



Wisconsin Green Party

Spring 2018

www.wisconsingreenparty.org

P. O. Box 108; Madison, WI 53701



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*Membership will vote on the the above items at the Spring Gathering. Please come prepared with any questions.

Come to the WI Greens Spring Gathering April 14th in Stevens Point!

The Wisconsin Green Party will hold our 2018 Spring Gathering statewide membership meeting in Stevens Point on Saturday, April 14th. We encourage all Greens to attend and make your voice heard on important decisions for our party, including candidate endorsements in 2018 elections.

With elections for state legislature, Congress, Governor and other state constitutional offices coming up this November, the Spring Gathering is the time when Wisconsin Greens can weigh in on endorsement decisions in these important races. We also have other critical decisions to make, including a major revision of our party's bylaws, and a major update of our platform (see other articles in this newsletter for more information).

Check the Spring Gathering announcement on www.wigp.org for additions to the agenda and other updates. Everyone is welcome to attend. To participate in decision-making, you should be a dues-paying member in good standing of the WI Green Party - check www.wigp.org/join for more information.

At the heart of Central Wisconsin Greens territory, Stevens Point is an excellent location for Greens from every corner of the state to meet. Saturday's membership meeting will be hosted at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point by the UW-SP College Greens. On Sunday April 15th, members of the state Coordinating Council will meet at a venue to be determined in Stevens Point.

See you in beautiful Stevens Point on April 14th!





Green Party's 2018 National Meeting in Salt Lake City July 19-22

The Green Party of the United States will become part of Utah's history when the Annual National Meeting is held July 19-22 in Utah's state capital, Salt Lake City.

Greens from around the country will meet at the University of Utah, along a backdrop of the beautiful and majestic Wasatch Mountains. The early registration price of \$110 will be available until April 30 or whenever we reach 50 registrations. So hurry and register now.

Utah's landscape is rich in environmental diversity. That landscape continues to be threatened by mining, toxic waste storage, air pollution from refineries, and efforts to build tar sands mines and nuclear facilities. Sacred lands, wetlands, and all life that calls them home are in danger by these activities and Utahans continue to fight to preserve the land, air and water. Local events at the ANM will include a focus on the effects that these threats have on the environment and all life that exists in it.

Go to www.slc.gp.org/ to learn more and register for the 2018 Green Party National Meeting in Salt Lake City.



GREEN
PARTY US

Wisconsin Green Party Seeks Candidates for 2018 Elections

Have you thought about running for office?

Even if you haven't, consider the following: Americans have never been closer to rebellion against the political establishment. National polls show that a record high 61% of Americans - including 71% of millennials - agree that the establishment parties are failing us, and that we need a new major party.

With elections coming up, now is a great time to think about running for office as a Wisconsin Green to help build the movement for people, planet and peace over profit.

If you're considering running for office, let us know at www.wisconsingreenparty.org/run_for_office and we'll get in touch to discuss the possibilities!

The need has never been greater for real solutions to the urgent problems in our communities and our world, many of which are boiling over into full-blown crises.

The establishment parties are moving us in the wrong direction. Neither corporate-funded party is demonstrating the values and vision we need to revolutionize American politics.

There's never been a better time for people of integrity to join together and build the new major party our country so desperately needs. The Green Party can seize this moment to bring about the transformation we need at every level: in our local, state, and federal governments, our economy, our society, and our relationship with the Earth we depend on.

The Greens are the only national party with a consistent stand against corporate money in politics, and a platform that could unite millions in a new populist progressive movement. In today's political climate, a rising party that empowers regular people to run for office to fight for the people - not lobbyists or corporate PACs - has the potential to catch fire.

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But political movements don't build themselves. We need candidates who are willing to stand up and carry the Green banner. Win or lose, every Green campaign plants the seeds of future victory, by bringing Green values into the mainstream, challenging establishment politicians to answer for their failures, and recruiting new members into the movement - including future candidates and elected officials.

At the local level, Greens in Wisconsin have won over 50% of the races they've entered. Running more candidates at all levels will not only make a difference in our communities, it will also help build the critical mass we need to win higher office and turn our values of peace, justice, democracy and ecology into reality.

It will also strengthen the growing movement to fix our broken electoral system with reforms like ranked choice voting, proportional representation, and publicly financed elections.

A shocking number of elections go uncontested, which means even more opportunities for concerned citizens to make an impact.

We are particularly eager to recruit candidates to run for Secretary of State and State Treasurer. In past years, strong showings in these races have helped the Wisconsin Green Party to maintain ballot access and party status.

If you're willing to consider running for office to build the movement for people, planet, and peace, the Wisconsin Greens want to talk with you!

Let us know you're considering a run for office at www.wisconsingreenparty.org/run_for_office and we'll get in touch about the next steps.

The Wisconsin Green Party will decide what candidates we will endorse at our Spring Gathering in Stevens Point on April 14. The period for gathering signatures to get on the ballot begins April 15.

Building a bridge to the better world we know is possible begins whenever you're ready!



We Need Your Help!

Since the 2016 election cycle, the Wisconsin Green Party has been getting progressively more active and organized. In addition to our local chapters and campaigns, much of this activity on the state level is taking place in our committees: elections, membership outreach, communications, platform, finance, and information technology.

If you'd like to help the WI Greens build our capacity to support electoral and issue campaigns and create a world of peace, justice, democracy and ecology, please take a look at our committees at <http://www.wisconsingreenparty.org/committees> and let us know how you might want to help.

In addition, the positions of Finance Committee Chair and Corresponding Secretary are currently open. If you think you could serve in either of these roles, contact us at info@wisconsingreenparty.org to let us know (note: Corresponding Secretary candidates should be in or near Madison to monitor the WIGP PO Box).

If you're interested in getting involved but aren't yet sure how, please come to our Spring Gathering on April 14th in Stevens Point to learn more about what the Green Party is doing and how you can help.



Proposed State Platform Revision



Proposed State Platform Revision

The state platform has not been revised for five years and dozens of changes were made to address current issues and improve organization. First, the platform was reorganized to closely follow the national Green Party platform format. This pointed out gaps which existed, on topics including the social safety net, demilitarization, immigration, housing and homelessness, water, etc. Next, language was made more consistent and action-oriented, with each plank starting with a verb or adverb. Additionally, the introduction was elaborated. Below is the text of the state platform revision as approved by the Coordinating Council - retractions are in ~~strikethrough~~ and additions are in green text.

State Platform of the Wisconsin Green Party

(Revised 11/11/2006, 4/17/2007, 5/23/2007, and 11/9/2013)

Our Vision

We, the members of the Wisconsin Green Party, call on everyone from a working class background- including the middle class, retirees, the impoverished, and students-to join the fight against the injustices in our society. As part of the international Green movement for grassroots democracy, social and economic justice, nonviolence, and ecology, we are committed to winning power for the people and protecting our planet. We are dedicated to transforming our society according to Green values of decentralization, community-based economics, feminism and gender equity, respect for diversity, personal and global responsibility, and future focus and sustainability.

The current political and socioeconomic system breeds corruption and puts corporate profit over the needs of people, planet, and peace. The government caters to wealthy elites and neglects the concerns of working people, the marginalized, the exploited, and youth. The crises of our times demand a fundamental shift in human values and culture, and in our social, economic, and political institutions. We need a new way of doing things that is sustainable and humane, which will allow people and our environment to flourish now and in the future.

