

Georgia Green Party 2002 Nominating Convention Macon Georgia, Friday - Sunday, May 17th - 19th, 2002

published as IDB #02-1: 3, amended and accepted
by the Coordinating Council on June 10, 2002

The Convention was convened at the Macon State Farmer's Market, at about 10:45 am by Regina Etheridge, Convener elected by the 2001 Athens Convention. Regina Etheridge moved the acceptance of Shiela Manely as the facilitator for the morning's work. There was objection. Jessica Perlove nominated Adam Shapiro to facilitate the morning's work. He accepted with the understanding that he would need help. Without objection, he was accepted as the Convention facilitator. He requested that Monica Palta support him by keeping a stack and reading the printed documents, as needed. There was no objection.

Margie Rece and Denise Traina of Richmond County presented a Credentials Report asking that the Convention seat fifty delegates from fifteen counties. Over the course of the day, an additional seven delegates sought credentials.

The delegations included: Bibb County (2 - Edward Weintrau, Ted Weintraut), Clarke County (10 - Naomi Zeichner, Hana Hay, Natan Zeichner, Rachael Johnson, Brad Bernstein, Mason Tanner, Nicole Jackel, Cy Routh, Will Jackson, Monica Palta), Cobb County (6 - Michael Manely, Stuart Scott, Peter Berndt, Heather Johnson, Regina Etheridge, Michael Petelle), DeKalb County (9 - Scott Bradford, Al Herman, Badili Jones, Nannette D. Garrette, Leigh Ann Ledbetter, Donald Switlick, Laurie Hunt, Carol McChesney, Chris Neely), Fulton County (6 - Adam Shapiro, James Jones, Paul Gauthier, Jessica Perlove, Alan Cunningham, Sherrill Marcus), Glynn County (2 - Harry T. Lyde, Zack Lyde), Grady County (1 - Peter Wright), Gwinnett County (1 - Al Atassi), Habersham County (2 - Janet Schlafer, Glenn Schlafer), Henry County (2 - Joy Cox, Eric Cox), Lamar County (2 - Rovene Askren, Russ Howard), Lee County (2 - Richard Pfeiffer, Lydia Pfeiffer), McIntosh County (1 - Nigel Mott), Oconee County (1 - Ken Starratt), Oglethorpe County (1 - Frank Jeffers), Pulaski County (1 - Jim "Clint" Conner), Richmond County (3 - Marguerite Rece, Denice Traina, Anibel Iberre), Towns County (3 - Renee Bursey, Kerrie Dickson, Hugh Esco), Catoosa County (1 - Randy Roberts), White County (1 - Bev Baker).

Hugh Esco, Clerk, presented the agenda proposed by the Coordinating Council, IDB #01-7:7, as amended through the May 16th, 2002 Council meeting. Michael Manely (Cobb County) moved that agenda item 6.5, providing for a first reading of proposed by-laws amendments be struck and replaced with "Consideration of By-Laws Amendments". A simple majority of the Convention Delegates supporting the agenda amendment, the motion passed. Without objection, the agenda was accepted, as amended.

Nannette Garrett, Green Party candidate for Governor of Georgia, presented a

report on the statewide petition drive and invited delegates and observers to join the pledge campaign for ballot access in 2002.

We next heard reports from each county, both affiliated and non-affiliated.

We next took up consideration of proposed amendments to the Party By-Laws. The first item was IDB#01-7:23, by Paul Gauthier and Marc Schuler, (both of Fulton County). The author was recognized to present his paper.

Proposal IDB #01-7: 23

Paul Gauthier and Marc Schuler (Fulton County) offer the following:

To provide for the Council review of a proposed amendment to the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to provide for its submission to the 2002 Nominating Convention; to repeal the power of the Coordinating Council to adopt policies and procedures, to endorse events or actions, to join Coalitions, Alliances or Networks or to initiate or respond to communication; to repeal the requirement that the Council hold at least two meetings each year; to repeal the power of the Council to elect its officers; to provide for the responsibilities of the Coordinating Council including: facilitating communications between counties and regions, educating and sharing information, coordinating affiliations and statewide legislation and chartering committees; to provide that the Party officers shall be elected by the Annual Convention; to amend the quorum rules for the Council; to direct the filing of the amended by-laws of the Party with the Secretary of State; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Coordinating Council of
The Georgia Green Party

Resolved, that the Council of the Georgia Green Party has reviewed the following proposed by-laws amendment as required by the By-laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article III., Ratification and Amendment of By-Laws, Section B. Amendment.

Resolved, that the following proposed by-laws amendment shall be put before the Annual Convention called for May 17th through 19th, 2002.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

Section 1.

Resolved, by the Annual Convention of the Georgia Green Party, that the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article IV. Decision Making,

Section A. Meetings, is amended by striking from the Section, paragraph 2., in its entirety and inserting in its place a new paragraph to read:

2. Coordinating Council Responsibilities and Discretion

The Coordinating Council shall plan each Annual Convention providing for a Nominating Convention in accordance with the Georgia Code when deemed appropriate in their judgment judgement or in the judgment judgement of the previous Annual Convention. The Council may meet in person or by telephone conference. The Council may adopt rules providing for the conduct of business by mail referendum for when a Council meeting, properly publicized, fails to achieve a quorum. The Coordinating Council shall provide for notice, adopt and amend the Rules and Regulations of its Nominating and Annual Convention, implement decisions and administer its own policies and those of the Convention and perform other tasks necessary for the functioning of the Georgia Green Party. ~~The Coordinating Council may adopt policies and procedures to forward the purposes of the Party and not inconsistent with policies established by an Annual Convention. The Coordinating Council may endorse events or actions or join coalitions, alliances or networks on behalf of the membership, and initiate or respond to communications on behalf of the membership. The Coordinating Council shall convene two meetings of the Coordinating Council with one meeting immediately following adjournment of the Annual Convention. The Coordinating Council may convene such other meetings of the Council as are required to serve the mandate and needs of the Georgia Green Party. At each meeting of the Council held upon adjournment of the Convention, the Council shall name a treasurer, clerk and two co-conveners. The~~ primary responsibilities of the Coordinating Council will be to improve, increase, and facilitate communication between counties and regions of the state, to educate and share information of regional concern, to spread information of local programs/legislation when beneficial to other locals of the state, coordinate statewide legislation, coordinate new affiliations, and charter committees (open to all party members) to accomplish tasks and further goals of the party. The CC treasurer, clerk, and co-conveners will be elected by the delegates at the Annual Convention. At subsequent meetings of the Council, the Council may choose to replace those servants of the Georgia Green Party who have resigned or failed to attend two or more Council meetings in a year. The Coordinating Council shall publish to

