CMGR 2nd Quarter Report to StateCom – July 14, 2019

Since the April 7, 2019 State Committee meeting, the Central Massachusetts Green-Rainbow chapter has met three times, with an average attendance of 9. We continue to meet in different towns in our region, including Holden, Princeton and Shrewsbury, in libraries and a home.

Chapter Governance

In April we elected a new slate of officers for the coming year: Mark Laserte and Karen Sargent are the incoming Co-Chairs, and Charlene DiCalogero is the incoming Secretary. The CMGR chapter has not yet identified a chapter representative to join AdCom, although as continuing Female Co-Chair of the party chapter member Charlene DiCalogero provides liaison contact between the CMGR and the GRP.

Campaigns and Victories

Early in May, chapter member Matthew Moncreaff won a seat on the Princeton Selectboard in his annual town election, with the active volunteer support of fellow CMGR chapter members. His term lasts from May 2019 until May 2022.

One member collected signatures for a GRP candidate for Boston City Council.

State Party Activities

As usual, many CMGR members also attended (and helped to host) the annual Massachusetts Green-Rainbow Party’s State Convention, which was held on May 18, 2019 at the First Unitarian Church of Worcester. Among the highlights of convention business, CMGR Chapter member Carol Sotiropoulos presented a motion to form a Task Group to explore the feasibility of changing the name of the Massachusetts GRP to more closely resemble the names of most other GPUS state affiliates. Her motion was approved by a 2/3 vote of the convention.

In June, CMGR members conducted a ranked choice vote among all of this year’s nominees for the 2019 Central Massachusetts Green Rainbow awards. According to a proposal put forward and approved in the April 2019 meeting, one of the two awards to be given this year will be designated as the “John Helfrick” award, in loving memory of our founding member and lifelong chapter Treasurer.

The chapter reviewed 4 proposals going to the July StateCom meeting. Results of consensus/votes were communicated on the StateCom proposals page.

Two members served on the Participation Fund Task Group to set up a system for GRP members to apply for funds to attend the GPUS ANM (and other events in the future). The system and the outcome were well received by AdCom.

The chapter has started to look at the GRP mission statement/About webpage and other parts of the website, to consider how this can be improved.

Community/Issue Activities

Two members volunteered at the annual Juneteenth Festival in Worcester, which celebrates the legal
emancipation of slaves.

One member, who is active in 350 Central Mass on the climate emergency, attended a 1.5 day seminar at Clark University, led by the Council on an Uncertain Human Future. Two members have joined the Worcester Climate Strike Coalition.

**Current CMGR Electeds (5) and Appointed (1)**

Roni Beal, Westminster Historical Commission, Chair
Charlene DiCalogero, Berlin Library Trustee
Matthew Moncreaff, Princeton Select Board Member
Bryan Moss, Shrewsbury Town Meeting Member
Sharon Moss, Shrewsbury Town Meeting Member
David Spanagel, Lancaster Library Trustee

**State Convention assistance/Participation on Working Committees, StateCom, AdCom**

State Convention Planning Committee: 4 members (David, Dick, Priscila, and Roni)
Candidate Development and Legal Committee: 1 member (co-chair) (Charlene)
Communications and Media: 1 member (Priscila?)
Membership, Diversity and Volunteer Recruitment: 1 member (Priscila?)
AdCom: (still recruiting a chapter rep)
StateCom: 2 reps (Charlene and Roni)
Total of 6 individuals from the chapter are participating on state-level committees.

Respectfully submitted,

David Spanagel and Charlene DiCalogero, chapter members