

GPPC CONDUCT

This is a statement and a call to action to the GPPC Steering Committee

“We must consciously confront in ourselves...barriers...which act to deny fair treatment and equal (access) to democracy.” (GPUS Platform)

I. Opening Statement

The Green Party of Pima County (GPPC) believes in the egalitarian values of Consensus, Democracy, and the Toleration of Dissent. We acknowledge past inability to facilitate non-violent meetings which are counter to the GPPC Mission and to GP values. The GPPC Steering Committee (SC) will create and implement process changes which will address these issues.

II. Values: Consensus/Democracy/Toleration of Dissent

In order for the GPPC to attract voters and new Greens we practice what we preach, specifically, Consensus, Democracy, and the Toleration of Dissent. Most importantly we affirm our Green Party Value of non-violence to promote peaceful solutions to concerns.

As a consensus-based organization we build Trust, Respect, Unity of Purpose, Non-violence, Self-empowerment, and Co-operation. Without these we cannot practice Democracy.

We fervently wish that, individually and collectively, we look at ourselves and the barriers we put in place which prevent us, individually and as the GPPC, from “promoting peaceful solutions to disputes” and “developing respectful relationships.”

III. What we do not tolerate

The Green Party of Pima County does not tolerate or endorse any use of violent behaviors in meetings that may result in the alienation of GP members, prospective members, or others.

Violent behaviors include, but are not limited to, cynicism, muttering under one's breath, talking over someone, making snide comments, using passive-aggressive language, verbal aggression, intimidation, belittling, or bullying.

These behaviors are unproductive and counter to the GPPC Mission.

We understand that expressing one's emotions is legitimate. However, abusive language and other behaviors which prevent a person present at a Green Party event from expressing their democratic rights will not be tolerated.

IV. Trusted Servants

Anyone attending any GPPC committee meeting is a trusted servant of the GPPC, especially all persons elected to positions (Steering Committee, County Committee/Precinct Committee Persons) and committee coordinators. Attending GPPC meetings assumes a trust by the membership, and committee participants must not violate the trust invested in them. Members are expected to not only tolerate dissent, but be mindful of fostering a climate in which disagreement is encouraged and welcomed as part of a healthy collective process.

V. Apology

Through our collective silence, non-confrontational behavior and failure to function in the role

of vibes keeping, members of the Steering Committee have enabled inappropriate actions in GPPC meetings. We were wrong in our silence and apologize to those who have been hurt.

VI. Solution

We want our actions and personal responsibility as Green Party members to reflect promotion of the GPPC mission in order to energize our members and grow the party.

To maintain Green Values in the meetings the principles and role of vibes keeper will be vigorously supported. Additionally the Steering Committee will appoint an ad-hoc committee to create process recommendations for facilitation of meetings. These recommendations will reinforce GPPC by-laws. Specifically, as stated in our Statement of Purpose, the GPPC “shall seek consensus in its own decision making processes...and respect the input and concerns of all Greens in Pima County.” The ad-hoc committee will also include processes for Censoring and Expulsion from meetings.

Adopted by the GPPC-SC, July, 2014