



PROGRESSIVE DANE

Rebuilding politics from the grassroots up

Forward!

Progressive Dane is affiliated with the Independent Progressive Politics Network.

P.O. Box 1222, Madison, WI 53701 | 608/257-4985 | office@prodane.org | www.prodane.org

Vol. X, No. 9 October 2002

# Mayor endorsement set for October GMM

By MICHAEL JACOB

In order to be visibly involved in this coming Spring's Madison Mayoral election, PD has decide to make its endorsement decision at the October General Membership Meeting (GMM), Wednesday, October 23 at the Madison Pubic Library.

By the time you get this newsletter the Elections Committee will have interviewed at least five candidates and made a recommendation for endorsement that will be voted on at the GMM.

As of press time, Sue Bauman, Dave Cieslewicz, Jim Schwall, Paul Soglin, and Bert Zipperer had accepted our invitation to seek our endorsement. Ray Allen and Eugene Parks were also invited.

The importance of who sits in the Mayor's Office cannot be overstated. The vision and activism of Madison's Mayor profoundly

influences housing, land use, open government, drug, health, human services, and many other policies -- not to mention how well our streets are plowed, how timely our garbage is picked up, and the state of our roads, bike paths, police and fire services.

The race for Mayor in 2003 is heating up and PD is eager to make its mark by lending our volunteers, our political resources, and our good name to a candidate (or perhaps more than one) whom we feel can lead Madison down a progressive path.

In order to pass, a recommendation for endorsement requires a 2/3 majority vote from the PD members attending the GMM. Here's your chance to shape the direction of our city. Watch the pddiscuss e-mail list for updates on the Elections Committee recommendation and show up on the 23rd to vote!

## PROGRESSIVE DANE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Saturday, November 16, 7-10 p.m.

MUSIC BY YID VICIOUS ✦ HORS D'OEUVRES  
CASH BAR ✦ HISTORY ✦ GOOD COMPANY  
BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS—KIDS TOO!

Madison Senior Center,  
330 W. Mifflin St.  
(Parking at the Civic Center Ramp,  
entrances on W. Mifflin and  
W. Dayton streets)

Donations are appreciated.



This event is part of "Community Power 2002: International Conference on Local Democracy."

### THERE ARE NEARLY 10 WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

- \* Come to the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary mailing party! Thursday, October 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m., PD office, 200 N. Blount St.
- \* Be a sponsor, for \$25 or \$50. Contact Beth Harper, 238-8147, harper@danenet.wicp.org, by Sunday, October 27.
- \* Place a greeting in our program. Rates vary. Contact Carol Weidel, Carolaweidel@aol.com by Sunday, October 27.
- \* Bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres. Contact Megan David, 236-1398, perza@aol.com.
- \* Help with set-up and decorating. Contact Ginny Bormann, 263-4352.
- \* Greet people at the event, or help with cleanup. Contact Mary Anglim, 249-0031, MTAnglim@aol.com.
- \* Come to the party, and bring family and friends!

**PD is a member of the Madison-Area Peace Coalition.**

Visit [www.madpeace.org](http://www.madpeace.org) to...

- Read suggestions for actions to take to oppose a war against Iraq
- Learn about the civil liberties resolution that PD has endorsed

**Forward!**

October 2002 • Volume X, No. 9

*Forward* is the local chapter newsletter of the New Progressive Party in Dane County, Wisconsin.

*Progressive Dane* is a democratic, membership-run organization with the following committee structure: (all meetings are held at the PD office, 200 N. Blount St., unless otherwise noted.)

**Steering Committee** coordinates major activities, oversees the progress of other committees, and sets the agenda for the general membership meetings. Meetings are open to all PD members.

