

Article VI. Local Party Organizations (GPMN Bylaws)

Side-by-side revision proposals

Existing language with proposed changes

Proposed new language

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A Local Party Units: Local party units provide the primary arena for grassroots participation in the Green Party of Minnesota.

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1. Purpose

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a. To engage in local electoral politics, education, activism, and other activities that further the Green vision. ~~as defined by the principles and values of the global Green movement.~~

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b. To foster grassroots participation in the Green Party of Minnesota.

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c. To endorse candidates for ~~elected and non-elected~~ office ~~within their local's geographic~~ community

c. To endorse candidates for office in their community

d. Congressional District (CD) Units

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a) To make endorsements in congressional races

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b) To elect congressional district representatives to the state coordinating committee

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c) To foster regional networking, cooperation, and outreach among Greens and Green Party locals

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2. Requirements

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a. Written by-laws that guarantee democratic decision-making. (GPMN recommends consensus decision-making process.)

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b. Elected officers ~~(In order to raise and spend money as a political party, a recognized local must have a chair and a treasurer to comply with state law.)~~

b. Elected officers

c. Geographic scope that is sufficiently small to allow

c. A minimum of one meeting per quarter. Minutes and records of attendance must be kept.

- regular and active participation by the local's membership. A minimum of one meeting per quarter. Minutes and records of attendance must be kept.
- d. New CD locals must have sponsorship of an existing CD local and a mentor from the GPMN Coordinating Committee (CC) for the first year.

- d. Mechanisms to elect a GPMN CC representative and to endorse US Congressional candidates.
- e. New CD locals must have sponsorship of an existing CD local and a mentor from the GPMN Coordinating Committee (CC) for the first year.

3. Recognition: ~~The state coordinating committee~~ CC shall grant recognition to a local party unit ~~upon notification of its formation.~~ upon CC approval of its bylaws and receipt of minutes of its first meeting.

B. Congressional Party Units

1. Purpose

- a. ~~To make endorsements in congressional races~~
- b. ~~To elect congressional district representatives to the state coordinating committee~~
- c. ~~To foster regional networking, cooperation, and outreach among Greens and Green Party locals~~ [Section 2(a) moved above to Section 1(iv)]

[Old Section II.A (at left, B.) moved above to Section 1.d.)]

2. Requirements

- a. ~~Written bylaws that insure:~~
- b. ~~democratic decision-making (GPMN recommends consensus decision-making process).~~
- c. ~~fair geographic representation in decision-making to all Green Party of Minnesota members within the congressional district.~~
- d. ~~mechanisms to elect a Green Party of Minnesota State Coordinating Committee~~

- ~~representative and to endorse U.S. congressional candidates. A minimum of one meeting annually.~~
- ~~e. Elected officers.~~
- ~~f. Geographic scope that is defined by the congressional district boundaries.~~
- 3. ~~Recognition: The state coordinating committee shall grant recognition to a congressional district unit upon notification of its formation.~~

~~C. Local and Congressional Party Unit
Registration with the State of Minnesota
Registration~~

- 1. ~~It is recommended that local and congressional district units who have chosen to organize along recognized political boundaries register with the state of Minnesota.~~
- 2. ~~Recognized locals and congressional districts who choose to raise and/or spend money must comply with all MN statutes regarding political parties. [The above section (C) exists in Locals 101, the information manual for newly forming locals. It does not belong in the bylaws.]~~

~~D. Issues Based Caucuses: An issues based caucus is defined as a group of Green Party members who are organized around a specific set of issues, and whose mission statement is aligned with the principles and values of the Party.~~

- 1. ~~Accreditation Requirements~~
 - a. ~~minimum of 8 members of the Green Party of Minnesota; geographical diversity is encouraged.~~
 - b. ~~Bylaws, which must include a mission statement and a democratic decision-making process.~~

B. Caucuses: A-caucus is defined as a group of Green Party members who are organized, and whose mission statement is aligned with the principles and values of the Party.

- 1. Accreditation Requirements
 - a. A minimum of 8 members of the Green Party of Minnesota; geographical diversity is encouraged.
 - b. Written by-laws that guarantee democratic decision-making. GPMN recommends consensus decision-making process.

- c. Written by-laws that guarantee democratic decision-making. GPMN recommends consensus decision-making process.
 - d. ~~One meeting of at least five caucus members each year.~~ A minimum of one meeting per quarter.
 - e. An elected contact person to be listed on mngreens.org.
 - f. Attendance by a representative of the caucus at a minimum of two GPMN Coordinating Committee meetings per year.
2. Accreditation of Statewide Caucuses
- a. The CC has authority over the statewide caucus accreditation process.
 - b. A two-thirds vote of the CC is required to block, or remove, the accreditation of any caucus that meets the criteria.
3. Benefits to Caucuses
- a. Caucuses shall be listed on the GPMN website and allowed the same communications resources as local party units.
 - b. Caucuses shall be offered table space at all GPMN Membership Meetings.
 - c. Caucus-sponsored events shall be promoted by GPMN.
 - d. Caucuses shall have access to GPMN membership data for the purposes of further organizing; the scope of this access is to be determined cooperatively by the caucus and the CC.
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