancies on the state Coordinating Council and on the Delegation to the Denver Presidential Nominating Convention and other business recommended by the Council to the additional Convention.

Esco apologized for the failure of the Council to offer for the Convention's review a Party budget for the next cycle. He moved that the Council be authorized to develop and adopt a budget without Convention review and that it be charged with presenting such a budget to any additional Nominating Convention that may be held in 2000. Without objection, this budget process was adopted.

We next considered five proposed By-laws amendments.

Proposal IDB#99-7: ____

Hugh Esco offers the following:

To amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to repeal the requirement that the co-chairs of the Committee on a National Green Party Platform be members of the Delegation on National Green Party Affairs; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

The By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article VI. Affiliations, Section B. Association of State Green Parties and the Greens / Green Party (usa), is amended by striking in their entirety the last two sentences dealing with the appointment by the Delegation on National Green Party Affairs of co-chairs to the state Party's Committee on a National Green Party Platform, and inserting in their place two new sentences to read:

"By agreement of ~~and from among~~ the four delegates elected, two co-chairs shall be named to the Georgia Green Party Committee on a ~~National~~ Green Party Platform. These co-chairs shall facilitate the participation of the Georgia Greens in deliberations on any proposed national Green Party Platform and shall lead the Party's delegation at any National Nominating Convention in deliberations on the amendment and adoption of such a Platform."

The clerk is directed to compile an amended version of the By-laws, and to certify with the chair the authenticity of the amended version and to file the amended version of the by-laws with the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State.

Without objection, the by-laws amendment was adopted.

Proposal IDB#99-4:31

Hugh Esco offers the following:

To amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to provide for the power of the Coordinating Council to hire, supervise and terminate the employment of staff and to contract for services; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

The By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, paragraph 5. responsibilities of the Coordinating Council, Section A. Coordinating Council, Article V. Structure, is amended by striking the paragraph in its entirety and inserting in its place a new paragraph to read:

5. responsibilities of the Coordinating Council

The Coordinating Council shall convene the Annual Convention and Coordinating Council meetings, provide for notice, implement decisions of the Convention, make annual written reports to the membership, encourage the participation of affiliated locals in the decision making and activities of the Georgia Green Party and perform other tasks necessary for the functioning of the Georgia Green Party - including, but not limited to: convening meetings, planning agenda, hiring, supervising and terminating the employment of staff, contracting for services, making reports of their activities, decisions, expenditures and incomes to the membership, preparing a proposed agenda for consideration by the Annual Convention, adopting a budget amended by the input of the delegates at the Annual Convention, compiling and maintaining a record of discussions and decisions by the Annual Convention, the Coordinating Council and the Quick Decision Council, coordinating a phone tree, responding to inquiries, coordinating the volunteer efforts of the membership, organizing fundraising efforts, and tabling events.

Without objection, the by-laws amendment was adopted.

Proposal IDB#99-4:7

Hugh Esco offers the following:

To amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to repeal the sunset on the Party's

affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties; to allow the Party's affiliation with the Greens/ Green party (usa) to lapse; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

The By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article VI. Affiliations, is amended by relettering Section C. as Section B., striking Sections A. and B. Dealing with the state Party's affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties and the Greens/ Green Party (usa), in their entirety and inserting in their place a new section to read:

VI. Affiliations

A. ~~Region 9 – Deep South Greens~~

~~The Georgia Green Party shall be affiliated with Region 9 of the national Greens confederation.~~

~~B. Association of State Green Parties and The Greens/ Green Party (usa)~~

The Georgia Green Party shall be affiliated with the Association of State Green Parties ~~and with the Greens/ Green party (usa), until the adjournment of the Green Nominating Convention in 2000.~~ The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the annual election of a delegation to represent the views and concerns of its membership ~~at the Annual Gathering and Congress of the Greens/ Green Party (usa) and~~ with the Association of State Green Parties. The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the bi-annual staggered election of four delegates to represent the views and concerns of its membership in national matters. By agreement of and from among the four delegates elected, two delegates and two alternates shall be designated to serve on each national Green Organization, including the Green National Committee of the Greens/ Green Party (usa), the Coordinating Committee of the Association of State Green Parties ~~and any other national Green Party formation that may develop out of the Unity process.~~

Without objection, the by-laws amendment was adopted.

