**Proposed Draft Agenda**

**Meeting of Green Party of New York County**

**Thursday, October 15, 2020, 7 – 8:30pm**

**Via Zoom Videoconference Call**

**Introductions**

Chris Archer

Jim McCabe

Gil Obler

Jack Baldwin

Sue Peters

Ivanna ?

Eleanor ?

**Selection of Facilitator, Timekeeper, Notetaker**

Facilitator – Chris Archer

Timekeeper – Jack Baldwin

Notetaker – Sue Peters

No objections to above.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to adopt agenda agreed.

**Adoption of Minutes**

**1. County Officer Reports – 10 minutes**

a. Chair(Chris Archer)

 Chris wants to acknowledge people who volunteered for work lately: Jack, Claudia, Warren on Call Hub; Jack, Warren, Tom Syracuse, Ivanna to literature outreach.

 Less than 3 weeks left until election day. Need all to promote the candidacy. The point is

the ticket needs 170,000 votes in NY State, or we lose our ballot access. We are all veteran

Greens. We beat the system last time at their rules and now they’ve changed the rules. It’s

not our fault, but we have to beat the system again. Do everything you can these next

two and a half weeks.

 People don’t have to vote for Biden because he is way ahead in this state.

Jim: It is doable. Let’s try as hard as we can to avoid losing our ballot access.

b. Secretary(Claudia Flanagan)

 No report. Claudia could not attend.

c. Treasurer(Jim McCabe)

 Two expenses this past month: 1) reimburse Jim 1/3 cost of printing Hawkins palm cards. 2) our share to State Party to help with Hawkins postcard mailing.

 Gil: Just to know that Bronx Greens has Hawkins literature if people run out. The message is that it is safe to vote for Howie in NY State in order to send a message to Cuomo and Biden.

**2. Campaigning for Hawkins/Walker(Chris Archer/Jim McCabe)- 20 minutes**

* Literature distribution

 Chris: has sent out Hawkins talking points to county listserve. His focus is the ballot access.

 Gil: Bronx has 5,000 cards, so if you run out, Bronx will make some of them available.

Jim: was upstate supporting Barbara Kidney candidate, and spoke to people around. I approached people and asked them if they had made up their minds who they were voting for. Or sometimes I just asked if they were voting in the upcoming election. I said I was with the Green Party and we were running Hawkins and Walker, who are to the left of Biden who are up in the polls by 30 points. And followed that immediately that in order for the Green Party to maintain its ballot line in New York we need 200,000 votes. Some took the literature and I saw them reading it so I think this is an approach. We need some of those independent voters, so I think that is something that should be persuasive to a lot of people.

 Jim: I also have a text-heavy handout from Tim with Mark Dunlea’s talking points.

* Upcoming events in NYC

Jim: Sat Oct 17 at 2pm there is an event. Mass march to defund the NYPD, tax the rich, and stop the layoffs. Meeting at Washington Square Park, West 4th and MacDougal St. Bronx Greens are not endorsing but will be there. It’s a DSA event. Deborah Rosario and Paul Gilman are organizing a Green contingent. Jack: I’m planning on going.

* Phone banking

 Chris: is anyone having trouble with text or phone banking with Call Hub?

Jack: the reception on the other end is bad but that might be my phone. I find it hard because they are so few calls where people pick up. All you get in voice mail. On all the calls I’ve made I’ve only found one person who is going to volunteer for Howie.

Warren: I find it strange I get a lot of out-of-state phone numbers. I called Call Hub in India if they could sort their database. They said no. I decided to do literature instead.

 Gill: with cell phones, the phones can be anywhere and they can still be New Yorkers.

* NY Volunteer Team Calls

 Chris: every two weeks Sandy Presylac. has been doing team calls.

Jim: next call Mon Oct 19. Just go onto Hawkins us website, go onto the volunteer and phone bank. Really easy. Watch introductory video on website. Please try to sign up.

Chris: We’ve talked about the wide margin Biden has over Trump in NY State. We’ve talked about why it makes sense to not vote for Biden but vote for the Green Party to keep our ballot line.

Eleanor: Do you think we really have a chance?

Chris: Nobody knows. Let’s get out there and do what we can.

Warren: wants to thank Chris for distributing a lot of the literature.

 **3. Green Party of New York’s fight to retain its ballot access(Jim McCabe) – 10 minutes**

Jim: In September the judge ruled against the case brought by the Working Families Party and the SAM (Serve America Movement) Party. The Green Party has a similar law suit in the same Southern District of New York, but may not be the same judge. The restrictions are extreme, like the tripling of signatures, etc. NY State has the most restrictive ballot access rule3s in the country, for any third party. We joined with Libertarians because they usually run their own independent candidates instead of endorsing Democrats or Republicans. Libertarians gained ballot access in 2018. This ballot access change was snuck in by Cuomo last minute in March as last hour budget amendment. Democrats connected it to new Campaign Finance Law and the expense of that, so legislature passed it.

 **4. Reportback from September 26 State Committee Meeting(Jim McCabe) - 10 minutes**

Jim: new elected state committee were seated. One woman vacancy since. Jim moving out of county later this month, so now man seat vacant too.

Gloria Mattera and Peter Lavenia elected as co-chairs.

Michael O’Neal was elected secretary.

Adrienne Craig-Oneill continues as treasurer.

Four returning executive committee members were re-elected, along with CJ Chatman.

Nine national committee members were elected, along with alternate.

Elected voting members for seven standing committees. Greens from NY County are on many of those committees.

Howie made opening remarks. There was a long discussion of strategy to keep ballot line.

Gill: I’m excited to be a delegate to the national committee, since the committee has 6 women and 3 men and that’s unique in the country.

 **5. Building the Green Party of NY County & Engagement with State Party(Chris Archer/Jim McCabe)-15 minutes**

* **NY County infrastructure building**

Chris: we needs more hands for party work over specific issues. Adrienne has moved out of country and Jim will in a month. We need a new Treasury therefore. In 2021 there will be new elections for chair, treasurer, secretary of county. Think about this and know you are not legally liable in these positions.

Jim: I am happy to help the new treasurer or secretary. Both are simple positions. For example, treasurer has little bank activity.

Eleanor: I have had experience as treasurer but I need to work from home. Jim: Lower East Side People’s Credit Union is our bank and you need a smart phone to deposit checks and I don’t believe you have one. I can deposit checks if needed and will investigate if one can deposit using a personal computer.

Gil: glad to support in any way but right now I’m fighting to keep my apartment in NY county and don’t know if I can.

**6. Open Information Sharing/Announcements (All)- 10 minutes**

Warren confirmed with Eleanor that he is meeting at her apartment on this Saturday to leaflet.

Evanna: she is having problem with content of palm card with word ‘socialism’ which she finds turns off people who equate with communism. Eleanor agrees. Jim: campaign provided content, both candidates are socialists, party supports eco-socialism. Jack: I’ve never found it a problem. Gil: our candidates were debated in our primaries and not time to second guess strategy. Chris: I’ve been a member of Green Party for 10-11 years and campaign literature is always an issue. Late to approach campaign about this. Stay on the goal of keeping our ballot line.

**7. Select Next Meeting Date**

**Wed Nov 18 at 7:30 pm on zoom.**

**8.7. Adjourn**

8:35pm Thursday 2020-10-15