every member of the Council and to every affiliated local of the Georgia Green Party notice of these meetings at least two weeks prior to each meeting. A quorum for such meetings shall consist of at least a simple majority of the active members of the Coordinating Council, ~~except that no Council member shall be considered active, where the Council has given notice of its intention to remove that member due to that member's failure to attend two or more Council meetings held previous to the Council action to give notice to remove and where a third or subsequent Council meeting properly called, convenes without that member's presence. The Coordinating Council may delegate its responsibilities and authority to committees of one or more members accountable to the Council and to the membership.~~

Section 2.

Resolved, that The Secretary and a Co-Chair of the Party are directed to file with the Secretary of State, and consistent with O.C.G.A. 21-2-110, the By-laws of the Party as amended to reflect the adoption of this amendment, a copy of this amendment, their certificate that such rules are a true and correct copy of the Nominating Convention Rules of the Party and a \$2.00 filing fee. The Treasurer is authorized to expend or to reimburse from Party funds, the costs of filing such Rules amendments with the Secretary of State.

On consideration of IDB#01-7:23, we took a stack of three proponents and three opponents to the paper. Hugh Esco (Township County) presented two amendments to restore the text proposed for repeal, Esco AM#1: restore all of the first block of text proposed for repeal (at #01-7:24), except for the provision mandating that the Council name the Party's officers; Esco AM#2: to restore the inactive member exception to the quorum rule, proposed for repeal by the final nine lines of Section 1. The author moved to table his paper. Without objection, the paper was tabled.

On a point of process, Regina Etheridge (Cobb County) asked that we arrange the proposed amendments to the by-laws in groups, accounting for papers amending similar passages and with similar intent. The Etheridge process motion passed on a vote of 35-5.

On a point of process, Richard Pfeiffer (Lee County) asked that all proposed amendments to the by-laws be committed to a By-Laws Committee, responsible for studying the proposals and making its recommendations to the 2003 Convention. On his motion, the vote was 20-24 and his motion failed.

On a point of process, Regina Etheridge (Cobb County) moved that we consider the by-laws with six minutes of debate, followed by an up or down vote. On the motion,

the vote was overwhelmingly for passage.

Adam Shapiro announced that he intended to step aside as facilitator. Monica Palta assumed the role of facilitator.

Cy Routh (Clarke County) asked unanimous consent to withdraw the following proposed amendments to the by-laws from the agenda governing Convention consideration: IDB#01-6:51 (by Leigh Ann Ledbetter, to repeal the requirement that a by-laws amendment be previously reviewed by the Council), IDB#01-6:63 (by Leigh Ann Ledbetter, to require monthly meetings of the Council, permit the Council to meet by electronic means and repeal Council power to name Party officers), IDB#01-7:23 (by Paul Gauthier and Marc Schuler, to repeal power of Council to make policy, to define primary responsibilities of Council, to repeal the inactive member exception to quorum rule), IDB#01-6:89 (by Leigh Ann Ledbetter, to amend the voting thresholds required for the removal of a Council member), and IDB#01-6:93 (by Leigh Ann Ledbetter, to require that a Committee be open to the Membership at large). Without objection, the motion passed and these five papers were removed from the agenda.

On a point of process, Hugh Esco (Township County) moved that the consideration of by-laws amendments be postponed until 4:00 pm, to permit the opening of nominations and the preparation of a ballot so that the Convention could conduct its election. There was objection. On the motion of the process proposal's author, the question was put to a vote. The vote was 29-7 in support of the motion and consideration of proposed amendments to the Party by-laws was suspended until after a ballot could be prepared.

Nannette Garrett (DeKalb County) was recognized to make the following series of motions.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be opened for Federal partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were opened.

Ms. Garrett moved that Al Herman's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for U.S. Congress in Georgia's Seventh District. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that Joyce Griggs' name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for U.S. Congress in Georgia's First District. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be closed for Federal partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were closed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be opened for State-wide partisan offices.

Without objection, nominations were opened.

Ms. Garrett moved that Kerrie Dickson's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that Hugh Esco's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Georgia Lieutenant Governor. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that Frank Jeffers' name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Georgia Public Service Commissioner, in his district of residency (the specific number yet to be finalized by the U.S. Department of Justice). Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be closed for State-wide partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were closed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be opened for State partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were opened.

Ms. Garrett moved that Harry Lyde's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Georgia State Representative, District #146. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that Chris Neely's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Georgia State Representative, in his district of residence. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be closed for State partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were closed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be opened for local partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were opened.

Ms. Garrett moved that Zack Lyde's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for the Glynn County Board of Education. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that Edwin Vaughan's name be placed on the ballot as the Party's candidate for Clarke County Commission. Without objection, her motion passed.

Ms. Garrett moved that nominations be closed for local partisan offices. Without objection, nominations were closed.

Cy Routh moved that each of the foregoing nominations made by Ms. Garrett be

accepted. Without objection, they were accepted.

We next opened nominations for the Party's Delegation on National Green Party Affairs. The following names were placed in nomination: Nannette Garrett, Jessica Perlove (who declined), Badili Jones, Regina Etheridge, Al Herman, Harry Lyde. Without objection, nominations for the Delegation on National Green Party Affairs was closed.

