

2010 GREEN PARTY OF NEW YORK CAMPAIGN QUESTIONNAIRE

FOR STATEWIDE CANDIDATES

If you have any questions about this questionnaire, please contact Gloria Mattera or Michael Emperor at

Gmattera@gmail.com or BrooklynEmperor@gmail.com.

Return of this questionnaire is a pre-requisite for further consideration of your candidacy by the Green Party of New York State. Please send printed materials to:

Green Party of New York State Campaign Committee
c/o Gloria Mattera, Co-Chair
437 2nd Street
Brooklyn, NY 11215

INFORMATIONAL QUESTIONS

Date: March 24, 2010

1. Name of Candidate:

Howie Hawkins

2. Name of Office Sought:

Governor of New York State

3. Candidate Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 562, Syracuse NY 13205

4. Address and county of primary residence:

410 W. Beard Avenue, Syracuse NY 13205

5. Number of years at primary residence: If less than five (5) years, list primary residences for last five years.

Since December 2009. Lived at 303 Warner Avenue for 10 years, a couple of blocks away.

6. Daytime phone number(s):

315-425-1019

7. Cell phone number(s):

None

8. Evening phone number(s):

315-425-1019

9. E-mail:

hhawkins@igc.org

10. Date of birth (month/day/year):

December 8, 1952

11. Number of consecutive years registered to vote in the State of New York:

19 years

12. Party enrollment:

Green

13. Number of years enrolled in that party:

25 years, since 1984 (Vermont, then New York)

14. If party enrollment is not Green, are you willing to change your enrollment to the Green Party? If no, please explain.

Not applicable.

15. Tell us about yourself. Please label this document "General Statement."

Howie Hawkins has lived on South Side since moving to Syracuse in 1991. Howie has been active in movements for peace, justice, labor, the environment, and independent politics since the late 1960s.

A former Marine, he helped organize opposition to the Vietnam War and was a leader in the anti-apartheid movement to end US corporate investment in the system of racist labor exploitation in South Africa.

After attending Dartmouth College in the early 1970s, Howie worked in construction and helped organize a workers cooperative that specialized in energy efficiency and solar and wind installations.

He was a co-founder of the anti-nuclear Clamshell Alliance in 1976 and the Green Party in the US in 1984.

Howie moved to Syracuse to develop cooperatives for CommonWorks, a federation of cooperatives working for an economy that is cooperatively owned, democratically controlled, and ecologically sustainable.

For the last decade Howie has worked unloading trucks at UPS, where he is a member of Teamsters Local 317 and active in Teamsters for a Democratic Union, the national Teamster rank-and-file reform caucus, as well as US Labor Against the War.

Howie's articles on politics, economics, and environmental issues have appeared in *Against the Current*, *Green Politics*, *International Socialist Review*, *New Politics*, *Peace and Democracy News*, *Z Magazine*, and other publications. He is the editor of the 2006 book, *Independent Politics: The Green Party Strategy Debate*.

16. Employment history: Please provide a resume or list your past five years work experience (including years employed and a description of your position).

Truck unloader at UPS

17. Have you run for office before? If yes, show election dates, election results, positions sought, and your party affiliation at the time of the elections.

2009: Syracuse Common Council, 4th District, Green (2nd, 41%)
2008: U.S. House, 25th District NY, Green Populist (3rd, 3.3%)
2007: Syracuse City Council At-Large, Green
2006: U.S. Senate, New York, Green
2005: Mayor, Syracuse, NY, Green
2004: U.S. House, 25th District, Peace and Justice
2003: Syracuse Common Council At-Large, Green (ballot petition disqualified)
2002: New York State Comptroller, Green
2001: Syracuse Common Council, 4th District, Green
2000: U.S. House, 25th District, NY, Green
1999: Onondaga County Executive, Green
1998: New York State Comptroller, Green
1997: Syracuse Mayor, Green
1996: U.S. House, 25th District, NY, Green (ballot petition disqualified)
1995: Syracuse Common Council, At-Large, Green
1994: Syracuse Common Council, At-Large, Green
1993: Syracuse Common Council, At-Large, Green (on Liberal ballot line)

