



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. XI, No. 9
October 2003

Join Madison's comprehensive planning process

BY RON RICHARDSON

Please join us for a second round of public planning sessions where you will have the opportunity to contribute your thoughts and ideas as we discuss how Madison might grow and develop over the next 20 years. One purpose of the sessions will be to build upon the issues identified at last year's public meetings as we discuss our goals and objectives for the new Comprehensive Plan. All sessions will take place from 5:30 pm -8:30 pm with informative displays and opportunities for your input along with a brief presen-

tation:

- ✦ Wed. November 12th, Civic Center, Marquee Rm. 3rd fl, 211 State St. (Opening comments from Mayor Dave Cieslewicz)
- ✦ Thurs. November 13th, Olbrich Gardens, Atrium, 3330 Atwood Ave.
- ✦ Wed. November 19th, Jefferson Middle School, Cafeteria, 101 S. Gammon Rd. The Comprehensive Plan process began (see "Comprehensive planning," page 3)



PD Co-Chairs respond to Wisconsin State Journal editorial

PD encountered and responded to another "Tim Kelley Opportunity." A TKO is generally defined as an over-the-deep-end rant by Tim Kelley, editor of the Wisconsin State Journal. Whenever, a TKO occurs, we have made it our priority to respond. This latest opportunity produced two responses from the Steering Committee. One was printed on the op-ed page on Friday, October 3, and here is the second. (It'd probably be a stretch to expect two spaces for one rant.) It regards Tim's printed assertion that the Fair Wage Campaign is just another case of PD pulling strings attached to our "puppets."

-- NICK BERIGAN

On behalf of the local political party Progressive Dane, we must correct a misstatement that was made in Friday's (9/26) Wisconsin State Journal. While we appreciate the fact that Tim Kelley gives us credit for so

(see "WSJ response," page 3)

Progressive Dane Education Task Force: A work in progress

BY KELLY HEPPNER

The reformation of the Education Task Force began in July. We have met several times and generated a hefty list of objectives. Due to the expansiveness of this working list, the task force chose to focus on the following issues:

- ✦ Military recruitment of young adults on school grounds
- ✦ The racial disparity found in schools, especially urban schools
- ✦ The development of criteria for Progressive Dane endorsements of school board candidates
- ✦ The need for sexual orientation, gender bias, and trans-gender training for educators
- ✦ The revamping of the taskforces, mission statement and platform

(see "Education Task Force," page 3)



Forward!

October 2003 • Volume XI, 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, 122 State 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: Nick Berigan (257-0187)

Next meeting: Wed., November 5, 7-9 p.m.

Elections Committee

Chair: Michael Jacob (245-0894)

Next meetings: Mon., October 20 & November 17, 7 p.m.

Newsletter Consortium

Contact: Chris Babiarz (257-3288)

Outreach Committee

Contact: Sang Lee (257-4985)

Next meeting: Mon., November 3, 7 p.m.

Policy Committee

Chair: Ron Richardson (256-7144)

Next meeting: Contact Ron for information

Arts Task Force

Contact: Jonathan Zarov (zarov@wisc.edu)

Meets: 4th Thurs. of the month, 6:30-8 p.m.

Next meeting: October 23

Drug Policy Task Force

Chair: David Chastain (243-4343)

Meets: 2nd Mon. of the month, 7 p.m., Social Justice Center (1202 Williamson St.)

Next meeting: November 10

Education Task Force

Contact: Kristin Forde (call PD office, 257-4985, for information)

Meets: 1st Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.

Next meeting: November 4

Environmental Task Force

Chair: Brett Schumacher (238-3441)

Meets: 3rd Wed. of the month, 7 p.m.

Housing Task Force

Contact: Megin Hicks, 279-2659

Next meetings: Mon., October 27, 6:30 p.m.; Mon., November 10, 6:30 p.m., Nick's Restaurant (226 State St.); Mon., November 24, 6:30 p.m.

People First Planning Campaign

Contact: Ron Richardson (256-7144)

Meets: 2nd Tues. of the month, 7 p.m.

Next meeting: November 13

Seeking enthusiastic PD members to serve on the Steering Committee

By MARY ANGLIM

PD elects its Steering Committee (SC) each year at the October General Membership Meeting (GMM). Up to ten members are elected to serve for one year. Serving on the Steering Committee can be a lot of work, but it is also an opportunity for hands-on experience in leading a very active and creative organization.

SC members are responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the organization. They should expect to attend at least two two-hour meetings

vision for the future of the party that they are willing to work to bring to fruition. In addition, any and all of the following qualities (in no special order) are needed on the SC:

- Interest/talent in staging social events/outreach events;
- Personnel experience;
- Fund-raising skill/interest;
- Information, background, and/or experience in local politics;



Nominate yourself or someone else. Get your nominations to Sang Lee (office@prodane.org or 257-4985) by October 21, or be prepared to make a nomination from the floor during the October 22 meeting.

per month (the SC and the GM meetings) and to act as liaison to one of PD's committees or task forces. As an SC member you can expect to deal with many housekeeping details --with the goal of ensuring a clear, open process for all members. Proven work habits and the ability to follow through are big plusses in this job.