We next opened nominations for the Party's Coordinating Council. The following names were placed in nomination: Margie Rece, Naomi Zeichner, Kelli Gasink, Jessica Perlove, Paul Gauthier, Michael Manely, Monica Palta, Harry Lyde, Adam Shapiro, James Jones, Chris Neely, Nigel Mott, Joyce Griggs, Zack Lyde, Rovene Askren, Laurie Hunt, Roy Evritt. Without objection, nominations for the Party's Coordinating Council were closed.

On a point of process, Ken Starrett (Oconee County) moved that each candidate be recognized for a one minute presentation. There being nine candidates for public office (with some of them seeking internal office as well) and another sixteen candidates seeking internal office, there were objections.

On a point of process, Kelli Gasink (Chatham County) moved that Joyce Griggs be recognized to speak on behalf of her candidacy for U.S. Congress, as she had an early commitment back in Savannah and would not long be available for questions by the delegates. Without objection, Ms. Griggs was recognized. She gave a rousing five or seven minute speech on behalf of her candidacy.

On a point of process, Chris Neely (DeKalb County) objected to the conduct of the election, without first accepting the Credentials Report. Nannette Garrett (DeKalb County) moved the acceptance of the Credentials Report. Chris Neely objected to the acceptance of the report, with respect to the credentialing of Michael Manely (Cobb County) and Leigh Ann Ledbetter (DeKalb County). On the objection to Mr. Manely's credentials, the vote was 9-25, and the objection was overturned. On the objection to Ms. Ledbetter's credentials, the vote was 6-25, and the objection was overturned. There being no further objections, the Credentials Report was accepted without amendment.

The Convention authorized the printing of the ballots.

The election business complete for the moment, the Convention next took up consideration of a proposed amendment to the Party by-laws, IDB#01-6:49. Leigh Ann Ledbetter (DeKalb County) presented her proposal, as follows:

Proposal IDB #01-6: 49

Leigh Ann Ledbetter offers the following:

To provide for the Council review of a proposed amendment to the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party; to provide for its submission to the 2002 Nominating Convention; to repeal the requirement that a by-laws amendment be previously reviewed by the Coordinating Council; to require that notice of intent to consider a by-laws amendment be filed with the Clerk thirty-five days prior to the Convention; to permit the Convention by a majority-vote to suspend the notice requirement; to direct the filing of the amended by-laws of the Party with the Secretary of State; and for other purposes.

A Resolution of the
Coordinating Council of
The Georgia Green Party

Resolved, that the Council of the Georgia Green Party has reviewed the following proposed by-laws amendment as required by the By-laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article III., Ratification and Amendment of By-Laws, Section B. Amendment.

Resolved, that the following proposed by-laws amendment shall be put before the Annual Convention called for May 17th through 19th, 2002.

A Resolution of the
Nominating Convention of
The Georgia Green Party

Section 1.

Resolved, by the Annual Convention of the Georgia Green Party, that the By-Laws of the Georgia Green Party, Article III. Ratification and Amendment of By-Laws, Section B. Amendment, is amended by striking the Section in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Section to read:

B. Amendment

These By-Laws may be amended at an Annual Convention, if notice of intent to consider the adoption of the proposed amendment is served upon the Coordinating Council thirty-five days prior to the Annual Convention. Service is accomplished by service upon the Clerk via e-mail, facsimile or first class mail. ~~was published in the notice of the meeting, and if the proposed amendment was previously reviewed by the Coordinating Council.~~ The Convention may suspend the requirement ~~to review and publish notice by unanimous consent~~ for service by a simple majority vote.

Section 2.

Resolved, that The Secretary and a Co-Chair of the Party are directed to

file with the Secretary of State, and consistent with O.C.G.A. 21-2-110, the By-laws of the Party as amended to reflect the adoption of this amendment, a copy of this amendment, their certificate that such rules are a true and correct copy of the Nominating Convention Rules of the Party and a \$2.00 filing fee. The Treasurer is authorized to expend or to reimburse from Party funds, the costs of filing such Rules amendments with the Secretary of State.

We took a stack and heard three speakers urging passage and three speakers opposing passage. On the question of the adoption of IDB#01-6:49, the facilitator announced that the vote was 24-12 and that the paper was adopted. Hugh Esco (Towns County) challenged the count and on a show of hands, the vote was 25-15. Having failed to obtain the necessary two-third majority for the passage of a substantive motion, the paper IDB#01-6:49 was defeated.

Reverend Zack Lyde (Glynn County) on a point of personal privilege, invited African American Delegates to join him in a walk-out of the Convention. All the African American delegates and many other delegates left the Convention hall. Without objection, the Convention stood in recess and the sandwich bar was opened for folks who wished to eat.

Following a thirty minute or so recess, the Convention reconvened, with the African American delegates, this time for a sharing circle. A talking stick was passed among the approximately fifty delegates and observers, and most people in the circle spoke to those assembled. The Credentials Committee placed the ballot box in the middle of the circle for the acceptance of ballots.

After the talking circle was closed, we heard from our Gubernatorial candidate, Nannette Garrett who addressed the Convention on the subject of Team Campaigning. At 8:30 pm, the facilitators discussed an agenda for Sunday's work. Without objection, three Committees were provided for: on Racism, on By-laws and on Convention Planning. Without objection, all outstanding proposed amendments to the Party by-laws were committed to the jurisdiction of the by-laws committee. It was agreed that the Convention would reconvene on Sunday morning at the Holiday Inn, to take up the review of the budget, the certification of election results, the discussion of local issues and other outstanding business.

Without objection the Convention was closed for the evening.

The room was cleaned and Party materials were packed for transportation to the next day's venue and we cleared the Macon State Farmer's Market by 9:45 pm.

We reconvened at the Holiday Inn (at 3590 Riverside Drive, Macon Georgia) on

Sunday, May 19th, 2002, at 10:30 am. Regina Etheridge agreed to facilitate and was accepted without objection.