18. Please describe other relevant electoral campaign experience you have had:

2008: New York State Co-Coordinator for Nader Campaign for New York
2007-2008: Co-Chair of the Draft Nader Committee 2007-2008
2004: Field Coordinator for Upstate New York Nader/Camejo Campaign
2000: Field Coordinator for Upstate New York, Nader/LaDuke
1990: Volunteer, New Hampshire Green Party gubernatorial campaign for Guy Chichester
1985, 1987, 1989: Volunteer, Burlington Greens municipal campaigns
1981: Volunteer, Bernie Sanders for Mayor of Burlington, Vermont
1980: Volunteer, Citizen's Party Presidential Campaign, Commoner/Harris, 1980
1976: Volunteer, Bernie Sanders for Governor, Liberty Union Party of Vermont
1976: Volunteer for People's Party Presidential Campaign, Margaret Wright/Benjamin Spock
1976: Field Organizer, Fred Harris for President, New Hampshire Democratic Presidential Primary (populist candidate)
1974: Volunteer, Bernie Sanders for US Senate, Michael Parenti for US Congress, Liberty Union Party of Vermont
1972: Volunteer, People's Party Presidential Campaign, Benjamin Spock/Julius Hobson
1972: Volunteer, Pete McCloskey for President, New Hampshire Republican Presidential

Primary (anti-war, anti-corruption opponent to Nixon)

1967-1968: Volunteer, Peace and Freedom Party enrollment drive for ballot status and Cleaver/Dowd Presidential Campaign

19. List appointed public offices held, by whom appointed, and dates of service and your party affiliation at the time of the appointment:

None

20. List affiliations with political, civic, and community organizations and any offices held, with dates of service:

Board Member, South Side Community Coalition, 2010 to present

Member, South Side Cooperative Grocery Store Project, 2009 to present

Member, Syracuse Municipal Broadband Initiative, 2009 to present

Co-Founder, Public Power Coalition of Central New York, 2006 to present

Sympathizer, Solidarity, 2004 to present

Member, Teamsters for a Democratic Union, 2001 to present

Member, Teamsters Local 317, 2001 to present

Co-Founder, national committee rep, Green Party of the United States, 2001 to present

Co-Founder, national committee rep, Green Alliance, 2001 to 2004

Member, Labor Party, 1996 to present

Member, Labor Party Advocates, 1995-1996

Co-Founder, national committee rep at times, Independent Progressive Politics Network, 1995 to 2004

Co-Founder, national committee rep, Greens/Green Party USA, 1991-2001

Co-Founder, national coordinator, Left Green Network, 1988-1992

Clearinghouse Coordinator, New England Green Alliance, 1988-1991

Clearinghouse Coordinator, New England Green Committees of Correspondence, 1984-1988

Co-Founder, national committee rep, Green Committees of Correspondence, 1984-1991

Member, national committee rep at times, National Committee for Independent Political Action, 1981-1998

Member, Citizens Party, 1979-1984

New England Rep, Call to Conscience (anti-apartheid), 1981-1984

Member, national committee member at times, Peoples Alliance, 1978-1983

Co-Founder, Upper Valley Committee for a Free Southern Africa, 1976-1984

Co-Founder, Clamshell Alliance, New Hampshire/New England (anti-nuclear power), 1976-present

Co-Founder, New Hampshire Public Interest Research Group (PIRG), 1975-1978

Member, Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), 1975 to present

Co-Founder, People's Energy Project, New Hampshire (anti-nuclear power), 1974-1976

Co-Founder, Granite State Alliance, New Hampshire, 1974-1978

Member, Mass Party Organizing Committee, 1974-1980

Member, New American Movement, 1974-1977

Member, Socialist Party, 1974 to present

Co-Founder, Dartmouth Radical Union, 1972-1978
Member, American Serviceman's Union, 1972-1978
Member, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, 1972-1978, 2006 to present
Supporter, Liberty Union Party of Vermont, 1972-1978
Supporter, People's Coalition for Peace and Justice, 1971-1974
Member, Peoples Party, 1971-1976
Supporter, Peace and Freedom Party of California, 1967-1971

21. Do you have any criminal convictions? If so, please list and briefly describe the circumstances.

2010: Misdemeanor criminal trespass conviction for blocking the door of the Syracuse office of WellPoint attempting to deliver a letter from single payer advocates picketing outside. See the video and statement, "Why I Committed Civil Disobedience for Health Care Reform," at www.howiehawkins.org.

1970s/1980s: I also have several misdemeanor disorderly conduct and criminal trespass convictions from the 1970s and 1980s for civil disobedience actions in the anti-nuclear power, anti-war, and anti-apartheid movements.

22. Provide contact information for three references:

Mark Dunlea, DunleaMark@aol.com, 519-860-3725
Ron Ehrenreich, smashstate@earthlink.net, 315-487-0793
Carol Perry, caroldemmy@gmail.com, 315-254-2057

23. Candidate Website:

www.howiehawkins.org

24. Please provide the name, email, phone numbers (addresses optional) for your:

a. Campaign Manager:

Mark Dunlea, DunleaMark@aol.com, 519-860-3725

b. Treasurer:

Rae Kramer, sqларousse@twcn.y.rr.com, 315-445-2840

c. Media Coordinator/Press Secretary:

To be filled

d. Other key personnel or campaign staff (include description of role):

Website Manager: David Doonan, dadoonan@mac.com, 518-265-4030

Social Media Manager (Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, etc.): Mike Kwan, mikerkwan@gmail.com

Video Production Manager: Amilcar Navarro, amilcarcabral2@gmail.com, 718-791-9421

Fundraising Coordinator: To be filled.