**Co-chair:** Stephanie Rearick (255-1092)

**Co-chair:** Brenda Konkel (251-2412)

**Next meeting:** Wed., Nov. 6, 7-9 p.m.

**Diversity Committee**

**Contacts:** Carrie Bormann or Ginny Bormann

**Elections Committee**

**Chair:** Michael Jacob (245-0894)

**Fundraising Committee**

**Chair:** Richard-Marie Commander (251-7424)

**Leadership Development Committee**

**Chair:** Kathy Schroeder (242-8368)

**Newsletter Consortium**

**Contact:** Chris Babiarz (257-3288)

**Outreach Committee**

**Contact:** PD office (257-4985)

**Policy Committee**

**Chair:** Ron Richardson (256-7144)

**Citizen Initiative Task Force**

**Contact:** Morgan Sharpe (259-2594)

**Clean Government Task Force**

**Chair:** Michael Jacob (245-0894)

**Drug Policy Task Force**

**Chair:** Stephanie Rearick (255-1092)

**Environmental Task Force**

**Chair:** Phyllis Hasbrouck (223-9571)

**Housing Task Force**

**Chair:** Joe Lindstrom, 345-6026

**Next meeting:** Mon., Oct. 28, 7:30-9 p.m.

**Smart Growth Task Force**

**Chair:** Sheila Guilfoyle (244-7534)

**Local Democracy Working Group**

**Contact:** Patrick Barrett (262-0854)

**Next Meeting:** Tues., Oct. 29, 7:30-9 p.m.

# Steering Committee Elections in October

BY MARY ANGLIM

At the October General Membership Meeting (GMM), PD will elect a new Steering Committee (SC) for a one-year term. You can nominate yourself or someone else to serve on the PD SC at the October 23rd meeting. The following people were nominated at the September GMM:

Mary Anglim + David Austin + Adam Benedetto

Brian Benford + Yogesh Chawla

Richard-Marie Commander + Megan David

Sheila Guilfoyle + Megin Hicks + Michael Jacob

Dean Loumos + Brenda Konkel

Stephanie Rearick + Ron Richardson + Tom Running

The SC plans, facilitates, and carries out the directives of the GMM. It also maintains communication and fosters cooperation among various PD committees and task forces, and watches out for the organization as a whole. The SC has a membership of ten (at least five must be women), and meets the second Wednesday of each month. SC duties amount to at least ten hours a month. Two co-chairs will be selected by the new SC to act as the day-to-day spokespersons and problem-solvers for the organization.

In addition to nominees who were named at the September meeting, nominations will be accepted at the October meeting. All candidates will have one minute to tell the members why they should be elected. Candidates who are not able to attend the meeting can send a written statement, but candidates who neither attend in person nor send a written statement will not be considered.

## Campaign school

*Experienced PD activists offer candidate and campaign training for members*

October 21, 6-9 p.m., PD office  
People Person Special:  
volunteer coordinating,  
organizing a lit drop, bulk  
mailing

November 18, 6-9 p.m., PD office  
Message Special: So you  
are thinking about being a  
candidate (why run, what  
to expect, how to file  
papers), message/issues  
development, campaign  
literature design

Progressive Dane Office: 257-4985 | Web Site: <http://www.prodane.org/>

**Submit articles, meeting times and announcements for the November newsletter to Chris Babiarz (257-3288 or [babiarz@cae.wisc.edu](mailto:babiarz@cae.wisc.edu)) by Noon, Tues., Nov. 9.**

**Production and Circulation Consortium:** Lynn Alten, Erik Breilid, Chris Babiarz, Richard-Marie Commander, Sheila Guilfoyle, Jason Haas, Beth Harper, Nate McQuillen, Tona Williams.

**This month's contributors:** Mary Anglim, David Austin, Patrick Barrett, Shelley Fite, Beth Harper, Michael Jacob.



**Progressive Dane  
P.O. Box 1222  
Madison, WI 53701**

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# Proposed amendments to PD bylaws

*To be voted on at the October  
General Membership Meeting*

## Constitution & Bylaws of Progressive Dane

### Preamble

We, the members of Progressive Dane County, join together to build a third party and political force in Dane County to counter the politics of the two dominant political parties. Not satisfied with the conservative drift of established politics most evident in the social and economic assault on those least able to defend themselves, we come together to forge an active and truly democratic political body that will transform politics in the county through electoral and non-electoral action.

### Section 1. Decision Making of the General Body

I. Only members in good standing of the organization may vote on matters of business before Progressive Dane County. A "member in good standing" is a member who has paid their dues within the last 15 months, or has paid a monthly sustainer contribution within the last six months. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended 10/9/02)

II. Voting for all decisions will be based on simple majority (greater than 50%) of those in attendance except for the following, where a two-thirds (2/3s) vote of the body present will be required: (Adopted, 7/14/93)

A. Extraordinary expenditures (amounts exceeding \$250.00 that were not approved in the annual budget). (Adopted 7/14/93; Amended 10/9/02)

B. Endorsement of candidates forwarded by Progressive Dane in electoral campaigns. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

C. A majority of 3/4s will be required to overturn a vote requiring a 2/3s majority. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

D. A 2/3s vote of the body present will be necessary to adopt and to amend Progressive Dane's bylaws and constitution. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