We began by breaking out for about an hour into three Committees, as outlined the night before: By-laws, Racism and Convention Planning. The Committees then reported back, as follows:

By-laws Committee - -

Report of the By-Laws Committee of the 2002 Nominating Convention

It is the recommendation of the By-laws Committee, meeting on-site during the 2002 Nominating Convention of the Georgia Green Party, that a call be issued to members of the Party for participation in a By-laws Committee, charged with working across the interim between Conventions and reporting back its recommendations on proposed revisions to the state Party By-Laws to the Council, membership and the 2003 Convention of the Party. Committee membership is open to any Party member, until August 6th, 2002, at which time membership in the Committee shall be closed and the Committee shall begin work. The Committee shall hold its first meeting in the week of August 6th, 2002 and will endeavor to meet every other month.

The 2002 Convention By-laws Committee agrees to publish notice of the opportunity to join and participate in the interim Committee's work through publication in the Internal Discussion Bulletin, on the gpga-lcl-ldrs list (and other suitable local lists) and by direct mail to each delegate to the Party's 2002 Macon Nominating Convention.

The interim By-Laws Committee is charged with reviewing and becoming knowledge-able of the By-Laws and other Rules that apply to the governance of our Party, both internal and external, including, but not limited to: the Nominating Convention Rules, The Nominating Convention Process (adopted: 12/8/95), the Policy on the Presidential Nominating Convention, the Georgia Election Code and other relevant documents.

The Committee will report no recommendations from the committee as a whole that are not determined by consensus, while reporting every view offered. The Committee will prioritize proposed By-Law amendments and deal with the most important first, and issue its Report no later than 90 days before the 2003 Annual Convention.

As agreed to by consensus of the 2002 Convention's By-laws Committee:
Rovene Askren, Hugh Esco, Paul Gauthier, Al Herman, Russ Howard, Anibal Ibarra, Michael Manely, Chris Neely, Jessica Perlove, Adam Shapiro.

Without objection, the report of the Convention 2002 By-laws Committee was accepted without amendment and the Convention chartered as proposed, the interim By-Laws Committee, including its provision for a closed membership.

Racism Committee - -

<<< INSERT REPORT HERE >>>

Convention Planning - -

<<< INSERT REPORT HERE >>>

After the Committee Reports, we discussed whether there was a quorum requirement for the Convention and whether it had been the intention of the Convention to adjourn, when it "closed" the night before. It was agreed that the Sunday session of the Convention was in fact empowered to conduct business. We next took up consideration of the proposed amendments to the State Party Platform. Nannette Garrett was recognized to present her paper to amend the Education Plank.

ED #1: Education Plank

Nannette Garrett (DeKalb County) offers the following:

Amend the Education Plank by striking the Plank in its entirety and inserting in its place the following:

EDUCATION

"Each and every person can attain whatever educational level they desire in whatever manner they desire regardless of income, race, disability or gender without discrimination."

An education should never be denied to anyone with a thirst for knowledge. For too long education has been a privilege ~~and we want to make it a right~~ . The right to a good education should be protected for all peoples, the benefits accruing to our nation as a whole and it should be financed by public funds.

As Greens, we will:

1. End Tracking

Stop tracking, compartmentalization and ~~ability-grouping~~ ability-grouping in schools. These programs with the stated intent of giving each child the attention they need to achieve their own level of educational development have ~~for too long~~ been used to reinforce ~~old racist~~ stereotypes of who is capable of what in an educational environment. Young people are capable of

far more than we give them credit for. ~~Schools should transform the limiting myths of racism and sexism, not reinforce them.~~

2. Tax Money Should Fund Open, Inclusive and Democratic Education

Oppose school vouchers. Public funding must serve public schooling. ~~We cannot simultaneously build an excellent public education system and finance private schools.~~ Public resources must fund schools that provide open, inclusive and democratic access to all students who wish to attend.

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~~ We oppose 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 training camp for the armed services. ~~We insist that if~~ If military recruiters are invited to schools, promoters of peace and non-violence should also be invited to offer young people 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.

4. Community Classrooms

Our community can play a dynamic role in educating young people in practical living skills. We encourage students to get out from behind their desks and to find teachers and mentors among their community as part of an organized volunteer program funded by state and local schools boards. Students can find skills such as gardening, cooking, construction (carpentry, electrical and plumbing), sewing, writing, music, art, auto mechanics, etc. Senior citizens and young people need opportunities to get to know one another again. By sharing on a practical level we can all benefit and gain a greater understanding for each other.

5. Stop Ritalin Abuse

Investigate the ~~high~~ high incidence of children being diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder and other learning disabilities in Georgia's classrooms. A ~~frighteningly high~~ significant number of students in our schools are taking Ritalin and other pharmaceuticals to help ~~teachers control their~~ control the student's behavior. We believe that children should be treated with respect, including the respect for the benefit for physical activity as opposed to sitting ~~the real problem has more to do with the school's unrealistic expectations that young children sit still for extended periods of time. Addicting children to drugs as a method of control has got to stop.~~ Pharmaceuticals should not be

used by our educators as discipline or a teaching tool. All medical decisions involving children should be private to the parent, child and a medical doctor of their choosing. Should circumstances warrant the sharing of student's medical information with educators, this should only happen as part of an Individualized education Plan.

6. Schools Can Help Us Unlearn Racism

Teach children the truth, compassion and diversity in our classrooms. Children deserve to know the true history of labor, religion and politics from a variety of valid perspectives. History has traditionally been written by the "winners." If we don't go back and re-examine the lies we were taught propaganda promoted about those "victories," we'll never be able to peel away the layers of racism and other cultural differences which continue to impact our communities still, on the brink of the new millennium as divisions instead of bridges.

7. Education Can Reduce Unwanted Pregnancies and Improve Health

Offer accurate, age-appropriate sex and health education which will 1) teach an understanding of the practical biological processes, 2) teach an appreciation of the responsibilities of parenthood, 3) encourage self-confidence, self-esteem and self-worth among young women, 4) teach an understanding of communicable diseases and the prevention thereof, 5) teach and promote good health through food consumption and physical activity, and 6) teach young people to respect each other's and 4) teach men to respect women's choices, take responsibility for preventing unwanted conception, and for raising and supporting any children in order to reduce the need for abortions.

