

AGM Minutes

Saanich-Gulf Islands Green Party EDA, June 2017

Location: Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney BC

1:10 CALL TO ORDER (Dave Charles):

- Opening remarks and welcome to guests from North Island / Powell River EDA
- Adam Olson playing hockey outside, will join later.
- Established that quorum has been reached
- Dave Charles acknowledges we convene unceded territory of Wsanec people
- Recognizes the hard work of events committee in organizing AGM, expresses gratitude
- Thanks to Grace Coburn for organizing the upcoming election of new executive

1. APPROVE MINUTES:

MOTION by Teri Hague, Elizabeth May second

Minutes Adopted

2. REPORT - YEAR IN REVIEW (Dave Charles):

Big challenges this year:

- Ottawa BGM , Robert's rules, BDS curveball and concerns for party
- About 60 reps from mostly SGI ; recognition to Paul Manly and Joanne Roberts for hard work
- SGM success: CMD process initiated

Activities Update:

- New constitution & bylaws
- Contract for new coordinator
- Fundraising: stepped aside during BC Greens campaign
- Over 6000 people read the GSM newsletter
- Scholarships (civic engagement): 7 schools' students get \$500
- Ron Paul award by GPC for outstanding volunteer, Kathy Fletcher works very hard, award was made in Ottawa (she wasn't there)
- Gratitude to Bob for leading charge on ERRE, sad that results haven't come through on this
- Dave announces his resignation as CEO

3. VISION & VALUES REPORT (Michael Strumberger):

- Vision workshop in February followed by 3 months of vision refinement work by Vision Committee (Peter Schieldrop, Sharon Forrester, Thomas Teuwen, Gary Searing, Sue Sheane, Jonathan Dickie)
- Brings new level of clarity and focus to our purpose
- Invites all members to provide feedback to new executive

4. PRESENTATION BY ADAM OLSEN:

- Wsanec means emerging people. Raised to always know this place as the centre of the universe (bays, mountains, houses, water)
- Those islands are our relatives; preserve and protect mandate of gulf islands doesn't go far enough
- Many ways to transform democratic dialogue (Greens are having a big impact)
- Wsanec now represented first time since colonization by Wsanec, a land with multiple sovereigns,
- Greens have same values with indigenous people around province and country. This is why he is Green. We've read your policies, respect your commitment to intergenerational equity
- Gratitude to Elizabeth, citizens, members for making it possible for him to be here

5. FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT (Sharon Forrester):

- Quiet on donations from 2016
- None during BC greens campaign
- Received \$93,000 from Elections Canada subsidy in Jan 2017
- EDA in good financial standing
- Spent \$107,000 in expenses last year, mainly due to SGM subsidies
- Increased contract services in prep for that meeting
- Money to electoral reform campaigning
- Spent more than received but still had money in bank
- Carrying surplus due to refund
- Were audited, completed as of May 2017
- Recognizing Cathy Fletcher for the support she offers and also Linda Brown

Dave expresses gratitude to Sharon for her excellent and hard work

6. CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT (Thomas Teuwen):

- Gratitude to all members and volunteers for dedication

- Reviews unsavoury experiences during Ottawa BGM
- Thanks EDA for courage to endorse Elizabeth during BDS/Ottawa conflicts
- Thomas' contract with National was not renewed at the end of October
- So Thomas' cross country Unity Tour was totally funded by the generous donation of travel points and cash from individual members in SGI and across the country. This was hugely instrumental in inspiring supporters of Elizabeth to come out and stand with her at the SGM.
- Shares experience of encouraging feedback, inspired by commitment and dedication
- Events team and Green Media Group offering vast amounts of support to his work
- Has learned that EDAs look to SGI to see what a high-functioning EDA does
- Identifies that our vision includes a responsibility to unite the EDAs
- CMD process builds real constructive linkage all the way up from grassroots to the federal council; peer advisory group formed to assist council in fulfilling obligations related to CMD
- Dave and Thomas met every week so all work between coordinator and executive was on track. Huge personal thanks to Dave Charles

7. NEW CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS (Peter Schieldrop):

Peter absent but worked offered recognition for his hard work on this.

MOTION by Gary Searing

- Move to accept recommendation and hereby adopt the constitution and bylaws.
- Seconder Jean Simpson

Carried unanimously

8. EXECUTIVE ELECTION (Grace Coburn):

- 11 positions available and 13 candidates
- Nominees of high calibre; all worthy of election
- Regrets: Peter Schieldrop and Marcelle Roy unable to attend

Procedure explained:

- New process so review (explains new rules)
- Newly approved bylaws indicate min of 7, max of 11 exec members
- Don't mark ballot with more than 11 candidates or will be considered spoiled
- Now executive elected for a three year term; allowed to stand again
- Ensured turnover combined with corporate memory
- For last time ever, noms from floor will be accepted

ELECTION OCCURS

PRESENTATION FROM MP (Elizabeth May):

- 2016 was a hard year, hard being alone
- Huge thanks for SGI EDA executive, especially Dave Charles, for ambition of this EDA
- Reclaimed consensus decision-making in GPC
- (puppy chases tail, audience fawns)

ERRE TOUR:

- Biggest turnout was in Victoria
- Consensus wasn't achieved at end of ERRE committee
- Trudeau broke faith with first time voters who engaged, believing ER would happen

Shared perspective on Global Greens movement:

- Global greens: about 400 elected to national governments worldwide
- How Global Greens respond to political threat (populism) alt-right (fascists) Trump election: is all progress unravelling? Nigel Farage, Le Pen, GIP Vielders in Netherlands.
- Greens are the antidote to the alt-right movement (climate matters more than manufactured domestic controversies)
- Greens in UK sacrificed election to prevent Tories from getting majority; principled stance

Celebrates hopeful new possibilities now that BC has elected a Green caucus

- Huge changes on the cusp in BC now that we have a Green caucus committed to supply and confidence to NDP (**see document**)
- Make up of BC ledge is very similar to a PR result
- BC electoral reform referendum well timed for next Federal election

EXECUTIVE ELECTION RESULTS (Grace):

- Reiterating thanks to all nominees
- 47 ballots cast; one spoiled

Newly Elected Executive members:

- Sharon Forrester, Newton Hockey, Shelagh Levey, Marcelle Roy, Ann Eastman, Bob MacKie, Jean Simpson, Gary Searing, Michael Strumberger, Peter Schieldrop, Tom Mitchell,

- Gratitude to Sue Sheane and Brian Smallshaw for running

QUESTION FOR ELIZABETH:

Lloyd Deckett asks a question on electoral reform, senate reform and how they relate

Response:

- Changing current takes all provinces to change how senate has been elected
- Official position of GPC is a senate elected by PR
- Problem: must open constitution and leaves vulnerable to other reforms as well
- Elizabeth will prioritize parliament where change is most feasible
- Agrees first minister's meeting a good setting to explore possibility to reform senate

Motion to adjourn

Newton Hockey