Candidates should have a commitment to third-party politics and to the role of Progressive Dane as a local political party. Preferably they should have been active in PD for at least a few months, in order to learn what the party is all about. Ideally, they should have a

- Community contacts/background;
- Computer/web/graphics skills;
- Ability to inspire others to work on progressive issues;
- Finance/accounting background;
- Organizational experience (facilitating and making organizations more effective);
- Experience working with volunteers;
- Connection with elected officials;
- Policy development experience;
- Ability to form effective working relationships with our task forces.

If you can fill some of these shoes, or you know someone who could, please make a nomination at the October GMM.

Fair Wage Campaign: Update and discussion

Take note: At the October General Membership meeting we'll talk about the Fair Wage Campaign. This is the meeting to come to, if you want to learn about this.

Progressive Dane Office: 257-4985 | E-mail: office@prodane.org | Web Site: http://www.prodane.org/

Submit articles, meeting times and announcements for the November newsletter to Beth Harper (238-8147 or harper@danenet.wicp.net) by Noon, Tues., November 4.

Production and Circulation Consortium
Lynn Alten, Mary Anglim, Chris Babiarz, Erik Breilid, Richard-Marie Commander, Sheila Guilfoyle, Beth Harper, Andy Kraiss, Sang Lee, Nate McQuillen, Richard Russell, Tona Williams.

This month's contributors
Nick Berigan, Beth Harper, Kelly Heppner, Sang Lee, Ron Richardson, Tona Williams, Sue Vilbrandt



Send all correspondence to:
Progressive Dane
P.O. Box 1222
Madison, WI 53701

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Comprehensive planning

(from page 1)

in 2002 and will continue through 2004. The Plan will include an assessment of existing conditions and trends, and will provide recommendations for the use and development of land, the extension and improvement of transportation services and infrastructure, the development of community facilities and the economic base of the City, the provision of housing, and the protection of natural resources. The Plan will be one of the primary tools used by the Madison Plan Commission, the Common Council, and the City administration to make many locational decisions regarding land uses, the extension of services and the placement of community facilities.




Public Meeting Contact: Linda Horvath, Planning and Development Department, 267-1131.

For further information about the City of Madison Comprehensive Plan:

 Visit the website www.madisonplan.org;

 E-mail madisonplan@ci.madison.wi.us; and/or

 Join the listserv by e-mailing majordomo@wisnet.net with the message: subscribe madisonplan.

Education Task Force

(from page 1)

Currently, taskforce members are busy researching these topics and groups who are active locally. Once this first step is complete, the task force will develop platforms and campaigns for each issue. These campaigns will focus on collaboration among community, schools, and other organizations. These partnerships will raise awareness of the issues, and create local structures to help facilitate change. The task force's second primary goal is to host a kick-off event. This event is tentatively scheduled for November. Details about the event will follow our October meeting. Stay tuned to PD Announce and the newsletter for updates.

The Education Task Force meets regularly on the first Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., at the PD office.

WSJ response

(from page 1)

many things that we don't actually do, we must correct the facts regarding the Fair Wage Campaign.

While we applaud the commitment, hard work and enthusiasm of the campaign's sponsors in pushing wage and poverty issues to the forefront of Madison's public consciousness, we in fact have had nothing to do with the crafting and introduction of the campaign. Nor did our puppeteers. Progressive Dane members are currently undergoing the process of learning about the campaign and considering whether or not to endorse it. Because Progressive Dane is serious about our commitment to backing up our endorsements with people power (this is what gives PD endorsements much of their weight — it's also one of our primary missions), we need to assess whether we have the ability to work on a campaign of this magnitude with so many other important policy initiatives in the works. Our members also need to assess the merits of the ordinance itself. Since the Fair Wage Act is being introduced as a charter ordinance, its current language is unchangeable until two years after its passage, making careful scrutiny an absolute necessity. The membership will move through a democratic process in deciding these issues, and once we take a vote we'll let you know where we stand on the issue.

Until then, please continue to keep us in mind but give the credit where it's due.

Remember...

The November and December General Membership Meetings will be one week earlier than usual because of the holidays:

November 19, 7 p.m. *at the Madison
and
December 17, 7 p.m.* *Public Library
(201 W. Mifflin St.)*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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Next Meeting

**7 o'clock p.m.
October 22, 2003**

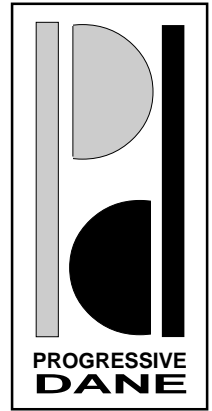
**Madison Public Library
201 W. Mifflin St.**

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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.

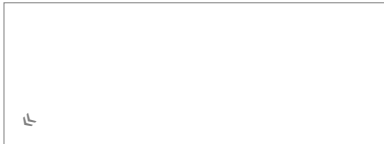
The Agenda

- Steering Committee Elections
- Fair Wage Discussion
- Staff Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Steering Committee Report

Chair: Monya Choudhury (663-9111)



If your renewal date is 10/1/03 or earlier, this is your last newsletter. Please renew.



Volunteer Night!
Help label our newsletter, and other easy and fun volunteer tasks! Good conversation and refreshments provided. Tuesday, November 11, 5:30pm-7:00pm. PD office, 122 State St., 4th floor.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

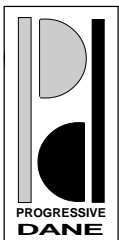
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- Please renew my membership in Progressive Dane.



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