8. Our Youth Need Recreation Opportunities

Expand public recreational services for our youth. Renovate existing schools and build new schools as needed.

9. Stop Short-Changing High School Athletes

High Schools must stop valuing athletics over academics. The purpose of the public educational system is to prepare students for their future. Athletics programs serve a role, but should not replace academic preparation. When an Athletic Program leaves the student unprepared for either higher education or employment that can effectively support them and their families, the school has failed both the student and the community.

10. Honest Thorough Nutrition Education in Public Schools

Georgians suffer greatly from an inordinate amount of heart disease, strokes and cancer. There is sufficient evidence in the medical community to advise the public that these and other debilitating and fatal diseases are preventable

through diet changes as advocated by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (P.O. Box 6322, Washington, D.C., 20015). Our economy is burdened by disease care costs that are a direct consequence of the meat, egg and dairy diet. Our landscape has been denuded for grazing and our water systems are degraded by fecal pollutants which runoff our farms or are discharged from rendering plants. We urge the State School Board to ~~produce~~ provide nutrition which includes options that follow a Food Guide based on the recommendations of the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. We urge that schools ~~promote in a gentle, encouraging fashion as an ideal, a~~ provide options and educate our youth about this Food Guide recommending four, ~~totally~~ vegetarian food groups, i.e. (1) vegetables, (2) whole grains, (3) fruits and (4) legumes – with other items (e.g. meat, dairy, eggs, sweets, fats) discussed including the potential health consequences of the various food options mentioned in a sidebar, but not actually recommended for health.

11. Academic Freedom Rights

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 promoting the rights of academic freedom of teachers residing with the individual teachers as opposed to school systems, boards and administrators.

12. 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.

13. Gateway Testing

Gateway testing is not an accurate means of determining the achievement or intelligence of our children. We encourage our educators and will promote the use of a variety of evaluative tools which account for ethnic and cultural differences. We oppose proposals to hold back students based on the score of one test ~~or battery of tests~~. This practice can cause irreparable damage and do not provide an accurate and effective means of determining a child's educational progress. As children are unique individuals and different these regards, the testing of children should take into account these differences in a fair and balanced manner. ~~as some children do not test as well as others.~~

14. Teach Non Violent Communication Skills

Our nation and our state have witnessed the increasing violence and all responsible and caring people want violence in our schools to stop. Unfortunately, in a world of sound bite culture, two working parent families, single working parent families, the delivery of communication skills that involve open and honest dialogue from the heart in a peaceful fashion falls by the wayside. Our current teaching of dispute resolution provides a band-aid once the dispute has arisen, but does teach our children the necessary communication skills to interact in a more caring manner and obviate the occurrence of the dispute in the first place. One recommended model would be based on Marshall Rosenberg's Non Violent Communication.

On the author's motion and without objection, the paper was adopted.

On the process motion of Hugh Esco, and without objection, we heard motions to add Platform papers to a Consent Agenda. On the motion of their authors (when present), and without objection, the following papers were added to the Consent Agenda: EcDem#1 by Hugh Esco (Compassionate Guest Worker Program), EcDem#2 by Badili Jones (Wage Garnishment), EcDem#3 by Roy Evritt (Universal Living Wage), HR#3 by Roy Evritt (National Housing Trust Fund) with the caveat that the actual bill numbers were to be confirmed with Tim Love, of the Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless, TX#1 by Frank Jeffers (Capital Gains Taxes), HC#1 by Kerrie Dickson (Mental Health Care), HR#2 by Kellie Gasink et al (Repeal the PATRIOT Act) and HC#2 by Richard Pfeiffer (Community Input on Health Services) with an Amendment by Michael Manely (Cobb County) to strike the word: "for", correcting a grammatical error.

Due to the objections of the indicated delegates, the following papers were excluded from the Consent Agenda and assigned to the Debate Agenda: FP#1 by Kellie Gasink et al, related to Divestment from Israel and HR#1 by Hugh Esco et al, related to Reparations to African and Native American People.

The Consent Agenda thus was set to include the following items:

**EcDem#1: Economic Democracy -
Compassionate Guest Worker Program**

Hugh Esco (Towns County) offers the following:

Amend the Economic Democracy plank by adding at the end as paragraph 8., the following:

8. Compassionate Guest Worker Program

The Georgia Green Party advocates a Guest Worker Program that will protect immigrant workers and their families who are not otherwise eligible for visas or legal residence. Such a program would include the issuance of picture ID cards and ID numbers by the Consular office of

the country of origin in the United States. The ID numbers would serve as a suitable substitute for social security numbers for payroll purposes and American employers would be entitled to hire Guest Workers. We urge the negotiation of reciprocal agreements between the United States and other nations so that income withholdings may be transferred to the appropriate pension, disability and unemployment administrations of the worker's country of origin and credited to the worker's account. We support the full access of Guest Workers and their families to the public educational system, to access driver's licenses, to own property, open bank accounts and to enter into binding contracts. We would guarantee the freedom to travel, including the freedom to enter and re-enter the country. We would end the carnage of illegal border crossings, the exploitation of immigrant workers and the pitting of citizens against guest workers in a race to the bottom with respect to wages and working conditions.

EcDem#2: Economic Democracy - Wage Garnishment

Badili Jones (DeKalb County) offers the following:

Amend the Economic Democracy plank by striking paragraph 3., in its entirety and inserting in its place, the following:

3. Repeal the Taft-Hartley Act, Guarantee Livable Wages and the Right to Organize

Guarantee the right to a safe, secure job at a livable wage, with protection of the right to organize, to bargain collectively, to join a union and to strike without fear of retaliation, reprisal or firing. Prohibit companies from busting unions and attacking living standards through the use of scab replacement workers, prison labor, economic blackmail, taking reprisals against whistle-blowers or the payment of unlivable wages to their workers. We call for the immediate repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and related legislation that prey on workers, their families and communities, embrace corporate profit over peoples needs, and expand the widening gulf between classes in this nation. Ensure due process, including the right to notice and representation in wage garnishment actions. Protect workers from garnishment actions that do not stem from a child support action.