Proposal IDB#99-4:9

Hugh Esco offers the following:

To amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to extend the sunset on the Party's affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties and the Greens/ Green party (usa); and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

The By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article VI. Affiliations, is amended by striking Section B. Dealing with the state Party's affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties and the Greens/ Green Party (usa), in its entirety and inserting in its place a new section to read:

B. Association of State Green Parties and The Greens/ Green Party (usa)

The Georgia Green Party shall be affiliated with the Association of State Green Parties and

with the Greens/ Green party (usa), until the adjournment of the Green Nominating Convention in ~~2004~~ 2000. The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the annual election of a delegation to represent the views and concerns of its membership at the Annual Gathering and Congress of the Greens/ Green Party (usa) and with the Association of State Green Parties. The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the bi-annual staggered election of four delegates to represent the views and concerns of its membership in national matters. By agreement of and from among the four delegates elected, two delegates and two alternates shall be designated to each national Green Organization, including the Green National Committee of the Greens/ Green Party (usa), the Coordinating Committee of the Association of State Green Parties and any other national Green Party formation that may develop out of the Unity process.

Without objection, the by-laws amendment was tabled.

Proposal IDB#99-4:8

Hugh Esco offers the following:

To amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to repeal the sunset on the Party's affiliation with the Greens/ Green party (usa); to allow the Party's affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties to lapse; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

The By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article VI. Affiliations, is amended by striking Sections A. and B. Dealing with the state Party's affiliation with the Association of State Green Parties and the Greens/ Green Party (usa), in their entirety and inserting in their place new sections to read:

VI. Affiliations

A. Region 9 - Deep South Greens

The Georgia Green Party shall ~~be affiliated with Region 9 of the national Greens confederation~~ seat two delegates directly to the National Committee also known as the Green Council of the Greens/ Green Party (usa).

~~B. Association of State Green Parties and The Greens/ Green Party (usa)~~

The Georgia Green Party shall be affiliated with ~~the Association of State Green Parties and with the Greens/ Green party (usa); until the adjournment of the Green Nominating Convention in 2000.~~ The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the annual election of a delegation to represent the views and concerns of its membership at the Annual Gathering and Congress of the Greens/ Green Party (usa) ~~and with the Association of State Green Parties.~~ The Georgia Green Party shall provide for the bi-annual staggered election of four delegates to represent the views and concerns of its membership in national matters. By agreement of and from among the four delegates elected, two delegates and two alternates shall be designated to ~~each national Green Organization, including the Green National Committee of the Greens/ Green Party (usa), the Coordinating Committee of the Association of State Green Parties and any other national Green Party formation that may develop out of the Unity process.~~

Without objection, the by-laws amendment was tabled.

There was no written proposal for the establishment of a local assessment. Without objection, the item was stricken from the agenda.

Without objection, Hugh Esco and an observer, Sanders Thornburgh of Sumter County were appointed to tabulate the ballot. They were joined by James Jones, of the Georgians for Nader Committee and Ken Starrett of the Georgians for Gaskin Committee who both observed the count.

The ballots were tabulated using preference voting with the following results:

In the Presidential Preference Caucus Ballot:

there were five ballots cast for Stephen Gaskin and five ballots cast for Ralph Nader. The delegates to the Denver Convention will be divided between Nader and Gaskin.

***In the Denver Convention Delegate Election,
the preference balloting ranked the candidates in this order:***

Zack Lyde (1), Hugh Esco (2), Kerrie Dickson (3), Greg Barrett (4), James Jones (5), Billy Cripe, Kelly Cripe, Will Jackson, Ken Starrett and Charles Sumblin (tied for 6), Bill Harris (11), Eve Howard and Jennifer Langton (tied for 12) and Robert Randall (14).

2001 Nominating Convention Convenor:

Kerrie Dickson (7 first preference ballots) and Hugh Esco (1 first preference ballots), two ballots mismarked.

2000 - 2002 Coordinating Council:

Kerrie Dickson (6 first preference votes), Zack Lyde (3 first preference votes), Hugh Esco and Charles Sumblin (accepted).

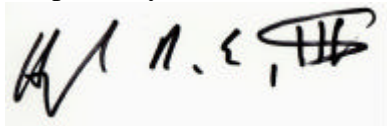
Delegation on National Green Party Affairs:

Hugh Esco (8 first preference votes), Doug Hertzler (1 first preference vote), one ballot mismarked.

There was unanimous support for the nomination of Kerrie Dickson for House District #8, Eve Howard/ Rovene Askren for House District #109 and Rev. Zack Lyde for House District #173.

The ballot results were reported and accepted without objection. We heard announcements and adjourned for dinner and to travel home.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Esco', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hugh Esco
clerk, Georgia Green Party