III. Two co-chairs, including at least one woman, selected by the Steering Committee, will be the spokespersons for the organization unless the Steering Committee designates another Steering Committee member to be spokesperson. (Adopted, 8/25/93; Amended 10/9/02)

IV. A quorum for general meetings of Progressive Dane will be twenty (20) members. No official business shall be conducted without a quorum. The quorum requirement will not apply unless a member asks that a quorum be present for a given piece of business. (Adopted, 8/25/93; Amended, 5/24/00)

### Section 2. The Steering Committee-Role and Functions

I. The Steering Committee of Progressive Dane will consist of no more than ten (10) members selected by the general body. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended, 3/27/96)

A. The Steering Committee will strive for gender balance. If the size of the Steering Committee is 10 then those five women with the largest number of votes will be elected. The

other five top vote-getters, regardless of gender, will be seated on the steering committee. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended 3/27/96)

B. If the size of the Steering Committee is less than 10, the first women up to half the size of the committee will be automatically elected. The remaining top vote-getters will fill the committee to the size which has been selected. (Adopted 3/27/96)

II. A term on the Steering Committee will be one (1) year. Elections will take place annually (date to be set.) (Adopted, 7/14/93)

A. Nominations of candidates for election to the Steering Committee will take place at a general meeting no less than one (1) month prior to the elections. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

B. Election to the Steering Committee will take place by secret ballot. Completed ballots selecting fewer than five (5) and or more than ten (10) candidates will be disqualified. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

III. Quorum on the Steering Committee will be six (6). (Adopted, 7/14/93)

IV. The Steering Committee will meet prior to any general meeting in order to:

A. Plan meeting agendas. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

B. Issue notice of meetings with agendas to Progressive Dane members at least ten days prior to the scheduled meeting. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

~~C. Reserve meeting rooms, provide payment for meeting facilities and mailings, and appropriate incidental expenditures not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per expenditure.~~ (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended, 2/28/96) C. Propose an annual budget to the General Membership and approve extraordinary expenditures that are not otherwise authorized in the annual budget as approved by the General Membership. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended, 10/9/02)

V. The Steering Committee will select and oversee a treasurer from among the general body. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

A. The treasurer or co-treasurers must pay the staff person and remit associated payroll taxes, assist in development and revisions of the annual budget, and keep clear records of the organization's funds, finances and transactions. The treasurer's records will be open and available to any member of the organization on request. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended 10/9/02)

B. The treasurer will present reports, in writing at least quarterly to the Steering Committee and General Membership. (Adopted, 7/14/93; Amended 10/9/02)

VI. The Steering Committee will select, from among its number, a Recording Secretary to keep an accurate record of proceedings of all meetings. (Adopted, 8/25/93)

VII. The Steering Committee will be the public voice and the source of all official statements representing the positions

(see "Changes to Bylaws," page 4)

## Changes to Bylaws (continued from page 3)

of the organization. The Steering Committee will have the authority to respond to immediate situations and to make decisions concerning issues which demand immediate attention prior to or before a general meeting can be called. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

A. The Steering Committee will select two (2) spokespersons from among their number, including at least one woman, to publicly represent the organization. (Adopted, 7/14/93) The selected spokespersons shall serve six-month terms at the will of the Steering Committee. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

~~B.~~ A. The Steering Committee can delegate responses on certain issues to other committees. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

VIII. The Steering Committee will conduct its business in an open and democratic manner. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

A. Meetings of the Steering Committee will be open to all members in good standing. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

B. Votes within the steering committee will follow the same rules as the general body. (Adopted, 7/14/93)

IX. The Steering Committee has power to call elections by the General Membership to fill vacancies on the Steering Committee until the next regular election. (Adopted, 2/28/96; Amended 10/9/02)

X. The Steering Committee or a sub-committee thereof may (a) hire staff and determine compensation subject to approval of the General Membership; (b) develop a job description for the staff person(s); (c) oversee and evaluate the work of the staff person(s). (Adopted 10/09/02)

### Section 3. General Committees and Task Forces (Adopted, 8/25/93; Amended 10/09/02)

I. The members of Progressive Dane can form various General Committees and Task Forces to mobilize electoral and non-electoral campaigns, conduct public outreach and education, develop program, improve internal organization, recruit new members, etc. (Amended 10/09/02)

A. Committee and Task Force missions, goals and objectives shall be proposed in writing and approved by the general membership. (Amended 10/09/02)

B. While maintaining communication with the Steering Committee, General Committees and Task Forces shall be allowed the authority and discretion to implement approved missions and projects. (Amended 10/09/02)