Instead of pleading with an unresponsive government, the Green Party focuses its energy on electing community leaders and empowering the disenfranchised. Greens offer a compelling vision for change, for a better future. Our vision is of a sustainable society in harmony with the environment, one that meets all people's needs for security, self-respect, freedom, creativity, and community. Creative, progressive, and scientific solutions are needed which allow us to live well while creating a more democratic society and restoring our environment. To fulfill our vision, we

reject the corrupting influence of big money on politics and refuse to accept corporate funding, relying instead on our communities for support.

We strive for more than thinking globally and acting locally. To fundamentally change society we need to overcome the stranglehold of the corporate-dominated two-party system at the state and national levels, and other forms of elite rule at international levels. The Wisconsin Green Party platform is intended to complement our local and national Green Party platforms, as well as the agreements of Green parties globally. We recognize that electoral politics is only one tool for change, and also value direct action, movements for social and economic justice, progressive cultural change, community-building initiatives, and personal empowerment.

Together, we can provide the organization, education, and collective experience needed to not only elect leaders who share our values, but also empower everyone to have meaningful control over their own lives. To build a world that works for all of us, break free from the two corporate parties of war and Wall Street and get involved with the activist party, the grassroots party, the progressive party, the workers' party, the people's party: the Green Party.

If not us, who? If not now, when? We are the ones we've been waiting for. Join us!

Preamble

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that we must treat each other with love, respect and fairness, and that we must protect the earth for future generations. The crises of our times demand a fundamental shift in human values and culture, and in our social, economic, and political institutions. The way we live today is based on using things up: our air, our water, our natural resources, and our people. We need a new way of doing things that is sustainable, that will allow our people and our environment to flourish now and in the future. We can't keep spending today what we – and our children and their children – will need tomorrow. The Wisconsin Greens offer a new vision for change, for a sustainable future. We recognize that one of great obstacles to that change is the fact that government no longer responds to the needs of citizens. Only by building grassroots democracy can we be sure that changes will be real, not





just appearances or promises. Our vision is of a sustainable society in harmony with the environment, one that meets all people's needs for security, self-respect, freedom, creativity, and community. We recognize that personal, cultural, social, economic, political, and ecological problems are interconnected. We reject the current simplistic solutions to these problems. New, creative solutions are needed which allow us to live well and happily without destroying our environment or our society. We are confronted with the challenge of letting go of old ways and creating a new vision and a new way of life:

Section I. Democracy

A. Introduction

Democracy and self-governance are dependent on the public being fully informed and all political parties having access to the ballot, and public debate, and discourse. Additionally, since the voter is consenting to being governed, the full will of the voter must be expressed and reflected in election results. To this end the Wisconsin Green Party will work to implement policies that result in the public being fully informed about issues and policies that tear down the barriers between the voters and the government that represents them.

B. Political Reform

1. Enact Instant Runoff Voting (also known as Ranked Choice Voting) for executive offices such as mayor, governor, and other single-seat elections, to ensure the full expression of voter will and to eliminate the cost of primaries in non-partisan local elections.
2. Enact ~~Proportional Representation~~ **proportional representation** for legislative offices on the municipal, county, and state levels.
3. Enact public financing for all elections.
4. Ban out-of-state campaign contributions.
5. Enact automatic voter registration legislation and repeal restrictive voter ID legislation.
6. Remove restrictions on the voting rights of felons.
7. Oppose the use of electronic voting machines and support use of verifiable paper ballots.
8. ~~Ballot access laws will assure~~ **Ensure ballot** access thresholds that are set low enough to reflect emerging shifts in local voter will.
9. Create an independent, non-partisan redistricting commission to draw districts for the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate, as well as U.S. House districts.
10. Reinststate the **Government Accountability Board** to effectively enforce ethics and elections laws.
11. The Wisconsin Green Party opposes term limits, as they are restrictions on the will of the people.

12. Limit the income of state officials to not more than the median income in Wisconsin.

13. Join the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact as a step towards dismantling the Electoral College.

C. Community

1. ~~Allow communities~~ Communities in the state will have the right to pass stronger controls on pesticides environmental protections than those specified in state and federal regulations.

D. Free Speech and Media Reform

1. ~~Voters will not be denied~~ Ensure access to the views of any political party or candidates parties and candidates have equitable access to television and radio. ~~We will insist~~ Insist on the full inclusion of all political parties in all public debates regardless of candidate will.

2. Defend the right to protest on UW campuses.

E. Demilitarization

1. Close military facilities and oppose recruitment in schools.

Section II. Social Justice

A. Introduction

The Wisconsin Green Party opposes all manifestations of racism, sexism, xenophobia, and discrimination. We fight to end the root causes of these issues through education and empowering people through collective action. We defend civil rights and liberties against any encroachments and seek to expand their scope. We envision social justice in which people are actually treated equally before the law and in their day to day lives. We work to end the double standards the wealthy benefit from and ultimately strive to create a classless society. To this end, we seek to expand the popular conception of social justice to consider high-quality housing, healthcare, and higher education as rights. Lastly, we fully respect the rights of the Native American nations living within the state.

B. Civil Rights and Equal Rights

1. ~~Wisconsin Greens support~~ Support the right of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people gender and sexual minorities to be treated equally with all other people, in all areas of life, including in housing, employment, civil marriage, benefits, and child custody. Amend the state constitution to guarantee the right of same-sex couples to marry. Wisconsin Greens will defend the rights of all individuals to freely choose intimate partners, regardless of their sex, gender, or sexual orientation.

2. Enact gun control reform to restrict the sale of firearms to people with a history of violent crime, prohibit carrying firearms in public (open carry and concealed carry), and require a background check each time a firearm is transferred. Ban assault weapons. Instate a 48-hour waiting period for firearm purchases.





C. Economic Justice / Social Safety Net

1. Provide food assistance to everyone in need.
2. Subsidize high-quality day care.
3. Subsidize high-quality assisted living.

D. Welfare: A Commitment to Ending Poverty

1. Remove counter-productive drug testing requirements to qualify for benefits.

E. Education and the Arts

1. ~~Wisconsin Greens support~~ Support fully-funded public education, and ~~so and~~ oppose the voucher system of public funding for private schools.
2. Limit the student-teacher ratio to not more than 15:1 in every K-12 classroom, to greatly improve the quality of education and raise the graduation rate.
3. Address the racial achievement gap by focusing on high-quality early education and improving the graduation rate in urban areas.
4. ~~The Wisconsin Greens oppose~~ Oppose the use of 'high stakes' standardized tests as the primary determinant for grade advancement, graduation, or teacher pay.
5. Freeze college tuition and work towards free higher education.
6. Adequately fund the University of Wisconsin System, maintain UW-Madison as a world-class institution, and unconditionally defend academic freedom (reinstating tenure protections).
7. ~~The state should redraw~~ Redraw district boundaries to promote an equitable number of electors relative to the size of the school board, ensure parents can have a meaningful impact on school board policies, ~~to promote decentralization~~ decentralize crowded schools, and provide an appropriate scale for school districts. ~~This will reduce the~~ The time and cost of transporting transportation of students. ~~over great distances is already a burden on the budgets in many rural districts.~~
8. ~~For parents to have a meaningful impact on school board policies, district boundaries should be redrawn taking into account the ratio of electors to school board and reduced to defined, equitable limits.~~
9. Green-Party education Shape education policy will to include foster an understanding of the history of our government's conflicts and treaties with Wisconsin's tribes (and foster a respect for native cultures), comprehensive sexual education, a wide variety of the arts, and sufficient education on local and state government to enable graduates to meaningfully participate in politics and capably run for office.