EcDem#3: Economic Democracy - Universal Living Wage

Roy Evritt (Newton County) offers the following:

Amend the Economic Democracy Plank, by labeling paragraph 2., "Repeal Punitive Workfare" and further by striking paragraph 3., related to the "Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, Guarantee Livable Wages and the Right to Organize", and by inserting in its place a new paragraph 3., to read:

3. Repeal the Taft-Hartley Act, Guarantee

Livable Wages and the Right to Organize

Guarantee the right to a safe, secure job at a livable wage, with protection of the right to organize, to bargain collectively, to join a union and to strike without fear of retaliation, reprisal or firing. Prohibit companies from busting unions and attacking living standards through the use of scab replacement workers, prison labor, economic blackmail, taking reprisals against whistle-blowers or the payment of unlivable wages to their workers. We call for the immediate repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and related legislation that prey on workers, their families and communities, embrace corporate profit over peoples needs, and expand the widening gulf between classes in this nation. We endorse the Universal Living Wage Campaign to create a national standard for a community specific Living Wage tied to Fair Market Rents (as computed by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development), which will cap rent and utility costs at 30% of a person's gross income. No person working a full time job should be denied access for themselves and their families to basic housing.

HC#1: Health Care - Mental Health Care

Kerrie Dickson (Township of Towns County) offers the following:

Amend the Health Care plank by adding at the end as paragraph 12., the following:

12. Mental Health Care for Indigent

Our fellow human beings who are suffering with chemical imbalances should be provided with the best health care so they can have happy exceptional lives. Haldol and cogentin cause irreparable nerve damage and are not used in any other country, yet they are dispersed to the indigent and poor daily, while the wealthy are given far superior Mental Health Care Treatment. It is far less costly to give more effective, and less dangerous medication so that individuals can have the best possible scenario rather than to incarcerate folks or to abandon them to homelessness.

HR#2: Human Rights - Repeal the PATRIOT Act

Kellie Gaskink Pleasant, William Pleasant and Joyce Griggs (Chatham County) offer the following:

Amend the Human Rights Plank, by inserting into the preamble of that plank, immediately before the words: "As Greens, we will:", a new paragraph, to read:

The Anit-terrorism legislation passed by the U.S. Congress since the tragic and murderous September 11, 2001 attacks on our nation, seriously damage and infringe upon the constitutional protections that

are enshrined in our Bill of Rights. It is not patriotic, but rather Un-American to destroy the very freedoms which cause Americans to love their country. Open government is critical to democracy. Imposing new levels of secrecy creates the appearance that our government is less than trustworthy and inhibits our ability to make informed choices in our own self-government. Weakening the Judicial and Legislative branches, while simultaneously extending to the Executive branch unchecked powers does damage to the American principle of separation of powers.

Amend the Human Rights Plank, further, by inserting a new paragraph 10., to read:

10. Repeal the PATRIOT Act

We demand the immediate repeal of the PATRIOT Act. We call upon our elected representatives to act in accordance with the Constitution of the United States and to undo these actions which violate the core principles of America. We oppose the use of secret military tribunals at which a person is afforded no independent defense counsel and could be sentenced to prison or execution without the knowledge of the American people. We oppose the President's executive orders to lock down Presidential records, denying our ability to judge the actions of the Executive. We oppose the indefinite imprisonment of foreign nationals where no criminal charge has been brought. We oppose arrests or detentions in the absence of public charges. We oppose the "sneak and peek" provision of the PATRIOT Act, which crushes our Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable search and seizure by denying citizens their right to be aware that their property is to be searched and their right to protest such search if the warrant is out of order. We oppose the collection of private business records by order of secret courts and the muzzling of those citizens who receive such orders from speaking publicly about them. This is a violation of both the First and Fourth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. We oppose the PATRIOT Act's destruction of e-mail and Internet privacy and find the sharing of such data indiscriminately among any number of government agencies and even foreign governments is patently intolerable.

HR#3: Human Rights - National Housing Trust Fund

Roy Evritt (Newton County) offers the following:

Amend the Human Rights Plank, by striking paragraph 9., related to the Right to Housing, and by inserting in its place a new paragraph 9., to read:

9. 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 ~~des~~crimination on the basis of age, children, race, ethnicity, gender, sex, sexual orientation, disability, HIV status, nationality, religious faith or lack of faith or practice. We urge passage of the National Housing Trust Fund (S.1248 and H.R.2349 in the 107th Congress), to use FHA surplus moneys to create a trust fund to support the production of new rental housing for the lowest income families, particularly those individuals living at or below 30% of their community's median income or the Federal minimum wage.

TX #1: Taxes - Capital Gains Taxes

Frank Jeffers (Oglethorpe County) offers the following:

Amend the Taxes plank by adding at the end of the preamble statement, the following:

Allowing financial speculators to reap the full benefit of their manipulations leads to many evils. Executives 'downsize' and lay off workers because productivity is no longer necessary to produce the kind of value they are interested in. Financial fraud and lying are sufficient to produce 'value' in a speculative stock market bubble. Government manipulates capital gains rates to maximize tax collections from a speculative bubble. Thus government revenues become dependent on executive lying and fraud, and it becomes in the financial interest of government to further a society where value is created out of thin air and that society becomes a house of cards. Business executives are paid largely in stock options and kept in their jobs by stockholders yearning for speculative capital gains. Thus both the job and the pay rate of the executive are dependent on the fraudulent ballooning of stock values. Likewise, real estate becomes a simultaneous financial bubble, where a man has a price on his head equal to his threat to the speculative value of real estate. Thus, the proliferation of gated communities and high-end developments of houses bought for speculation by their owners. Built by speculators in land and housing, each house brings more profit than a good sized cocaine deal. The power of these floods of money to corrupt government and society at all levels is immense. Is it any wonder government is responsive primarily to speculative interests?