C. The Steering Committee may recommend to the General Membership that a General Committee or Task Force be disbanded if it has ceased to function or no longer furthers the aims of Progressive Dane. (Adopted 10/09/02)

II. General Committees and Task Forces, permanent or ad hoc, will present reports and address questions at least quarterly at the General Membership meetings. (Amended 10/09/02)

III. General Committees and Task Forces shall have a liaison to the Steering Committee. If a General Committees

or Task Force does not contain a member of the Steering Committee, then the Steering Committee will appoint one of its members to be a liaison to the General Committee or Task Force. (Amended 10/09/02)

IV. General Committees and Task Forces will operate by a simple majority vote. (Amended 10/09/02)

V. General Committees and Task Forces will elect a chairperson or Co-chairs from among their members annually and notify the Steering Committee of their selection. (Adopted 10/09/02)

### ~~Section 4. Election for State Steering Committee of the New Progressive Party~~ (Adopted, 6/22/94)

I. Each valid ballot will contain no more than three and no fewer than two names of nominees who have accepted nomination, including the name of at least one woman.

II. The votes shall be counted by assigning one vote per occurrence of a name. The woman receiving the highest number of votes, and the two other highest vote getters regardless of their gender, shall be elected.

III. In the case of ties which result in more than three people being elected, there shall be a run-off among the tied candidates.

### ~~Section 5. By-elections for the New Progressive Party Steering Committee~~ (Adopted, 6/22/94; Amended, 2/28/96)

I. Election shall be by secret ballot of members attending a general meeting for which requisite notice has been given.

A. The candidate winning a simple majority of votes shall be elected. (Subject to provision II., below.)

B. Should no candidate receive a bare majority of votes cast, there shall be a run-off between the two highest vote getters. If no candidate receives a simple majority of votes cast in a run-off involving just two candidates, the seat shall remain vacant.

II. No by-election which upsets the gender balance requirements specified elsewhere in the constitution and bylaws of Progressive Dane, or of the New Progressive Party of Wisconsin, or of the national New Party, shall be valid.

### Section 6 5. Amendments to the Constitution & Bylaws of Progressive Dane (Adopted, 2/28/96)

I. Amendments to the Constitution & Bylaws may be submitted by any member, in writing, by submitting them first to the Steering Committee at least one month prior to the General Membership Meeting at which they will be considered. The General Membership Meeting at which amendments are considered may not coincide with elections held under Section 2 ~~or Section 4~~ above. The Steering Committee may recommend adoption, rejection, or adoption with amendments to the General Membership. (Amended 10/09/02)

II. The notice of the General Membership Meeting at which the amendment(s) will be voted on must include the text of the amendment(s).

III. Adoption of amendments require a two-thirds (2/3s) vote of the membership present at the meeting.

## Developing your signature issue proposal

BY DAVID AUSTIN

A signature issue is a major campaign using all of PD's resources: membership, elected officials, and staff time. It's intended to build the party and pass a piece of significant local legislation. Past signature issues included the living wage campaign and several clean government proposals.

PD will choose a new signature issue at the November General Membership Meeting (GMM). During the October GMM, people will have an opportunity to present ideas and meet briefly with others interested in a particular idea. Written proposals should be presented to the Steering Committee in November, where they will be reviewed for completeness, and then presented to the membership.

Each written proposal should describe the issue, how it fits the criteria for selecting a signature issue, and a proposed campaign strategy, including concrete goals and a timeline for meeting those goals. The proposal should indicate which PD task force or committee will supervise the work and the individuals who will lead the effort.

The criteria for selecting a signature issue were developed by the membership during previous signature issue discussions. An issue does not need to meet every guideline, but should meet most of the following criteria:

- Integrally related to an issue PD is already working on.
- Philosophically acceptable and in line with our platforms.
- Winnable (or be likely to have a major impact on public debate).
- Winning would benefit many people. Tell us, as much as data allows, how many.
- The campaign would broaden our base of support.
- Raises our profile through media exposure and public recognition.
- Associates PD with its elected officials. The value of a political party with people in a position to introduce and pass legislation should be promoted.
- Within our resources (i.e., 500+ members, not much money, part-time staff support).
- PD initiates the coalition around the issue.
- Success leads to a structural redistribution of power.
- Involves a direct action component. Imagine creative public actions that promote this issue.
- Focuses on the disempowered and unrepresented.
- Links apparently diverse issues. An example: Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) promotes economic development, but what kind? A living wage, affordable housing, smart growth, clean government type of development? Or a status quo, booming economy, developer- and lobbyist-friendly use of taxpayers' money?
- Is educational: the issue leads towards a more sophisticated discussion of complex issues by a larger number of the citizenry.

