



**GSPCGP**  
**P.O. Box 8108**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15217**

Contact: Joy Sabl, Corresponding Secretary  
JFSABL@GMAIL.COM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Aug 25, 2019 [as ammended Aug 26]

**PITTSBURGH, Pa.** On Aug 11, 2019, members of the Gertrude Stein Political Club of Greater Pittsburgh (GSPCGP) endorsed, as follows, candidates for the Nov 5th General Election.

### **Pennsylvania State Offices**

We endorse **Amanda Green Hawkins** for **PA Superior Court**. As councilwoman, she was the driving force behind passage of Allegheny County's non-discrimination ordinance. She's reliably well-informed, well-aware & courageous.

### **Allegheny County Offices**

Given his influence over county council, we wonder how Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald has not already—and easily—gotten a countywide conversion therapy ban passed. We read his stance in early 2019 as indication that this was imminent. We endorsed accordingly then. We strongly hope that the ban comes to pass by election day, in which case, our current **honorable mention** would become a de-facto endorsement. For **County Controller**, we happily re-endorse solid friend of the community, justice-minded campaigner **Chelsa Wagner**. For **Allegheny County Council** we congratulate, and continue to **endorse** both **Bethany Hallam** (At Large) and **Olivia "Liv" Bennett** (Dist. 13). Different in style, both are bold and frank in recognizing systemic problems and in proposing sensible, workable, compassionate alternatives.

**Lisa Middleman** for **District Attorney**: As a public defender for 30 years, she's seen how business-as-usual in a DA's office can break families apart; render people unemployable through the "overcharging" of infractions as crimes; drive recidivism; drive the spread of HIV and saddle us all with the financial and social cost of overburdened, sometimes-brutal jails (where too many inmates become worse, not better, people). We agree that the current system often confuses "ability to pay" with "innocence," and like her ideas on diversionary courts, alternative sentences, and ending cash bail. Our community knows what it is like to have our character questioned, or not be afforded an equal presumption of innocence. **Note: Middleman is running as an Independent.** If you normally vote single party, remember to pick her out separately before hitting "vote."

### **Pittsburgh City Offices**

Our (easy-to-make) **City Council Endorsements**: as before, **Bobby Wilson** (Dist 1), **Bruce Kraus** (Dist. 3), and **Deb Gross** (Dist 7). We now also heartily endorse honest, tough-minded man-of-the-people **Randall Taylor (Dist. 9)**. (**Note: Taylor is running as an Independent.** Pick him out.)

For **Pittsburgh School Board**: open-minded, enthusiastic newcomer **Devon Taliaferro** (Dist 2). Intense rights-champion, **Pam Harbin** (Dist. 4).

A multi-partisan organization with a multi-decade history educating candidates and encouraging support for LGBT(QIAA) and women's rights, GSPCGP solicits responses from candidates of all parties. National races aside, we endorse only if a candidate requests it / submits a response.

We aim to find, recognize, promote and develop as many good candidates as we can find.

###