

ARTICLE I: PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The purpose of the Green Party of Kern County (GPCA-KC) is to further the Ten Key Values and Platform of the Green Party of California (GPCA) through political and social action within our cities, county, state, country, and global communities:

Ecological Wisdom
Grassroots Democracy
Social Justice
Nonviolence
Decentralization
Community-Based Economics
Post-Patriarchal Values
Respect for Diversity
Personal & Global Responsibility
Sustainable Future Focus

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Registered Membership

The GPCA-KC shall include all Kern County residents who are registered Green voters. Any registered Green Voter has immediate voting powers at any GPCA-KC General meeting they attend.

ALL GPCA-KC County Council Members, Officers, and Delegates must be Kern County residents who are registered Green voters.

ONLY Kern County Registered Green Voter can vote during the election or decision making process for ALL GPCA-KC County Council Members, Officers, Delegates, and Bylaws.

Section 2: Associate Membership

The GPCA-KC Open Door Policy permits non registered Green Voters to participate as Associate Members so long as they;

A.) Attend at least three (3) General meetings, or Authorized committee meetings within one (1) calendar years, or five (5) such meetings within two (2) calendar years,

B.) Sign a membership applications affirming their commitment to the Ten Key Values and Platform of the Green Party of California (GPCA),

C.) Be Approved by at least 66% of ALL Kern County Council Members.

Section 3: Associate Membership Revoked

Any Associate Membership can be revoked for failure to adhere to the Ten Key Values and/or Platform of the Green Party of California (GPCA), by at least a 66% vote of ALL Kern County Council Members.

ARTICLE III: COUNTY COUNCIL

Section 1: Purpose

1.01 The GPCA-KC County Council (Council) shall:

- A. Assist the GPCA-KC in realizing its purpose;
- B. Inform the GPCA-KC in a timely manner of state, regional and local Green Party developments and endeavors;
- C. Act as liaison between the GPCA-KC and the community, including the media;
- D. Call and attend general meetings of the GPCA-KC;
- E. Establish agendas for general meetings of the GPCA-KC;
- F. Hold open Council meetings, as announced at general meetings;
- G. Report the content and decisions of Council meetings at general meetings;
- H. Facilitate education, communication, action, and Green Party voter registration;
- I. Call for and establish working groups as needed;
- J. Manage the general business and office of the GPCA-KC, subject to approval by the membership.

1.02 The GPCA-KC County Council under the GPCA and California Election Code:

The Council shall fill the role served by the County Central Committees pursuant to the Bylaws of the Green Party of California (GPCA), and current California Election Code.

Section 2: Membership

2.01 Number of Council Members

The Council shall be composed of at least three (3) Council Members at all times, pursuant to GPCA Bylaws and CA State Law. The number of Council Members shall increase every even year primary election by at least one (1) Council Member for every 300 Registered Green within Kern County until a maximum of seven (7) Council

Members is reached. The total number of Council Members can be increased at a faster rate if there are enough individuals willing to serve as Council Members prior to reaching the previous quota of registered Green Party voters within Kern County.

2.02 Method of Electing Council Members

Membership in the Council shall be by election through state primary balloting held in even-numbered years.

2.03 Method of Appointing Temporary Council Members

A. When necessary, either during formation or to fill a vacancy a Temporary Council Member maybe appointment by the remaining GPCA-KC Council Members for six months.

A2. If no Council Members are left, then the GPCA Coordinating Committee (GPCA-CC), may then appointment temporary Council Members for six months.

B. Temporary Council Members appointed for a six month term, must then be voted on by Consensus of the general membership, for the remainder, until the next primary balloting held in even-number years.

C. ONLY If the even-number year primary balloting falls within the initial six month term, then the temporary Council Member does not need to run until the next primary balloting held in the even-number years.

C1. The only exception is, if their is enough Council Member candidates to fill all possible Council Seat, which is a maximum of seven (7). Then the Primary Balloting takes priority.

2.04 Gender Balance

A gender-balanced Council shall be encouraged. In the event of imbalance, the Council shall call for a decision of the GPCA-KC to resolve it.

2.05 Progressive Community Issue Base Balance

The GPCA-KC wants to encourage a balance of Council Members who represent the many different Progressive Community Issues and Groups. Some of these Issues and Groups will include but not exclusively area like the Campus Greens, Lavender Greens, Disabled Caucus, and other local Kern County Progressive organizations whom are in agreement with the Ten Key Values and Platform of the GPCA and GPCA-KC.