Literature/Graphics Designer: To be filled.

Volunteer Coordinator: To be filled.

Database Manager: To be filled.

CAMPAIGN GOALS AND ORGANIZATION:

The central goal of the Green Party of New York in running statewide candidates in 2006 is to garner at least 50,000 gubernatorial votes to enable the Green Party to regain ballot status. We also seek to build campaigning skills for candidates, staff, and volunteers, build our local Green parties, increase voter awareness of the Green Party; create media visibility for the Green Party, and educate voters about the Green platform.

25. How will your campaign assist us in meeting these goals?

Build a campaign organization with the funding and organizational capacity to reach these goals.

26. What other goals are important to your campaign and what is your plan for meeting them?

Move the debate in New York. Though subordinate to the primary goal of 50,000 votes for governor and a ballot line and the goal of building the local party organizations, the third, more difficult but within-reach goal is to get enough votes to compel the mainstream media and elected officials to debate the Green policy proposals. To move policy debate in the state may take 250,000 votes (5%), worthy and difficult, but not impossible, goal.

27. Does your campaign have a realistic and strategic plan to identify and turn out the number of voters needed to meet the goals of the campaign? Please describe.

“We are taking names.” We plan to organize supporters to do the field campaign work to ID supporters, databank their contact info, and mobilize the vote on election day. This is central to getting 50,000+ and hopefully 250,000+.

28. Who are the opposing candidates in the election for your chosen office, and what are their party affiliations? Please describe their strengths and weaknesses.

Rick Lazio, the likely Republican, is a front for Wall Street: managing director of JP Morgan Chase, president and CEO of the Financial Services Forum, the lobbying club of the CEOs of the biggest financial firms in the world.

Andrew Cuomo, the likely Democrat, is also a front for the predatory FIRE (Finance, Insurance, Real Estate) sector, especially big real estate interests.

Their strengths are that they will have \$100 million or so each. Their weakness is that we can portray them as representing Wall Street while we speak for Main Street.

The Tea Party reactionary right and libertarian right may have independent candidates who will appeal mainly to ultra-right Republicans, not to our voters.

The sectarian socialist left parties may run candidates. We don't know of any. They will, as usual, get very tiny votes.

No other independent progressive candidacy is contemplated outside of the Green Party that we know of.

29. Are there any external factors that make your race special?

Voter disgust at two party mess in Albany, highlighted by endemic corruption and partisan fights for patronage resources fueling legislative deadlock. Potential for a big Green protest vote.

30. Are you seeking party authorizations from any parties other than the Green Party?

I am not seeking ballot line authorization from any other party. I am seeking endorsements and, more importantly, volunteers from socialist parties and groups, including Socialist Party, Solidarity, International Socialist Organization (ISO), and Socialist Alternative.

31. How much time will you give to the campaign on a daily basis?

After I announce, most days most of the time between 2 pm and 10 pm. This reflects my night shift schedule.

32. How often do you plan to travel the state?

Most days to anywhere between Albany and Buffalo. Most weekends to anywhere in the state.

33. What is your media strategy for your campaign?

Frequent media releases and op-eds.

Media events that combine policy statements and demonstrations to show support.

Extensive use of webpage, facebook, blogs, videos, skype, etc. to reach people directly through the internet without counting on corporate media.

34. Does your campaign have a volunteer or staff person with media experience who will serve the campaign as press secretary?

Yes. Mark Dunlea will coordinate and we will add other staff and volunteers.

35. In what debates and political forums will you seek to participate?

Every one we can get into and fit in the schedule.

36. How do you plan to recruit and utilize volunteers for your campaign?

The first staff hire will be a good organizer who can recruit, train, motivate, and coordinate volunteers.

37. How will you and your campaign staff coordinate with the Green Party of New York and with other statewide candidates?

Share our staff and campaign infrastructure as much as other slate candidates are willing to maximize efficient use of resources and keep our message to voters clear and consistent.

38. How will you assist in developing, distributing and financing the production of Green Party campaign literature (e.g., mailings, palm cards, position statements)?

Same answer as 37.

39. How will you share your databases with the Green Party of New York, including but not limited to volunteer and donor databases?

I will share them during and after the campaign.

40. How will you coordinate campaign activities with local Green Parties?

Encourage them to host events, be responsive to their invitations to events, and support their local candidates.