Amend the Taxes plank further by renumbering paragraphs 4. through 7., as paragraphs 5. through 8., and by inserting a new paragraph 4., to read as follows:

4. Tax Capital Gains on a Par with Labor

We support making 100% of capital gains taxable, to be counted as

taxable income the same as money earned by working. This will give work the same value as financial speculation in the eyes of our government and society.

**HC #2: Health Care - Community Review
of Existing Health Care Services**

Richard Pfeiffer (Lee County) offers the following:

Amend the Health Care plank by striking paragraph 10., in its entirety and by inserting in its place, the following:

10. Acknowledge that Resources are Limited

We urge community input and involvement, including public hearings and community referenda as a part of the Certificate of Need process, administered by the State Health Planning Agency, ~~when evaluating the need for additional medical services.~~ Community input should be considered when evaluating for additional health services and / or evaluating existing health services. We support increased study in the outcomes of medical procedures. Adopt a plan similar to the plan proposed in Oregon, one in which the allocation of health resources is based on the expected outcome related to the expense. Expensive procedures that only marginally prolong life, or sacrifice quality of life, should not be funded by the single payer system. This should be left to the individual or family as an option for private funding.

Without objection, the Consent Agenda was adopted, with the intent of adopting each paper added to the Consent Agenda, with the indicated amendment (HC#2) and caveats (HR#3).

Debate was postponed on the following items on the Debate Agenda:

FP #1: Foreign Policy - Divestment from Israel

Kellie Gaskink Pleasant, William Pleasant and Joyce Griggs (Chatham County) offer the following:

Amend the Foreign Policy plank striking paragraph 12., related to Party support for Peace in the Middle East, and by inserting in its place a new paragraph 12., to read as follows:

12. Support Peace in the Middle East

Our position must support the quest for peace at any cost. In order to achieve such a goal, we must make the following recommendations to the warring parties: Halting of any further settlement development in

the Palestinian territories; rolling back of present settler communities; establishment of a contiguous Palestinian State with parts of East Jerusalem as its capital; a sustained campaign to educate both sides of each other's language, heritage, and plight. This would include access for Palestinians to Israeli educational institutions;. Maintaining an open border between the states to facilitate commerce and free movement of the labor force aimed at raising the standard of living in the Palestinian State; and immediate and irrevocable suspension of all acts of terror perpetrated by members of radical groups on both side. The United States is called upon to maintain its position as an honest broker of peace between the Palestinians and Israel. The people of Georgia and the pension funds of State workers should not be used to fund the genocide of the Palestinian people. We call for the divestment of any state funds from direct investments in the government and infrastructure of the State of Israel, unless Isarel complies fully with relevant UN resolutions, including the world community's demand that it immediately withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza, unless it accepts the UN fact finding mission and its recommendations and unless it immediately engages in peace negotiations with the Palestinian National Authority.

HR#1: Human Rights - Reparations to African and Native America People

Hugh Esco and Kerrie Dickson (Towns County), Badili Jones (DeKalb County), Zack Lyde (Glynn County) and Rovene Askren (Lamar County) offer the following:

Amend the Human Rights Plank, by striking paragraphs 3. and 4. and by inserting in their place new paragraphs to read:

3. Make Reparations to African-Americans
Officially acknowledge and apologize for Georgia's and the United States' historic wrongdoing in the enslavement of Africans. We commit to full and complete ~~Initiate substantive and practical dialogue on what Georgians can do today to make~~ reparations to the African-American community for the past four hundred plus years of genocide, slavery, land-loss, destruction of original identity ~~culture~~ and the present-day conditions which have evolved from this history. We recognize that reparations are a debt that is owed to a collective of people and that the leadership on this question of right ought to come from the Black community, whose autonomy to chart the path to healing we fully recognize. While consensus is still evolving on what would constitute full and complete reparations, we support the following initial steps. Until the reparations process can be completed, we support an exemption on income tax for descendants of enslaved people. We support the

creation of a claim of action and a right to recover inherited wealth and other profits accumulated from the slave trade for the benefit of a reparations trust fund. We will initiate the repeal of the slave clauses that survive today in the U.S. Constitution. We will work to restore lands stolen from the Black community, through a variety of tactics including: violence, terrorism and the discriminatory access to operating capital that has robbed Black Farmers of their lands. We support the release of political prisoners convicted of non-violent crimes. We will support new and existing Black Universities, as well as Education and Development Funds.

4. Make Reparations to Native Americans

Officially acknowledge and apologize for Georgia's and the United States' historic wrongdoing in removing Native Nations, and violating treaties with them, for the settlement of Georgia. We commit to full and complete ~~Initiate substantive and practical dialogue on what Georgians can do today to make~~ reparations for the past five hundred plus years of genocide, land-theft, treaty violations, destruction of culture and the present-day conditions which have evolved from this history. We recognize that reparations are a debt that is owed collectively to Native peoples and that the leadership on this question of right ought to come from the Native community, whose autonomy to chart the path to healing we fully recognize. While consensus is forged on what would constitute full and complete reparations, we support the following initial steps. Until the reparations process can be completed, we support an exemption on income tax for descendants of Indigenous People. We urge that Georgia fund a study in cooperation with Native Nations removed from Georgia of the dispossession and recommendations for correcting these injustices.

Leigh Ann Ledbetter moved that the following five papers be assigned to the 2002 Coordinating Council: IDB#01-6:24 (related to Party staffing), IDB#01-6:23 (related to Party support for regional coalitions of Greens), IDB#01-6:25 (related to submissions to the IDB), IDB#01-6:27 (related to a Fair Use Policy) and IDB#01-6:31 (related to the creation of a Georgia Green Party Discussion Bulletin). Without objection, these three items were assigned to the Coordinating Council.