2.06 Terms

Members will serve until the first Council meeting following the next primary election. Members may serve any number of consecutive two-year terms.

2.07 Alternates

A Council member may appoint an alternate in her/his absence. Alternates shall have full consensus and voting rights only with the written authorization of their appointing Council member. An alternate member shall be subject to the rules of the Council.

2.08 Resignation

A Council member automatically resigns if they:

- A. Move out of Kern County;
- B. Is no longer a registered Green; or
- C. Misses three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, without appointing an alternate.

2.09 Recall

The following steps are necessary to recall a Council member:

- A. Three GPCA-KC members must present a written statement to the Council member specifying exactly how they failed to act in accordance with the 10 key values or these bylaws. The statement must be presented at a Council meeting.
- B. At the next GPCA-KC general meeting, the Council shall call for and establish a mediation panel, composed of GPCA-KC members who are not involved in the particular controversy.
- C. Within fourteen days, both parties to the dispute will meet with the mediation panel. If no resolution is reached at that meeting, the panel will recommend a resolution within five days.
- D. If either party is dissatisfied with the recommendation, the Council shall allot equal times for the two positions at the next general meeting. If that meeting results in a consensus (or 80% fallback vote) in favor of recall, the Council member is removed from office.

2.10 Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs on the Council, the following procedures shall be followed:

- A. The vacancy shall be announced at the next general meeting.

B. At the following general meeting, the membership shall attempt to reach consensus on the position.

C. If consensus cannot be reached, a vote by written ballot shall be taken. The person receiving a plurality of votes will be elected to the position.

Section 3: Officers

3.01 CO-CO-Chairperson Team

A. The CO-Chairperson must of been Registered Green for at least one (1) year prior to taking office.

B. The Council shall select two of its members as a gender-balanced CO-Chairperson Team. The Council will promptly notify the County Clerk of the names, addresses and phone numbers of the team.

C. The team, along with the Treasurer, will act as sole liaisons between the GPCA-KC and the Secretary of State, the County Clerks, and the Green Party of California (GPCA) Coordinating Committee. The team will promptly forward all decisions and communications made under these bylaws.

D. Either CO-Chairpersons, or the Treasurer, will sign all checks drawn of the GPCA-KC account.

3.02 Treasurer

A. The Treasure must of been Registered Green for at least one (1) year prior to taking office.

B. The Council shall select a treasurer from among the GPCA-KC membership.

C. Each month, the Treasurer shall:

C1. Provide the Council with written reports of all transactions during the preceding month; and

C2. File all required reports with the Treasurer of the GPCA.

C. The Treasurer shall be responsible for fulfilling all the requirements of the Political Reform Act and the FPPC.

D. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping accurate records of all funds at the Council's disposal. These records will be made available in a timely fashion to GPCA-KC members for examination, upon request.

3.03 Secretary

A. The Council shall select from its members a Secretary.

B. The Secretary shall take written minutes of all Council meetings. Minutes of all regularly scheduled Council meetings shall be made available to Council members by the following general GPCA-KC meeting. Minutes of all specially scheduled Council meetings shall be made available to Council members by the following Council meeting.

C. The Secretary will act as conduit for all reports to the Council.

3.04 Council Members at Large

All other Council Members shall be considered Members at Large, and may serve unlimited consecutive two-year terms.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: Council

1.01 In General

The Council shall hold regular monthly meetings, as announced at general membership meetings, and additional meetings whenever necessary.

1.02 Participation

Council meetings shall be open to observation and participation of all GPCA-KC members, except that only Council members shall have full consensus and voting powers.

Section 2: General Membership

2.01 In General

The GPCA-KC shall hold regular monthly general meetings. The Council may call additional meetings whenever necessary, as long as reasonable notice is given to all current GPCA-KC members who have attended at least one general meeting. (Reasonable notice may include messages left via phone tree at least three days before the meeting.)

2.02 Participation

Meetings shall be open to the public, and public participation shall be encouraged, except that only GPCA-KC members shall have full consensus and voting powers. The Council shall maintain a sign-up list for meeting attendance.

2.03 Roles

At the beginning of each meeting, the Council shall appoint a Facilitator, Note-Taker, Timekeeper, Vibes-Watcher, and, if necessary, a Scribe. The Council is encouraged to rotate these roles among the general membership.

Section 3: Decision-making

3.01 Decision makers

All GPCA-KC members shall have power to make decisions at general meetings.