F. Health Care

1. ~~The Green Party will implement~~ Implement a universal, single-payer system that will be funded through



state taxes. The system will be designed to allow citizens to select health care providers and treatment.

2. ~~The state shall promote the revitalization of~~ **Revitalize** public health care clinics and school nurses to provide necessary health services and counseling, preventative care, and instruction in hygiene, nutrition, contraception and wellness.

3. ~~The state shall promote the chartering of~~ **Charter** non-profit and not-for-profit hospitals.

4. ~~The state shall establish~~ **Establish work** rules that abolish mandatory overtime for nurses and other paraprofessionals in hospitals.

5. ~~We will fund~~ **Fund** the University of Wisconsin system to develop new programs to provide paraprofessionals required to expand the public health service.

6. ~~Treat substance abuse and substance dependence~~ **Drug** abuse of all kinds should be treated as a disease, rather than a criminal offense.

7. ~~We defend~~ **Defend** a woman's right to make reproduction choices affecting their own body. **Safe birth** Birth control prescriptions should be covered by all health care plans and/or subsidized by the state. **Fund women's health centers and family planning.**

G. Labor

1. ~~Under a Green Party government the~~ **Uphold** the right of all working people to form unions, bargain collectively, and strike will be upheld. ~~We oppose~~ **Oppose** "union-busting" tactics and **deceptively titled "right to work" laws.** The ~~State~~ **state** should assist management in working more closely and cooperatively with unions.

2. The Green Party will repeal laws that prevent teachers from striking or laws that interfere with collective bargaining such a ~~Qualified Economic Offer or QEO.~~

H. Criminal Justice

1. **Ensure all individuals are held accountable for actions that harm other people and/or communities, with an emphasis on ensuring justice for the victims and their loved ones.** ~~Crimes against people and communities must be punished through restitution and/or jail time. Alternatives to incarceration should be used in response to nonviolent offenses and victimless crimes. Sentencing must be emphasized as much as possible for victimless crimes and nonviolent offenders. Shift the emphasis from punishment to rehabilitation. Ex-of-~~

fenders need resources and support to engage with their communities in ways that are healthy, positive, and socially sustainable. To come out into a healthy community that both supports them and holds them accountable:

2. The problem of violence in society is complex and multifaceted and must be addressed on different fronts. **Prevent crime by promoting** For this reason we regard economic justice, education, and programs that create opportunity; to have as much potential at decreasing the incidence of crime and violence as traditional punitive measures. Greens emphasize that the solutions to violence, poverty, alienation, anger and political inequality are the key to **criminal justice reform** solving the dilemma of crime and punishment.
3. We oppose **Oppose** the privatization of the prison system.
4. Our justice system must attach **Attach** equal importance to justice for white-collar criminals, including environmental violators of our common property. **Hold corporate** Corporate executives should be held personally responsible for the consequences of their corporate actions.
5. Legalize and regulate the cultivation, sale, possession, and use of **marijuana cannabis**.
6. **Oppose solitary confinement**.
7. **Ensure penal labor is compensated at the minimum wage or higher**.
8. The Green Party will continue **Continue** to oppose the death penalty in Wisconsin.
9. **Community members must be involved directly** **Directly involve community members** in crime control in their own communities through citizen police boards and neighborhood watch programs.
10. **Encourage restorative justice, as an alternative to incarceration, through community restorative courts**.
11. **End stop-and-frisk and racial profiling practices**.

I. Immigration

1. Become a sanctuary state. Prohibit police from acting as immigration agents and inquiring into immigration status.
2. Allow undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses and become eligible for in-state tuition.
3. Adopt policies welcoming refugees.





J. Housing and Homelessness

1. Provide high quality affordable public housing to all in need.
2. Enact rent control legislation.
3. End de facto segregation in Milwaukee and other urban areas.

Section III. Ecological Sustainability

A. Introduction

The Wisconsin Green Party believes that Ecological Wisdom has a direct effect on **directly relates** to quality of life. Only by practicing sound stewardship and ecological responsibility can we stop the degradation of the life-giving relationships that exist between humankind and the earth. The “public trust doctrine,” which holds that public land, water, minerals, forests, and other natural resources are held in trust for the public and used for the common good, must be enforced. The precautionary principle must be applied to public policy decisions, especially those concerning the approval of drugs, pesticides, and genetically modified organisms to protect the public from practices of uncertain consequence.

B. Climate Change

1. Under Green Party leadership, the state of Wisconsin will independently implement the terms of the Kyoto Protocol on global warming. **Work with other states to exceed the goals of the Paris climate agreement.**

C. Energy

1. **Provide financial aid to neighborhood networks to promote community ownership of renewable energy Community-owned utilities.** and decentralized, neighborhood networks will receive financial aid for the purchase and installation of renewable energy technology such as wind, solar and biomass. The Public Service Commission will require **Require** that the electric grid be reconfigured to accept power from widely distributed, diverse sources.
2. **We will work towards Foster** statewide energy independence, and will promote, encourage, and fund and promote energy research that brings Wisconsin closer to a self-sustaining energy system.
3. **Regulate energy utilities to minimize flat fee charges, so consumers are primarily charged based on usage,**

to incentivize energy conservation.

D. Nuclear Issues

1. ~~The Public Service Commission should not~~ **Stop** ~~grant~~ **granting** licenses to ~~for~~ new nuclear facilities or the ~~renewal~~ **renewing** of licenses for existing facilities.
2. ~~Regional high level nuclear waste dumps will not be located in Wisconsin.~~
3. **Only allow high-level** ~~High-level radioactive and highly toxic waste storage will be only~~ for waste generated in Wisconsin.

E. Transportation

1. ~~We support~~ **Support** higher average miles per gallon requirements and stricter emission control requirements on new vehicles, as well as "gas guzzler" taxes and renewable fuel and "gas sipper" rebates on new car purchases.
2. ~~As a response to oil production having reached its peak, we support~~ **Support** building and promoting mass transit infrastructure for light rail, high-speed rail, commuter rail, as well as intra and intercommunity bicycling and walking trails (**as a response to oil production having reached its peak**).

F. Zero Waste: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

1. ~~The Greens will apply~~ **Apply** the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle to policies in order to reduce waste streams, reduce demands on natural resources and reduce the generation of pollutants. **Mandate collection of compostable materials as a separate waste stream.**
2. **Increase tipping** ~~Tipping~~ fees at Wisconsin landfills ~~will be increased~~ for commercial haulers. Commercial haulers will be required to bill their commercial customers on a per weight basis.
3. **Use the** ~~The~~ history and environmental record of recycling or waste disposal firms ~~will be used~~ as major criteria in considering awarding contracts for municipal services.
4. **Ban single-use plastic bags.**

G. Clean Air / Greenhouse Effect / Ozone Depletion

1. ~~Green Party leaders will enact~~ **Enact** policies that significantly reduce the release of gases that deplete the ozone layer, contribute to global warming and cause acid rain.

H. Land Use

1. ~~The state will create~~ **Create** and maintain a citizen accessible central database of the products used, concentration applied, chemical contents, health effects, and company responsible, for any private or commercial





pesticide application.