We next took up consideration of the proposed budget (IDB#01-7:Appendix D). On the motion of Leigh Ann Ledbetter (DeKalb County), it was proposed that Section C., related to the Periodic Sustainers Operating Reserve Account be amended to add a \$2,000 line item labeled Debt Retirement. Nannette Garrett (DeKalb County) offered an amendment to increase the line item to \$10,000, which amendment was accepted as friendly by the author. So amended, the Ledbetter-Garrett amendment was adopted without objection and the resultant budget was adopted as amended and without objection.

We next recognized James Jones to make his report on behalf of the Election Committee.

For the candidates seeking Party nominations for public office, the results were: Kerrie Dickson for Commissioner of Agriculture: 45-6, Hugh Esco for Lieutenant Governor: 36-15, Joyce Griggs for U.S. Congress, First District: 48-1, Al Herman for U.S. Congress, Seventh District: 47-0, Frank Jeffers for Public Service Commissioner: 49-2, Harry Lyde for State Representative, District 146: 47-4, Zack Lyde for Glynn County School Board: 46-4, Chris Neely for State Representative, District 56: 39-11, Edwin Vaughan for Clarke County Commission: 49-1. Each candidate having been supported by a 2/3 majority of the delegates, it was the recommendation of the Election Committee that each candidate be given the Nomination of the Party for their respective races.

In the election of the Delegation on National Green Party Affairs, the highest ranking candidates were: Regina Etheridge, Nannette Garrett and Harry Lyde for the three two year seats, and Al Herman for the one year seat.

In the election of the State Coordinating Council, the top ranked candidates were: Naomi Zeichner, Zack Lyde, Joyce Griggs, Adam Shapiro, Nicole Jackel, Jessica Perlove, Kellie Gasink and Michael Manely.

In the election of the 2003 Convention Conveners, the top ranked candidates were: Zack Lyde and Regina Etheridge.

Mr. Jones reported that a preliminary analysis of the invalid ballots, which had been mis-marked, indicated that their having been properly cast would not have effected either the Conveners race nor the National Delegation race. No determination could be made as to the impact the invalid ballots might have had on the Council race.

On the motion of Nannette Garrett, and without objection, the rules were suspended to re-open nominations for state-wide office. Ms. Garrett nominated Regina Etheridge for State School Superintendent. On the motion of Ms. Garrett, and without objection, the rule requiring a secret ballot was suspended and Ms. Etheridge was nominated by acclamation.

Ms. Garrett moved that the report of the Election Committee be accepted and the results certified.

There was an objection by Leigh Ann Ledbetter (DeKalb County) with respect to the Convention Conveners' race, due to a misprint in the ballot, which listed Nicole Jackel - who had declined the nomination - on the ballot, but not Jessica Perlove - who had accepted her nomination. Ms. Ledbetter moved the amendment of the report so that three Conveners would be certified. After a review of the rules found no prohibition

on seating a third Convention Convener, her motion was put to a vote, which passed 13-5-4, and the Election Committee's report was amended to add Jessica Perlove as an elected Convention Convener.

There next was an objection by Eric Cox (Henry County) to the results, due to the failure of the Election Committee to implement the affirmative action mandate for race and gender balance proscribed for the Coordinating Council in the by-laws.

On the motion of James Jones (Fulton County), that the Coordinating Council election be again put to the credentialed delegates by mail referendum, the vote was 9-9 and the motion failed.

Kerrie Dickson (Towns County) moved that an additional Convention be convened for the purpose of holding another election to resolve the Council race. After some discussion, she withdrew her motion.

Regina Etheridge (Cobb County) moved that three seats be added to the Coordinating Council to permit the seating of the three additional "people-of-color" candidates. On her motion that the rules be suspended to permit the Council size to be increased past the maximum of fifteen members imposed by the by-laws, there was objection by Chris Neely (DeKalb County). Ms. Etheridge withdrew her motion.

Hugh Esco (Towns County) moved that the Convention set the size of the Council at fourteen members to permit the affirmative action mandates to be met, by applying the existing ballots to achieve race balance. After some discussion, he amended his motion to set the size of the Council at twelve members, so that both the race and the gender balance mandates might be met.

Nannette Garrett (DeKalb County) made a substitute motion that we set the size of the Council at thirteen members, and recognize two alternates.

Regina Etheridge (Cobb County) made a substitute motion that we set the size of the Council at fifteen members, and recognize two alternates. There was an objection by Chris Neely (DeKalb County) to the motion to suspend the rules to permit her motion to be considered.

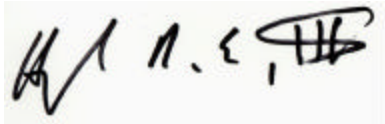
Leigh Ann Ledbetter (DeKalb County) made a substitute motion that the Council size be set at fifteen members, and that the existing ballots be tabulated to achieve as close to race and gender balance as the slate of candidates would allow. On her motion to suspend the rule requiring race and gender balance, there was no objection. Her motion was then put to a vote and passed 18-1 and the Election Committee's Report was amended so the last three ranked candidates: Jessica Perlove, Kelli Gasink and Michael Manely were excluded from the slate of elected candidates and so that Monica Palta, Nigel Mott and Harry Lyde would be seated.

There still being objection to the Garrett motion to certify the results, as amended by the Garrett motion to nominate Ms. Etheridge for State School Superintendent and the two Ledbetter motions to seat Ms. Perlove as a Convention Convener and Palta, Mott and H. Lyde as Councilmembers, the Garrett motion to certify the results was put to a vote and the results were: 19-3. And the Election Results were certified.

Closing comments were shared by many participants and then on the motion of Nannette Garrett, and without objection, the Convention stood adjourned at 2:00 pm.

A quorum of the Council not being present, the post-Convention Council meeting was postponed.

Respectfully submitted, reviewed and accepted by the Coordinating Council,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Esco", is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Hugh Esco, Clerk
2001 Coordinating Council