3.02 Process

A. Decision-making shall be by consensus, as reached within an established time frame. Time frames may be amended as necessary.

B. The following procedures shall be used to achieve consensus:

B1. Presenter(s) explains the proposal.

B2. Facilitator calls for clarifying questions; presenter(s) respond.

B3. Facilitator calls for concerns (listed by the Scribe) and friendly amendments; presenter(s) may accept or reject amendments.

B4. Facilitator calls for unresolved concerns. If none, consensus is achieved.

B5. If unresolved concern(s), facilitator asks if they'll stand aside. If so, the Note-Taker records the concern, and consensus is achieved.

C. If consensus cannot be reached within the established/amended time frame, decisions may be made by vote:

C1. An 80% vote decides policy issues.

C2. A 2/3 vote decides general business.

C3. If it is unclear as to whether an issue is one of policy or business, the 80% rule shall apply.

ARTICLE V: DELEGATE SELECTION TO GREEN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 1: Team Delegation

The GPCA-KC County Council shall accept any volunteer from Reregister Kern County Green Voters who wants to attend the GPCA General Assembly (Plenary) meeting as an Alternate. From the List of submitted Alternates, those who wish to be possibly selected as the primary Delegate needs to notify the GPCA-KC County Council of their interest in writing. At the GPCA-KC General Meeting prior to the next GPCA General Meeting (Plenary) an election will be held of those Alternates whom expressed an interest in being the Primary Delegate. If more then two possible alternates expressed an interest in being the delegate, then the two alternates who got the greatest percentage of votes will have a run off, and the one receiving more then 50% of the voting members will be selected as the Delegate.

IF no Kern County Registered Green Voter Expressed an interest in being the Delegate, then the GPCA-KC County Council Members, shall select a delegate from among the GPCA-KC Council Members to be the Delegate.

The GPCA-KC shall send a team of members to statewide meetings of the GPCA. Before each GPCA General Assembly (Plenary) meeting, the Council shall provide the GPCA Coordinating Committee and the state Hosting Committee with the names of the Delegate, and the team of Alternate members representing GPCA-KC. If a vote needs to be taken at the statewide meeting, the team of Alternates will caucus to decide how to use the allotted votes, and the Delegate will vote accordingly.

Section 2: Orientation

The Council shall see to it that all delegate, and alternates team members receive an orientation regarding GPCA meetings, structure, process and bylaws. Attendance at an orientation is a prerequisite to membership on the delegate team.

ARTICLE VI: LOCALS

In the event that there is a desire to organize multiple local groups within the GPCA-KC, the applicable group of Registered Greens will define their territory and establish a policy on the rights, responsibilities, and functional relationship of the local group to the GPCA-KC, and the County Council for approval.

Section 1: Definition

1.01 Locals are defined as active affiliations of individuals in Kern County organized to promote Green values.

1.02 A member of a Local shall be defined by Article II of the GPCA-KC Bylaws.

1.03 Locals are defined different from informal Clubs, and Work Groups which maybe sponsored by the GPCA-KC, but are not considered Locals.

Section 2. Duties and Authority

2.01 Only Locals officially recognized by the GPCA-KC County Council by a 66% vote or higher may claim Green Party affiliation.

2.02 Officially recognized Locals shall designate representation to the GPCA-KC General Meetings.

Section 3. Recognition

3.01 An active Local should have at least three members and have, at a minimum, regular quarterly meetings.

3.02 Locals shall be required to send a representative to a GPCA-KC General Meeting at least semi-annually to maintain officially recognized status.

Section 4. Locals Revoked

2.01 Locals may officially be revoked by the GPCA-KC County Council by a 66% vote or higher.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any time, through the following process:

- A. Proposals for amendment must be addressed at a general membership meeting.
- B. Using the GPCA-KC decision-making process, the members will determine whether amendment is necessary, and, if possible, the general approach to be taken.
- C. If amendment is necessary, a Bylaws Working Group shall draft a proposed amendment, following the general approach determined at the membership meeting.
- D. The amendment may be adopted at the following general meeting, either by consensus or, if necessary, an 80% majority vote.

ARTICLE VIII: BYLAWS MUST ADHERE TO

The GPCA-KC County Bylaws must always adhere to GPCA Bylaws and California Election Code. The GPCA-KC Council shall upon notification of a conflict, amend these Bylaws within 90 days, so as to be in adherence to the Bylaws of the Green Party of California (GPCA), and current California Election Code once officially notified of the existing conflicting section.