*If you have questions about the signature issue process, how to put together your proposal, or the criteria above, please contact David Austin at [daustin@wisc.edu](mailto:daustin@wisc.edu) or 250-0424.*

## Community power and local democracy

BY PATRICK BARRETT

Together with the UW-Madison Havens Center, Progressive Dane will co-host "Community Power 2002: International Conference on Local Democracy" November 15-17. It is the first in what organizers hope will be a series of conferences aimed at elaborating an effective working agenda for deepening local democracy in the U.S. To learn more, visit:

[www.localdemocracy.org](http://www.localdemocracy.org)

Most of the conference will focus on drawing lessons from pro-democracy movements and struggles on other continents and in other communities, as well as on fostering links among various pro-democracy groupings in North America.

More specifically, the conference aims to:

- ✓ Demonstrate that democratic deepening is indeed possible and thus **inspire** progressives in the U.S. to begin envisioning a more ambitious program of far-reaching change.
- ✓ Gain practical **insights**, as to what it will take to realize such change and thus stimulate a process of long-term strategic planning and organizing.

An additional goal is to forge links between PD and other political groupings in the U.S. that demonstrate a similar potential for deepening democracy at the local level.

The program will have three parts:

- ✓ Discussion of international examples of more or less successful pro-democracy struggles, including the Workers Party in Porto Alegre, Brazil; the Broad Front in Montevideo, Uruguay; and British "municipal socialism" of the 1980s.
- ✓ Discussion of current examples of innovation and democratic potential in the United States, including Madison, WI; Hartford, Conn.; San Francisco, CA; and rural Pennsylvania.
- ✓ Two tracks of nuts-and-bolts planning for movement organizing, one focused on strategic planning for Madison and Dane County, and the other on long-term networking and coalition-building among the various political groupings attending the conference.

Registration is free, but please register in advance by mail or email. Also, the Local Democracy Project accepts contributions to help defray the costs of this and future conferences. Please send a check made out to the "Havens Center" to: Local Democracy, c/o Havens Center, 8117 Social Sciences Building, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, Wisconsin, 53706

*For more information, contact Patrick Barrett at 608-262-0854 or [pbarrett@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:pbarrett@ssc.wisc.edu), or consult the Local Democracy website: [www.localdemocracy.org](http://www.localdemocracy.org)*

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

.....  
**Next Meeting**

7 o'clock p.m.  
October 23, 2002

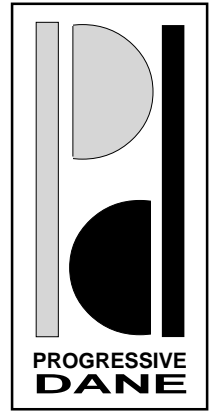
Madison Public Library  
201 W. Mifflin St.

.....  
*If you need an interpreter, materials in alternative formats, or other accommodations, please contact the PD office, 257-4985, one week in advance of the meeting.*

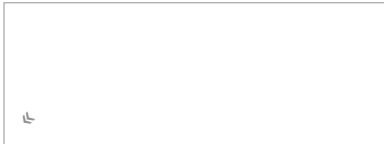
**The Agenda**

- Discussion and endorsement of candidate for Madison Mayor
- Election of new Steering Committee
- Discussion of signature issues

**Chair: Tom Running (241-5575)**



*If your renewal date is 10/01/02 or earlier, this is your last newsletter. Please renew.*



**~ Volunteer Night ~**  
Help with vital yet easy tasks (labeling newsletters, writing thank-yous, etc.)  
Chat with Progressive Dane members.  
Refreshments provided.  
Tuesday, November 12  
~ One week earlier than usual! ~  
5:30-7 p.m., 200 N. Blount St.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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P.O. Box 1222  
Madison, WI 53701

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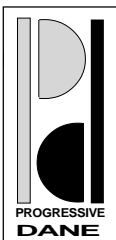
- I support the principles and purpose of Progressive Dane. **Please accept my membership.**
- Please renew my membership** in Progressive Dane.

Sustaining membership: Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month (minimum \$5/month)

To pay via bank draft, please attach a voided check or the 1st month's check payable to Progressive Dane.

or

- Annual membership:  \$50 Regular  \$250+ Benefactor  \$100 Supporting
- \$75 Contributing  \$36 Basic  \$12 Low Income



Mail to: **Progressive Dane, P.O. Box 1222, Madison, WI 53701**

For more info: (608) 257-4985