2. ~~Avoid using pesticides~~ Pesticides will not be used on or in public property, except as a last resort, after the failure of organic alternatives has been demonstrated. Tax incentives will reward the use of organic pest control methods.

3. ~~Eliminate fees for state parks.~~

I. Water

1. ~~Replace all lead water pipes in the state with a safe alternative.~~

2. ~~Require disinfection for municipal water systems.~~

3. ~~Impose regulations on fertilizers, pesticides, and pollution to protect private wells.~~

H. Agriculture

1. ~~The state government should provide~~ Provide subsidies to make the change from petrochemical-based to organic farming methods economically feasible for small-scale farmers.

2. ~~The state should develop~~ Develop the necessary infrastructure to support the regionalization of food production and distribution systems, such as urban farms, farmers markets, community supported agriculture, and regional food processing facilities.

3. ~~Wisconsin should establish~~ Establish a system of subsidies and tax incentives to protect family farms as an indispensable component of a healthy and sustainable agricultural economy.

4. ~~Create a~~ A state land banking system of prime farmland to prevent diversion to non-farm use through first-option state acquisition of the land ~~should be created.~~

5. ~~Oppose the utilization of genetically modified organisms.~~

6. ~~Incentivize urban agriculture.~~

K. Biological Diversity

1. ~~The Department of Natural Resources will maintain~~ Maintain forests, wetlands, and all other ecological communities in a manner which will protect biodiversity and will allow future generations to benefit.

L. Forestry Practices & Lake, River, and Aquifer Protection

1. ~~We support~~ Support a general moratorium on the draining of wetlands, on-road building roads in public forests, and metallic mining.

2. ~~Stiffen~~ DNR water quality rules will be stiffened to require absolute non-degradation of existing water bodies.

3. ~~Work with states and Canada to restore the Great Lakes. Ban the export of Great Lakes water beyond the basin.~~

4. Enact rigorous environmental safeguards to protect communities and prevent contamination of our air, land, and water from mining pollution, including arsenic, asbestos, mercury, silica, and other known toxins.

Section IV. Economic Justice and Sustainability

A. Introduction

~~While the~~ The Wisconsin Green party Party understands and applauds the initiative and ambition shown by



people who seek financial security or self-improvement, we believe that it is the role of government to ensure **believes the government must guarantee economic well being for all and ensure** that the financial security and social status of one group does not come via the exploitation and marginalization of another group. Additionally, common methods of measuring the economy view production for its own sake as a positive and low unemployment, a condition that favors the majority, is viewed as a threat to economic health. **Economic security must not come at the cost of consumerism and the alienation of corporate culture.** Clearly, new New economic paradigms are needed that regard measurements for **which value** quality of life, and the environment, and the full **meaningful** employment of the population as a **as more positive than expanding production for its own sake and maximizing profit.** Lastly, the Wisconsin Green Party asserts that it is the duty of government to earn the allegiance of its citizens by protecting the public from threats “economic and physical,” as well as “foreign and domestic”.

B. Ecological Economics

1. **The Wisconsin Greens support Support** family leave legislation, paid sick and vacation time, job sharing, and the involvement of workers in decision-making, management, and scheduling.
2. **Green elected officials will emphasize Emphasize** and promote regional trade emphasizing stronger ties with our Canadian neighbors who share the Great Lakes basin. State trade missions should promote “fair trade” over “free trade” with specific countries that are moving toward more equitable, sustainable economies.

C. Curbing Corporate Power

1. **Revise laws** Laws regarding Articles of Incorporation will be revised to make executives and board members more accountable for the effects of their decision-making.
2. **We will require** Require the DNR and State **state** Attorney General to be more vigorous in prosecuting corporate offenses and will hold individuals accountable when appropriate. Corporations that engage in gross violations will have their corporate charter revoked.
3. **Stop wasting taxpayer money on corporate subsidies.**
4. **Promote public ownership of all utilities.**
5. **Revise eminent domain laws to protect small landowners from private business encroachments.**
6. **Promote right of workers to have at least two days off every week.**

D. Livable Income

1. Increase the state minimum wage to a living wage of \$15 per hour **(in 2015 dollars)**, adjusted annually to inflation.

2. Support prevailing wage legislation.
3. Enact equal pay for equal work legislation.
4. Improve overtime compensation by requiring time-and-a-half for work after 8 hours and double-time for work after 12 hours each workday.

E. Fair Taxation

1. ~~Wisconsin Greens will institute~~ **Institute** a progressive method of taxation that shifts the tax burden away from those that can least afford it. We will eliminate the income tax for households making less than \$20,000:00 a year and reduce the income tax for households making between \$20,000:00 and \$30,000:00 a year. **Increase taxes on the wealthy and corporations.**
2. **Create a carbon tax on commerce and industry to fund sustainability projects.** A portion of funds from an increase in the motor fuel tax will go for development of alternative transportation such as mass transit and bicycle trails.
3. ~~We will eliminate~~ **Eliminate** tax loopholes for corporations and the wealthy, including the state capital gains deduction and the exemption of manufacturing machinery and equipment from property tax.
4. **Tax independent** ~~Independent~~ businesses that are locally owned and not affiliated with any out-of-state entity ~~will be taxed~~ at a lower rate than franchises that export local dollars out of the community.
5. ~~The Greens oppose~~ **Oppose** state caps **restrictions** on local property tax levies.

F. Local Economic Development, Small Business, and the Self-Employed

1. ~~Green Party plans~~ **Gear** for economic development ~~will~~ to focus on jobs that are based in the community and that have a vested interest in the community where their employees live - especially small businesses.

G. Work and Job Creation

1. **Promote the renewable energy industry and sustainable technologies.**
2. **Increase staffing of state and local governments to adequately serve the public interest.**

H. Banking and Insurance Reform

1. Charter a publicly-owned Bank of Wisconsin to hold public funds, provide affordable credit to local governments and private businesses, invest in needed infrastructure, and avoid the risks and profit-taking associated with holding public funds in private banks.

I. Advanced Technology and Defense Conversion

1. **Reject military contracts and convert military industries to address public needs.**

J. State Debt

1. **Pay off the state's debt to stop wasting tax revenue on interest payments.**



**Proposed
Amendments
to the
Wisconsin
Green Party
Constitution**



In November 2017, the Wisconsin Green Party Structure Team began work on reforms to the structure of the state party. The first of these was a process of proposing substantial amendments to the party's bylaws, currently known as the Constitution of the WI Green Party. The state party's coordinating council has reviewed these proposed amendments, and recommended by consensus that they be considered for approval by the party membership at the 2018 Spring Gathering.

It should be noted that while there was consensus among the coordinating council that the required threshold for decision-making should be lowered from the current 80%, there was not consensus on whether the threshold should be lowered to a two-thirds requirement or a simple majority requirement. The CC agreed to hold two votes, the first on lowering the threshold to two-thirds, and the second on lowering the threshold to simple majority. While these amendments are presented as a whole, if members wish to discuss concerns about particular sections and vote on them separately, they may call for a motion to do so.

Where current text is to be replaced by proposed text, it is marked as follows:

[1. CURRENT TEXT:]

[1. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Where proposed text will not be replacing current text, only the proposed text is marked, like so:

[16. PROPOSED TEXT:]

This document will be posted in its entirety at www.wigp.org/bylaws_amendments where members can leave comments.

