

Proposal for vote at the Green Party of Colorado Annual meeting on August 12, 2017.

This is Proposal ___-17: Clarify and Modify Forum Procedures

Per Section 4.3 of the GPCO Bylaws: All decisions concerning policy, finance, and objectives shall require consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting and/or the Council. The Green Party of Colorado may adopt a party Platform by consensus or a vote of at least 60% of the membership present at a state meeting.

Per Section 4.1.1. of the GPCO Bylaws: In order for official decisions to be made at a state meeting, a quorum of at least 60% of local chapters must be represented, with a minimum number of voting participants (registered in the Green Party of Colorado) equal to twice the number of local chapters represented.

Per Section 3.2.5 of the GPCO Procedures and Guidelines: Proposals brought to the agenda of a state meeting must be made by local chapters or a minimum of 5 individuals at large, by the Council, or by any Officer of the GPCO. A written statement of the proposal must be sent to the Council by a representative of the sponsoring local, or by a member at large accompanied by evidence of at least 4 other member's endorsements. The statement and evidence may be done by email or on paper.

Per Section 4.2.4. of the GPCO Bylaws: All decisions of the Council are subject to review at the next state meeting and may be overturned by a 60% vote.

There are currently 11 active voting chapters in the Green Party of Colorado. Adoption of this proposal requires an AGREE of at least 60% of all votes cast and also requires a minimum quorum of at least one response from seven (7) chapters.

Active Chapters
Adams County
Arapahoe County
Denver
Douglas County
Greater Boulder
Pikes Peak
Poudre Valley
Mesa
San Miguel
Longmont
Ouray

Passage of this proposal will be sought via a vote of 60% of the members present at the GPCO State Meeting on August 12, 2017.

1. Basic Info:

Date proposed: August 5, 2017

Names of the sponsors: Kevin Alumbaugh, Susan Hall, Tom Hall, Michael Haughey, Scott Lupo, Gary Swing

2. Title: Clarify and Modify Forum Procedures

3. Text of the actual proposal:

Change Procedures and Guidelines 3.5.2. The Council will operate via email on a listserv or by other electronic means as needed between state meetings, and plan to meet shortly before and after state meetings.

To:

3.5.2. The Council will operate via email on a listserv, **on the forum**, or by other electronic means as needed between state meetings, and plan to meet shortly before and after state meetings. Agreement-seeking as outlined in Appendix A shall be used. Proposals shall first be placed on the proposal drafting page for discussion and development of the proposal concept. After development and consensus that the wording and concept are reasonably developed, it shall be moved to the agreement seeking page without concern over whether there is consensus during the proposal drafting phase. A "Block", or "Blocking Concern" shall not stop agreement seeking, but rather indicate that consensus is not achieved as the proposal is currently worded. Discussion shall continue with the goal of achieving consensus, or the proposal shall be sent to a committee for further development with the goal of achieving consensus. After exhausting the prior, it appears that consensus cannot be achieved, the proposal may be tabled or put to a vote on the voting page. Votes shall not be taken on the agreement seeking page or the proposal drafting page.

4. Background: Proposals have been posted on the agreement seeking page without any general membership or council input or discussion as a take-it-or-leave-it proposal. These proposals have been treated as property of the proposer without any dissent being allowed. Proposals have been moved to the voting page immediately upon a block in violation of the GPCO Procedures and Guidelines.

5. Justification/Goals:

The current voting practice has left almost all GPCO members and council members out of the process of developing policy. The ten key values of Grass Roots Democracy and Decentralization are better served by inclusion of all members who are willing to participate. Proposals are also rushed to voting that do not have the benefit of additional eyes and experiences to improve the wording and the concepts. Rushing proposals through council also prevents busy individuals from being able to participate.

6. Pros and Cons: The GPCO will become more grass roots, democratic, and representative of the values of the membership with the adoption of this proposal.

7. Alternatives to the proposal: Take no action.

8. References:

Green Party of Colorado Bylaws:

<http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/bylaws/>

[<http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/bylaws/>].

Green Party of Colorado Procedures and Guidelines:

<http://coloradogreenparty.org/about/procedures-guidelines/>

The Four Pillars of the Green Party of the United States: <http://www.gp.org/>