

MEETING SUMMARY October 21, 2020

Date and Time: Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 4:00pm Mountain time

Where: Online: Zoom

Committee Attendees: Caryn Ann Harlos, Joe Dehn, Ed Fochler, James Gholston,

Andrew Kolstee

Other Attendees: none

The meeting was called to order at 4:07pm Mountain time.

Records of Past Meetings: The minutes of the 7 October meeting were approved.

Records Archive Update: Caryn Ann said she needs to make a trip to the storage unit soon because too much of the stuff is currently at her house.

Miscellaneous LPedia: Caryn Ann reported that she uploaded the video about creating an article and plans to make another one about how to upload a document. There was discussion of whether the "publications of" info box link is working properly, and whether it would make sense to also have a "campaigns of" link; Joe argued against this saying that, unlike the case of images, all campaigns relating to a person should already be mentioned in his/her article and it would be misleading to have a link with such a name that would actually only be listing campaigns for which there were separate articles. Caryn Ann suggested we have a standard navigation template for articles relating to Texas, as there aleady is for some other states. (Note: All of this discussion was hindered by the site being extremely slow at the time, so it was difficult to see what was currently included on various pages.)

Site Statistics: Ed reported that the unusual traffic from China is becoming a smaller part of the total. He said that whatever the actual reason for this traffic, it appears to be affecting our page rankings positively. Joe noted that since this traffic apparently is not coming through a search engine, such an effect on page rankings likely is a consequence of the fact that we are making use of Google Analytics, because otherwise Google would not be aware of the traffic.



Featured Article: Joe reported that the LNC meeting article recently suggested is now the featured article. He reviewed some corrections he had made to it.

State Collections: Caryn Ann said the new how to get started video will be helpful for the person from Minnesota. Andrew reported that he has been organizing the material he has for New York, and he established a system for keeping track of what he has been scanning and uploading.

Committee Membership: Joe reported he had received from only two committee members a list of which applications they found interesting. He asked that others review the applications and send him a list soon so he can prepare a summary.

Google Group: There was a brief discussion of when we should "switch" to the new group and how we should explain this to subscribers of the current mailing list.

Candidate Data: James noted that media organizations are increasingly using LPedia as a source of information about the LP, and suggested we consider ways to more systematically incorporate information about candidates. Discussion included whether to ask the national staff to update LPedia (as well as their own lists) when they get such information, or if there is a way we could import data from the lists being maintained by staff. Joe noted that they seem to be using an online database for tracking recent/current candidates, but that the form of the public interface to this via the web site makes it hard to use for any kind of automated work; if they could provide us with some kind of more direct access we could probably come up with a way to automatically check for updates of interest to us without requiring staff to do additional work.

Uploading Subcommittee: Caryn Ann noted that we have a backlog of material that needs to be uploaded to be made part of LPedia, and suggested that creating a "subcommittee" of people who agreed to work on this might be helpful in motivating such volunteers. She will look into whether this is something that can be done without LNC action.

Future Meetings: The next meeting is scheduled for 4 November 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm Mountain time.