[1. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Constitution of the Wisconsin Green Party

[1. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Bylaws of the Wisconsin Green Party

Preamble

[2. CURRENT TEXT:]

We, the active Members of the Wisconsin Green Party united for the protection of the Earth and all of her inhabitants, have come together to form a new political party based upon the principles and values of the world-wide Green movement. We subscribe to our adopted Key Values of Ecological Integrity, Global Responsibility, Participatory Democracy in Economic and Personal Life, Local and Region Autonomy, Nonviolence, Respect for Diversity, Emotional Awareness and Honesty, Human Rights and Feminism. In addition, we support the Platform adopted by the Members for future political activity. We will affiliate with other Green Parties and organizations in the United States of America and other countries as they accept and are organized around these or similar values.

[2. PROPOSED TEXT:]

We, the active Members of the Wisconsin Green Party united for the protection of the Earth and all of her inhabitants, have come together to form a new political party based upon the principles and values of the worldwide Green movement. We subscribe to our adopted Key Values of Grassroots Democracy, Social Justice and Equal Opportunity, Ecological Wisdom, Nonviolence, Decentralization, Community-Based Economics and Economic Justice, Feminism and Gender Equity, Respect for Diversity, Personal and Global Responsibility, and Future Focus and Sustainability. In addition, we support the Platform adopted by the Members for future political activity. We join with other Green Parties and organizations in the United States of America and other countries to organize around these shared values.





Article 1. Name and Membership

Section 1. Name.

The name of the organization is the Wisconsin Green Party. The organization is founded as a not for profit, non-stock Wisconsin Corporation.

Section 2. Membership.

[3. CURRENT TEXT:]

Membership in the Wisconsin Green Party shall be granted to all Wisconsin residents who apply and who have paid the Membership dues as set forth in Article 2, Section 1, below.

[3. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Membership in the Wisconsin Green Party shall be granted to all Wisconsin residents who apply and subscribe to the ten key values of the Green Party. Members in Good Standing are those who have paid the Membership dues as set forth in Article 2, Section 1, below.

[4. CURRENT TEXT:]

Article 2. Membership Meetings

Section 1. Membership Dues.

Membership dues rates shall be established at least annually by the Members in a Membership meeting. Any Wisconsin resident who cannot afford the established dues for membership may be granted a waiver of payment of dues for any year by the Coordinating Council.

[4. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Article 2. Meetings.

Section 1. Membership Dues.

Membership dues rates shall be established by the Members in Good Standing at a Membership meeting.

Section 2. Membership Participation.

[5. CURRENT TEXT:]

All members of the organization are entitled to participate in all of the activities of the organization and to attend any meeting of the organization or its committees and councils.

[5. PROPOSED TEXT:]

All Members are entitled and encouraged to participate in all of the activities and to attend any membership, committee, or council meeting of the organization.

Section 3. Membership Meetings.

[6. CURRENT TEXT:]





There shall be meetings of the Members at least biannually at locations in Wisconsin to be determined by the Coordinating Council. One of the Membership meetings shall be convened in the fall of each year and shall have as part of its agenda the selection of Co-Chairs, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Elections Treasurer and Operations Treasurer for the following year. Member meetings shall be held in different locations in Wisconsin with a view toward development of a local Green group in that location and assistance on a local issue in keeping with our Key Values. Minutes of all Membership meetings shall be kept by the recording secretary and all policy decisions and resolutions published thereafter in the organization's newsletter.

[6. PROPOSED TEXT:]

There shall be meetings of the Members at least biannually at locations in Wisconsin to be determined by the Coordinating Council. One of the Membership meetings shall be convened in the fall of each year and shall have as part of its agenda the election of Co-Chairs, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Elections Treasurer and Operations Treasurer for the following year. Member meetings shall be held in different locations in Wisconsin with a view toward development of local Green groups in that area. Minutes of all Membership meetings shall be kept by the recording secretary and all policy decisions and resolutions published thereafter in the organization's newsletter.

Section 4. Notice.

[7. CURRENT TEXT:]

Notice of the date, place, time and agenda of all Membership meetings convened by the Coordinating Council shall be provided to all members in good standing by regular mail at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting and shall be published in the newsletter.

[7. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Notice of the date, place, time and agenda of all Membership meetings convened by the Coordinating Council shall be provided to all Members at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum.

[8. CURRENT TEXT:]

Official business at a properly convened Membership meeting may be conducted if there are at least twenty (20) members in good standing present at the meeting.

[8. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Official business at a properly convened Membership meeting may be conducted if there are at least fifteen percent (15%) of the Members in Good Standing present at the meeting.

Section 6. Proxy Voting.

There shall be no voting by proxy at any membership meeting.

Section 7. Decision Making.

[9. CURRENT TEXT:]

Decisions made at Membership meetings shall be reached by a facilitated consensus process. Any two (2) Members in good standing may block a proposed decision, as long as they provide the reasons for their block. If more than three (3) Members in good standing stand aside from a proposed decision, it shall not pass. No reasons need be given for a stand aside position. The group will attempt in all cases to achieve consensus. In the case that consensus cannot be reached in the group, any member in good standing may request a vote. This request will automatically be honored. The group then decides with a simple majority of members present whether or not to go to an 80% majority in decision-making.





[9. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Decisions made at Membership meetings and Coordinating Council meetings shall be reached by a facilitated consensus process. The group will attempt in all cases to achieve consensus. In the case that consensus cannot be reached in the group, any member in good standing may request a vote. The group then decides with a simple majority of members present whether or not to go to a two-thirds majority in decision-making. In order to pass, a proposal must receive a two-thirds majority, not counting abstaining votes, or at least twice as many “yes” votes as “no” votes.

Elections at Membership meetings shall be conducted using Ranked Choice Voting, with members allowed to choose a “none of the above” option which is binding if it receives a majority.

Article 3. Coordinating Council

Section 1. Coordinating Council.

[10. CURRENT TEXT:]

The WI Green Party Coordinating Council shall consist of up to 25 members. All members must be members of the WI Green Party, and all efforts will be made to maintain gender-balanced, and ethnic-balanced representation. Five (5) members are the officers of the WI Green Party (two Co-Chairs, Elections Treasurer, Operations Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary). The responsibilities of officers are outlined in Article 4 of the Constitution. Up to 16 members are nominated and elected from the eight WI congressional districts. Up to two members are from each of the eight congressional districts. Each member serves a 2-year term. (Members will serve 1-year and 2-year staggered terms in first year). These 8 (16 in first year) members will be nominated in their district meetings at the Fall Gathering. The election will take place at the full membership meeting. Notification will be sent out three times (in the newsletter, via email, and with Fall Gathering information) that nominations for the congressional district representation will take place at the WI Green Party Fall Gathering. If someone would like to be nominated but cannot attend the gathering, they should send a brief written statement with another member, who will speak on behalf of the member. Up to four (4) members are nominated and elected from caucuses. One each from the following caucuses: Women, Diversity, LGBT and Youth. These are 1-year terms. These 4 members will be nominated in their caucus meetings at the Fall Gathering. The election will take place at the full membership meeting.

[10. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The WI Green Party Coordinating Council shall consist of Members of the WI Green Party in Good Standing and all efforts will be made to maintain gender-balanced and ethnic-balanced representation.