41. Will you include local Green issues at your campaign stops?

Yes

42. Will you invite local Greens to media events?

Yes

43. Does your campaign have a realistic and strategic finance plan? If yes, please describe. Please include the following:

a. Amount of money projected to be raised and expenses anticipated.

\$100,000

b. Amount of money spent by candidates seeking this office in prior elections.

\$50-100 million for major party candidates and billionaires like Golisano

c. Do you agree with the Green Party policy of not accepting corporate contributions for political campaigns?

Yes

d. Do you intend to accept any contributions from political action committees (PACs) other than the Green Party?

Yes, from the PACs of democratic people's organizations, such as democratic labor unions and

community, peace, and environmental organizations. While we don't expect many, if any, such PAC contributions, we would accept them from legitimately democratic people's organizations.

e. Will the campaign limit the amount of contributions from a single source? If so, to what amount?

The New York Election Law permits cumulative contributions for the general election campaign from individuals, corporations, and PACs up to \$37,800 each and \$273,616 per family.

My campaign will set limits equal to Federal limits:

\$2400 per individual

\$5000 per PAC

ISSUES:

44. What are the key issues you will emphasize in your campaign?

Leading Policies and Themes:

- 1) Progressive Tax Reform to Erase the Deficit and Fund Jobs, Schools, Health Care, Housing, and the Environment**
- 2) Jobs for All at Living Wages through Public Works and Services**
- 3) Single Payer Health Care**
- 4) A Green Sustainability Plan for Environmental and Economic Renewal**
- 5) Political Reforms to Clean Up Albany, emphasizing Proportional Representation and Public Campaign Financing**

Other policy demands and themes we will make:

- 1) Ban hydrofracking.**
- 2) Close Indian Point and phase out nuclear power.**
- 3) End the wars, cut military spending, invest the peace dividend in environmental and economic renewal**
- 4) A Real Safety Net: jobs at living wages or income above poverty, affordable housing, health care, and food**
- 5) Save Our Schools/Democratic Education: Resist "Race to the Top" testing, privatization, union busting, and authoritarian control. Promote fully funded, democratic schools with community, parent, and teacher collaboration and rounded curricula.**
- 6) Drug Policy Reform: Treat drug abuse as a health, not criminal, problem. Legalize, regulate, and tax drugs, starting with marijuana. Release nonviolent drug offenders. Drug treatment on demand.**
- 7) Food Justice: inner-city co-op groceries, organic agriculture, regional food security, local ownership, not chains and corporate agribusiness.**
- 8) State Bank: state deposits to publicly-owned institutions, not giant for-profit banks; restore credit to small businesses, consumers, and local governments; target investments to green tech sector**
- 9) Public Power: democratize NYPA, public takeover of IOUs (investor-owned utilities), municipal and local co-op boards elect state board; a State Fuel Corporation under NYPA to control distribution of gasoline, coal, gas, and heating fuel.**

- 10) Health Service: Single payer insurance is better than multi-payer private insurance system because it's universal and saves money through administrative efficiency. But it fails to decouple the fee-for-service cost driver, relieve the shortage of primary care providers, end inequitable geographic allocation of health care resources, and democratize the system under health care worker and consumer control. A single payer health service (like the Veterans Administration but democratically controlled), with public ownership of clinical resources, providers on salary, and elected local and state worker/community boards governing the system, would achieve all these goals.**
- 11) Economic Democracy: In our mature capitalist economy, the private sector is stagnant due to excess capacity and capital now looks to more financial speculation than productive investments for profits. So financial capital has become predatory toward industrial and commercial capital as well as workers and middle classes. We need more public investment and planning, social ownership, and community/worker control to invest savings in productive activities. We favor economic incentives for worker co-ops (NY has excellent but neglected worker co-op law). We need to convert key sectors (banking, energy, health care) into public utilities governed by a bottom-up democratic structure of community federalism: locally elected worker/community boards in turn elect state boards.**

45. How will your campaign develop these issues?

Position papers, op-eds, and press releases. Expose and hammer home how the Yes-But Democrats and Do-Nothing Republicans prevent these popular solutions in order to please their corporate paymasters.

46. How will your campaign promote the Green Party's values and help build the Green Party?

The policies we articulate will exemplify the values. The campaign organizing will help supporters to build county Green organizations.

47. How will your campaign promote and grow diversity to help build the Green Party? Include personal experiences if applicable.

The Green Party of New York State needs to build organizations in communities of color. A top priority will be campaigning in those communities and reaching out to progressive organizations in those communities. We are encouraging people of color to run for positions on the statewide Green Party slate and for other offices up for election in 2010.