Six (6) Members are the Officers of the WI Green Party (two Co-Chairs, Elections Treasurer, Operations Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary). The responsibilities of officers are outlined in Article 4 of the Bylaws.

Eight (8) Members in Good Standing are nominated and elected from the eight WI congressional districts. These eight (8) Members will be nominated in their district meetings at the Fall Gathering. The election will take place at the full Membership meeting. If someone would like to be nominated but cannot attend the gathering, they should send a brief written statement with another Member, who will speak on behalf of the Member.

Each accredited Local Chapter shall be entitled to nominate one (1) Member at their local meeting prior to the Fall Gathering. The election shall take place at the full membership meeting.

Each accredited Caucus shall be entitled to nominate and elect one (1) Member in Good Standing. These Members will be nominated in their caucus meetings at the Fall Gathering. The election will take place at the full Membership meeting.

Up to eight (8) at-large Members in Good Standing may be nominated and elected from the membership.

All Members of the Coordinating Council shall be elected for 1-year terms, except for the Co-Chairs, who shall serve 2-year terms.

A Member may not serve in more than one Officer position and may not have more than one vote on the Coordinating Council.

Section 2. Duties.

[11. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Coordinating Council is charged with implementing the will of the Membership as decided at Membership meetings and otherwise supervising business of the organization. The Council shall educate and inform the mem-





bership through publication of a newsletter, Green Wisconsin. The Coordinating Council shall select the number, location, date and time of Membership meetings each year. The Coordinating Council is empowered to speak in the name of the organization between Membership meetings on issues of public importance in accordance with the adopted Key Values and Platform. All decisions of the Council shall be made by facilitated consensus as described in Article 2, Section 7, above.

[11. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Coordinating Council is charged with implementing the will of the Membership as decided at Membership meetings and otherwise supervising business of the organization. The Coordinating Council shall develop and maintain the party's Policies and Procedures. The Council shall educate and inform the membership through publication of a newsletter. The Coordinating Council shall select the location, date, and time of Membership meetings each year. The Coordinating Council is empowered to speak in the name of the organization between Membership meetings on issues of public importance in accordance with the adopted Key Values and Platform. All decisions of the Council shall be made as described in Article 2, Section 7, above.

Section 3. Meetings.

[12. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Coordinating Council shall meet at least quarterly. Meetings of the Council may be held in conjunction with Membership meetings. Minutes of all Council meetings shall be kept by the Recording Secretary and all policy and financial decisions and resolutions shall be published in the organization's newsletter.

[12. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Coordinating Council shall meet at least monthly. Meetings of the Council may be held in conjunction with

Membership meetings. Minutes of all Council meetings shall be kept by the Recording Secretary and all policy and financial decisions and resolutions shall be published in the organization's newsletter.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings.

[13. CURRENT TEXT:]

Notice of all Coordinating Council meetings shall be published in the organization's newsletter at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, except in emergency situations where such notice is impossible. Notice of Council Meetings shall be made to all current members of the Council by regular mail at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, except in emergency situations where such notice is impossible. For emergency meetings, telephone notice to all current Council Members at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting shall be given.

[13. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Notice of Coordinating Council Meetings shall be made to all current members of the Council at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. For emergency meetings, telephone notice to all current Council Members at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting shall be given.

Section 5. Quorum.

[14. CURRENT TEXT:]

Official business at a properly convened Coordinating Council meeting may be conducted if there are at least nine (9) Council Members in good standing present at the meeting.

[14. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Official business at a non-emergency Coordinating Council meeting may be conducted if there are at least one third of Coordinating Council Members present at the meeting. Official business at a emergency Coordinating Council





meeting may be conducted if there are at least three (3) Officers present and at least one-third of Coordinating Council Members present at the meeting.

Section 6. Proxy Voting.

There shall be no voting by proxy at any Coordinating Council meeting.

Section 7. Finances.

The Coordinating Council shall be responsible for the finances of the organization and shall supervise the activities of both the Elections Treasurer and the Operations Treasurer. The Coordinating Council shall approve all individual expenditures over \$250 in advance. The Coordinating Council shall report on the organization's financial condition at every Membership meeting.

Section 8. Removal.

[15. CURRENT TEXT:]

Any Member of the Coordinating Council may be removed from the Council for gross misconduct or violation of the adopted Key Values, after notice and a hearing to the member, by consensus of all current Members of the Council. In addition, any member of the Coordinating Council may be removed at a membership meeting by consensus of the Members present. Prior notice of such a proposed removal must be contained in the written notice sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

[15. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Any Officer or Member of the Coordinating Council may be removed, by decision of other Members of the Council, for gross misconduct or violation of the adopted Key Values or code of conduct adopted by the Party. Officers or Members will be considered resigned from office by giving notice to other Coordinating Council Members of their resignation or after failing to perform their clearly defined duties for a period of three months. The Officer or Mem-

ber in question shall receive a notice, and a hearing if requested. In addition, any Officer or Member of the Coordinating Council may be removed at a Membership meeting by decision of the Members present. Notice of such a proposed removal must be sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

[16. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 9. Vacancies.

In the event of a vacancy, an interim replacement for any Officer or Member of the Coordinating Council may be made by decision of the Coordinating Council. Any replacement shall be confirmed at the next Membership meeting.

Article 4. Officers

Section 1. Officers.

[17. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Officers of the organization shall be two Co-Chairs, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, an Operations Treasurer and an Elections Treasurer. The Officers shall be Members of the Coordinating Council and of the Wisconsin Green Party. All efforts shall be made to balance the Officers regionally and by gender. Officers will be responsible for granting access to specific internal documents such as membership records and databases.

[17. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Officers of the organization shall be two Co-Chairs, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, an Operations Treasurer and an Elections Treasurer. The Officers shall be Members of the Coordinating Council and of the Wisconsin Green Party. All efforts shall be made to balance the Officers regionally and by gender. Officers will be responsible for granting access to specific internal documents such as membership records and databases. The





Membership and the Coordinating Council may define specific duties of the Officers in the party's adopted policies and procedures.

Section 2. Terms of Office.

Each Co-Chair shall serve for two years with staggered terms so that there is a senior and junior Chair. All reasonable effort shall be made to rotate the Chair role throughout the membership of the organization. All other Officers shall serve one-year terms. All Officers, except for the Co-Chairs, may be reelected for successive terms.

Section 3. Duties.

[18. CURRENT TEXT:]

1. The Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs shall work together to coordinate the activities of the organization. The Co-Chairs are empowered to speak publicly for and in the name of the organization on issues of the day and the policies and positions of the organization between Coordinating Council meetings in accordance with our adopted Key Values and Platform. The Co-Chairs may convene Coordinating Council meetings as they deem necessary and must do so at the request of five (5) or more current Members of the Coordinating Council or ten (10) or more Members in good standing of the organization. Co-Chairs contemplating the issuance of statements or press releases not specifically covered by the Key Values or Platform should consult with a majority of the Coordinating Council prior to making any such statement. The Co-Chairs shall be reimbursed for their expenses by the Coordinating Council. 2. Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall take and prepare written minutes of all Membership and Coordinating Council meetings. The Recording Secretary shall make sure that all members of the Coordinating Council receive copies of the minutes within three (3) weeks after each Council meeting. The Recording Secretary shall transmit copies of all minutes to the editor of the newsletter. The Recording Secretary shall maintain the official minutes of

the organization. The Recording Secretary shall be reimbursed for any expenses by the Coordinating Council. 3. Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary may also be the Treasurer. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain a post office box for accepting mail for the organization at such places designated by the Coordinating Council. The Corresponding Secretary shall receive the organization's mail and answer inquiries for information and literature. Correspondence received requesting answers to policy questions not readily answerable in accordance with the Key Values and Platform shall be referred to the Co-Chairs. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain the current list of Members in good standing and such records as are necessary. The Corresponding Secretary shall be reimbursed for any expenses by the Coordinating Council. 4. Operations Treasurer. The Operations Treasurer shall maintain the operations bank account and operations funds of the organization in financial institutions designated by the Coordinating Council. The Operations Treasurer shall accept all funds paid to the organization and pay all debts incurred by the organization upon receipt and authorization of the Coordinating Council. The Operations Treasurer shall report on the organization's financial condition at each Membership and Coordinating Council meeting. 5. Elections Treasurer. The Elections Treasurer shall maintain the elections funds and make disbursements from that account upon authorization of the Coordinating Council. The Elections Treasurer shall maintain the contributions database and shall file all campaign finance reports for the state party with the State Elections Board, the Federal Election Commission and the Internal Revenue Service.

[18. PROPOSED TEXT:]

1. The Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs shall work together to coordinate the activities of the organization. The Co-Chairs are empowered to speak publicly for and in the name of the organization on issues of the day and the policies and positions of the organization between Coordinating Council meetings in accordance with our adopted Key Values and Platform. The Co-Chairs may convene Coordinating Council meetings as they deem necessary and must do so at the request of five (5) or more current Members of the Coordinating Council or at least 10% of Members in Good Standing of the organization. Co-Chairs contemplating the issuance of statements or press releases not specifically covered by the Key Values or Platform should consult with a majority of the Coordinating Council prior to making any such statement.

2. Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall take and prepare written minutes of all Membership and Co-





ordinating Council meetings. The Recording Secretary shall make sure that all members of the Coordinating Council receive copies of the minutes within one (1) week after each Council meeting. The Recording Secretary shall maintain the official minutes of the organization.

3. Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain a post office box for accepting mail for the organization at a place approved by the Coordinating Council. The Corresponding Secretary shall receive the organization's mail and other correspondence and answer inquiries for information and literature. Correspondence received requesting answers to policy questions not readily answerable in accordance with the Key Values and Platform shall be referred to the Co-Chairs.

4. Operations Treasurer. The Operations Treasurer shall maintain the operations bank account and operations funds of the organization in financial institutions designated by the Coordinating Council. The Operations Treasurer shall accept all funds paid to the organization and pay all debts incurred by the organization upon receipt and authorization of the Coordinating Council. The Operations Treasurer shall report on the organization's financial condition at each Membership and Coordinating Council meeting.

5. Elections Treasurer. The Elections Treasurer shall maintain the elections bank account and make disbursements from that account upon authorization of the Coordinating Council. The Elections Treasurer shall maintain the contributions database and shall file all campaign finance reports for the state party with the State Elections Board, the Federal Election Commission, and the Internal Revenue Service.

[19. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 4. Removal.

Any Officer may be removed from the position for gross misconduct or violation of the adopted Key Values by consensus of the other Members of the Coordinating Council at a regular Coordinating Council meeting. In addition, any Officer may be removed from their position by consensus of the Membership at a Membership meeting. Prior notice of such proposed removal must be contained in the written notice sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

[19. PROPOSED TEXT:]

[REMOVE, REPLACE WITH ARTICLE 3 SECTION 8]

[20. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 5. Vacancies.

In the event of a vacancy, an interim replacement for any Officer may be made by consensus of the Coordinating Council. Any replacement shall be confirmed at the next Membership meeting.

[20. PROPOSED TEXT:]

[REMOVE, REPLACE WITH ARTICLE 3, SECTION 9]

Article 5. Subordination to Existing Constitutions and Laws Section

1. Subordination.

[21. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Constitution of the Wisconsin Green Party is subordinate to the Constitutions and laws of the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin.

[21. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Bylaws of the Wisconsin Green Party are subordinate to the Constitutions and laws of the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin.

Section 2. Election Laws.

[22. CURRENT TEXT:]

Laws of the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin governing the conduct of elections to public office





shall be part of this Constitution. The organization shall work to change any laws that restrict the full exercise of grassroots democracy.

[22. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Laws of the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin governing the conduct of elections to public office shall be part of these Bylaws. The organization shall work to change any laws that restrict the full exercise of grassroots democracy.

Article 6. Platform

Section 1. Platform.

[23. CURRENT TEXT:]

The Members shall approve the organization's Platform at a Membership meeting.

[23. PROPOSED TEXT:]

The Members shall approve a Platform using a democratic, deliberative Platform process that encourages and facilitates discussion and debate among Greens at all levels within the state, as outlined in the Policies and Procedures. The Platform shall be approved at a Membership meeting.

[24. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 2. Candidate's Acceptance.

The adopted Key Values and Platform are binding upon any candidate for public office who runs as a candidate of or with the endorsement of the Wisconsin Green Party. Any such candidate must also be a Member in good standing of the organization.

[24. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 2. Candidate Endorsement

Candidates for public office may be endorsed by decision of the Wisconsin Green Party if the candidate has publicly stated acceptance of our adopted Key Values, Platform, and other adopted policies regarding endorsement, and is a Member in Good Standing. Any endorsement shall follow the organization's adopted Policies and Procedures. The Wisconsin Green Party shall make all efforts to involve local chapters and members in any endorsement decision affecting their district.

[25. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 3. Publicly Elected Officials.

Any elected official who has run for office as a candidate of or with the endorsement of the Wisconsin Green Party may be removed from Membership in the organization for votes or actions contrary to the adopted Key Values and Platform by consensus of the Members at a Membership meeting. Prior notice of such a proposed removal must be contained in the written notice sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

[25. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 3. Removal of Candidates and Elected Officials

Any elected official who has run for office as a candidate with the endorsement of the Wisconsin Green Party may be removed from Membership in the organization, and any endorsement of a candidate may be revoked, for gross misconduct or violation of the adopted Key Values, Platform or code of conduct adopted by the Party, by decision of the Membership or the Coordinating Council. Notice of such a proposed removal or revocation must be sent out prior to the meeting where it is proposed. The candidate or elected official in question shall receive a notice before the meeting at which the decision is to be made, and a hearing if requested.





Section 4. Endorsement.

Candidates for public office may be endorsed by the Wisconsin Green Party if the candidate has publicly stated acceptance of our adopted Key Values, Platform and other adopted policies regarding endorsement and is a Member of the organization in good standing. Any endorsement shall follow the organization's adopted endorsement policy.

[26. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 4. Candidates.

Candidates for public office may be endorsed by the Wisconsin Green Party if the candidate has publicly stated acceptance of our adopted Key Values, Platform and other adopted policies regarding endorsement and is a Member of the organization in good standing. Any endorsement shall follow the organization's adopted endorsement policy. The Wisconsin Green Party shall make all efforts to involve local chapters and members in any endorsement decision affecting their district. Any endorsement may be revoked, by decision of the Membership or the Coordinating Council, for gross misconduct or violation of the adopted Key Values or code of conduct adopted by the Party. The candidate in question shall receive a notice before the meeting at which the decision is to be made, and a hearing if requested.

[26. PROPOSED TEXT:]

[REMOVE, REPLACE WITH SECTIONS 2 AND 3]

Article 7. Discrimination.

[27. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 1.

Discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, religion, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, national origin, handicap, parenthood or color in the conduct of the affairs of the Wisconsin Green Party is prohibited.

[27. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 1. Conduct

Discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, religion, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic identity, national

origin, handicap, parenthood or color in the conduct of the affairs of the Wisconsin Green Party is prohibited.

[28. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 2.

Any Member of the Wisconsin Green Party who violates Article 7, Section 1, above, may be removed from Membership by the Membership at a Membership meeting by consensus. Prior notice of such a proposed removal must be contained in the written notice sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

[28. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 2. Removal.

Any Member of the Wisconsin Green Party who violates Article 7, Section 1, above, may be removed from Membership by decision of the Membership at a Membership meeting. Prior notice of such a proposed removal must be sent out prior to the meeting where the removal is to be proposed.

Section 3. Meetings.

No meetings of any body of the Wisconsin Green Party may be held in a facility which is owned or operated by a person or organization which violates Article 7, Section 1, above.

Article 8. Amendments

[29. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 1. Amendments.

This Constitution may be amended at any Membership meeting by consensus of the Members present.

[29. PROPOSED TEXT:]

These Bylaws may be amended at any Membership meeting by decision of the Members present.





[30. CURRENT TEXT:]

Section 2. Notice. Notice of any proposed amendment to this Constitution must be provided in writing to the Membership in the notice of the meeting required in Article 2, Section 4, above and in the two (2) newsletters published prior to the Membership meeting where the proposal is to be made. Revised November 12, 2006, Milwaukee, WI.

[30. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 2. Notice.

Notice of any proposed amendment to these Bylaws must be provided to the Membership, as specified in the Policies and Procedures, prior to the Membership meeting where the proposal is to be made.

[31. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Section 3. Revisions.

All prior versions are to be kept on file.

Revised November 12, 2006, Milwaukee, WI.

Revised April 14, 2018, location undetermined. [this information will be updated]

[32. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Article 9. Local Party Chapters.

Section 1. Definition

A Local Party Chapter is a group of Green Party members, affiliated with the Wisconsin Green Party, who form an organization within defined geographical boundaries to advance the purpose and mission of the Wisconsin Green Party.

Section 2. Requirements

To be affiliated, a Local Party Chapter must have at least three Wisconsin Green Party members, and submit to the Coordinating Council an affiliation application that lists: at least three (3) Wisconsin Green Party Members in Good Standing who wish to start the Local Party Chapter with their contact information; the dates, times and locations of regular public meetings; a summary of the organization's proposed activities, projects, and goals; and any other

information deemed appropriate by the Coordinating Council. Each Local Party Chapter must practice democratic decision-making, as outlined in Article 2, Section 7. All Members in Good Standing of the Wisconsin Green Party within the Local Party Chapter's defined boundaries are entitled to participate.

Section 3. Rights

Each chapter may develop its own platform and bylaws, run local electoral and issue campaigns, endorse local candidates, and choose its own officers, spokespersons, and representatives, as long as these actions are in accordance with these Bylaws and the Platform of the Wisconsin Green Party.

Section 4. Accreditation

Chapters shall apply for accreditation to the Coordinating Council for approval. If the Coordinating Council declines to approve the application, the decision can be appealed to the Membership. The Membership shall approve of a list of accredited local chapters at the Fall Gathering.

Section 5. Disaccreditation.

Chapters can be discredited by decision of the Coordinating Council. Discreditation actions can be appealed to the Coordinating Council or Membership. Chapters that are discredited may reapply in the future in accordance with these bylaws.

[33. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Article 10. Caucuses.

Section 1. Definition.

A caucus is an organization of individuals who share self-identified common experiences or characteristics. The purpose of caucuses is to give representation to groups who have been historically underrepresented, marginalized, and oppressed in order that individuals can better work together across the state to support struggles against the systemic injustice that exists in our society.

Section 2. Requirements

Caucuses must include a minimum of 5 Members in Good Standing of the Wisconsin Green Party, and hold at least





one meeting per year at which they elect one (1) Member in Good Standing as a contact person. This person may be different than the Coordinating Council representative elected at the Fall Gathering.

Section 3. Accreditation

Caucuses shall apply for accreditation to the Coordinating Council for approval. If the Coordinating Council declines to approve the application, the decision can be appealed to the Membership. Accreditation lasts for a period of one year, after which time, the Caucus must re-apply for accreditation.

[34. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Article 11. Committees.

Section 1. Definition.

The Coordinating Council shall designate standing Committees to carry out the operations of the Wisconsin Green Party. Each Committee shall be empowered to carry out its duties as defined by the Wisconsin Green Party's policies and procedures, under the oversight of the Coordinating Council. Each member of the Coordinating Council must serve on at least one Committee. Any Member in Good Standing may serve on any Committee, subject to approval by the Coordinating Council. The Coordinating Council may also designate time-limited Teams or Ad-Hoc Committees to plan and execute specific projects or address specific issues of the day.

Section 2. Chair.

Each Committee shall have a Chair or Co-Chairs, who shall oversee regular meetings and make regular reports to the Coordinating Council. A Committee Chair or Co-Chair shall serve for a one year term, except in cases of time-limited or Ad-Hoc Teams and Committees. The Committee Chair(s) shall be decided on by the the members of the Committee. If the members can not elect a Chair, the Coordinating Council will appoint a Chair. The Chair may be replaced by the decision of the Coordinating Council in cases where the Chair is not performing their duties.

Section 3. Policies and Procedures.

Committees will approve Policies and Procedures pertaining to their function and duties at their initial meeting to submit to the Coordinating Council for approval. Policies and Procedures must be reviewed each year after a new Chair is elected or appointed. Policies and Procedures will be kept on file.



[35. PROPOSED TEXT:]

Article 12. Congressional District Representatives

Section 1. Definition.

A Congressional District is one of eight geographical locations within the state of Wisconsin used during elections. The purpose of a Congressional District Representative is to give representation to the members of the Wisconsin Green Party that live within that district to the Coordinating Council and to act as a liaison regarding elections, government actions, and issues.

Section 2. Representatives

Congressional District Representatives must be Members in Good Standing of the Wisconsin Green Party and hold at least one meeting per year for the Members within that District, at which they elect one (1) Member in Good Standing to act as their Representative. Congressional District Representatives serve a one (1) year term.

[36. CURRENT STRUCTURE:]

Preamble

Article 1: Name and Membership

Article 2: Membership Meetings

Article 3: Coordinating Council

Article 4: Officers

Article 5: Subordination to Existing Constitutions and Laws Section

Article 6: Platform

- Article 7: Discrimination
- Article 8: Amendments
- Article 9: Local Party Chapters
- Article 10: Caucuses
- Article 11: Committees
- Article 12: Congressional District Representatives

[36. PROPOSED STRUCTURE:]

Bylaws Structure:

Preamble

- Article 1: Name and Membership
- Article 2: Meetings
- Article 3: Coordinating Council
- Article 4: Officers
- Article 5: Congressional District Representatives
- Article 6: Local Party Chapters
- Article 7: Caucuses
- Article 8: Committees
- Article 9: Platform
- Article 10: Discrimination
- Article 11: Subordination to Existing Constitutions and Laws Section
- Article 12: Amendments

This is a public document.

