

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andrew M. Kolstee, Chair
Duane Whitmer, 1st Vice Chair (entered 7:10)
Richard F. Purtell, 2nd Vice-Chair
Mark S. Braiman, Secretary
William Cody Anderson, Treasurer (entered 8:40)
Justin N. Carman, Member-At-Large (JD3)
Karyn A. Keniry-Thompson, Member-At-Large (JD4)
Keith C. Redhead, Member-At-Large (JD5)
William K. Schmidt, Member At-Large (JD9)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Maura E. Botsford, Member-At-Large (JD8)

OBSERVERS

David "Chance" Haywood, JD1 State Committee member
Adam Magoon, JD 5 State Committee member
Dan Castello, JD 5 State Committee member
Craig Colwell, JD 6 State Committee member
Steven Becker, JD 7 State Committee member
Charles Roggen, JD 8 State Committee member
Michael Rebmann, JD 8 State Committee member
Catrina Rocco, Dutchess County Chair
Sam Kniffen, Ulster County Vice Chair, Acting Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair,

Secretary Mark Braiman conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

The Chair called for public comment. None offered

Mark Braiman issued a Secretary's Report (**Exhibit 1**). The Secretary requests approval today of the posted (Draft) Minutes for Executive Committee meetings of December 18, 2022; January 15, 2023; May 21, 2023; June 25, 2023; August 31, 2023; September 25, 2023; and October 3, 2023; and State Committee meetings of October 23, 2022; March 5, 2023; March 19, 2023; and June 4, 2023. (See https://lpedia.org/wiki/Index_of_New_York_State_Party_Meetings)

Chair Andrew Kolstee objected that the Executive Committee minutes from September 25, 2023, October 3, 2023 and the State Committee meeting of June 4, 2023 were not posted yet on lpedia.org and that he had not had an opportunity to review the minutes of May 21, 2023, June 25, 2023, or September 25, 2023

The Minutes for Executive Committee meetings of December 18, 2022; January 15, 2023;; and State Committee meetings of October 23, 2022; March 5, 2023; and March 19, 2023 were approved without objection except for in January 15, 2023 minutes VICP Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

Field Development Director Andrew Kolstee issued a report. Christopher Lyndaker resigned as Acting County Chair of Lewis County on December 12, 2023.

Renewal of the appointment of Jame VanDewalker as County Liaison of Allegany County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Renewal of the appointment of Thomas Quiter as County Liaison of Chenango County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Renewal of the appointment of Zachary Remian as County Liaison of Clinton County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Renewal of the appointment of Jennifer O'Connor as Acting County Chair and County Liaison of Rensselaer County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Renewal the appointment of Brian Wells as Acting County Chair and County Liaison of Washington County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Renewal of the appointment of Rajib Maitra as Acting County Chair and County Liaison of Westchester County on December 31, 2023, which will expire on March 31, 2024 was approved without objection.

Duane Whitmer, Communications Director, issued a report discussing committee actions. Duane wrote a letter on reforming state tax policy to stop unannounced visits by agents, which was sent out by Whitmer for Liberty. The main focus lately has been on New York's newly-implemented Traffic Speed Cameras. Dan Warmus's harassment case was dismissed. Whitmer communicated with Warmus's attorney about him being involved with LPNY efforts to stop the use of surveillance to generate revenue to pay for police personnel. Duane Whitmer attended a dinner where Qualified Immunity was discussed. Motion by Duane Whitmer to **authorize an expenditure of up to six hundred dollars (\$600) for developing video content related to automated traffic speed cameras** was seconded by William Schmidt, and passed without objection.

IT Director Justin Carman issued a report. Motion by Justin Carman on behalf of the IT Committee, to **authorize the Chair to sign a contract with Blueswipe as a payment process in order to integrate with the Humanitru database and authorize up to \$29 per month accordingly**, passed without objection.

Justin Carman moved to **authorize the purchase of a NameHero Reseller account, and authorize an expenditure of up to six hundred dollars (\$600) per year.** Andrew Kolstee supported this motion as it will allow individual candidates and/or counties to establish their own websites for a cost of about \$50 using this type of account. The motion passed without objection.

Andrew Kolstee issued a report on the 5 competing contracts for the Nominating Convention March 16-17, 2024. A summary of guest room rates and meeting room/food/beverage costs for each is as follows:

1. Hampton Inn (Albany)
2. Saratoga Marriot –Food and beverage minimum of \$8500
3. Saratoga Casino Hotel Food and Beverage minimum of \$2500, room rate \$199
4. Westchester (Tarrytown) Marriott Meeting room \$2000; Food and beverage minimum; \$8500 meeting room rental; Guest room rate \$189/199
5. Harbor Hotel, Watkins Glen: Guest room rate \$139, no parking fee; meeting room free; food and beverage estimate \$10,000 for 50 people (\$200 per person).

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **hold the 2024 LPNY Nominating Convention on March 16-17 at the Harbor Hotel in Watkins Glen, and to authorize the Chair to sign a contract pending negotiation of lower costs**, was seconded by Richard Purtell and debated.

Michael Rebmann was appointed as 2025 LPNY Nominating Convention Planning Committee Chair without objection.

Motion by Mark Braiman to **provide reimbursement of five hundred forty-five and 76/100 (\$545.76) to Andrew Kolstee for OpaVote ballots he paid for, and for funds he added previously to the LPNY NameHero account**, was seconded by Duane Whitmer and passed by voice vote.

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **authorize an expenditure of up to three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) for a one-year Teams license to Canva for messaging and social media management** was seconded by Justin Carman and passed by voice vote.

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **allocate \$250 to Charles Roggen’s campaign for costs related to his candidacy for Village Trustee** was seconded by Karyn Keniry-Thomson and passed by voice vote.

Chair directed the Secretary to send the Treasurer a message with a list of the approved transactions.

Nicholas Smith from Wilton was appointed to the Saratoga County Committee as an At-Large Member.

The Chair requested to **enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing political strategy**; and no objection was offered.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

Executive Session was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **adjourn** was seconded by William Cody Anderson and was approved without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Mark Stephen Braiman,
Secretary.

EXHIBIT 1

Secretary's Report for LPNY Executive Committee Meeting of August 31, 2023.

The Secretary requests approval today of the posted (Draft) Minutes for Executive Committee meetings of May 21, 2023; and June 25, 2023; and State Committee meetings of March 5, 2023; March 19, 2023; and June 4, 2023. (See https://lpedia.org/wiki/Index_of_New_York_State_Party_Meetings. Scroll to near the bottom of the page for the list of 2022-2024 meetings, and then click on the appropriate link in the rightmost column for the minutes).

These minutes are complete as of 8/23/2023. My apologies for not having yet finished correcting and reformatting my drafts of Executive Committee meetings of December 18, 2022 and January 15, 2023; and the State Committee meeting of October 23, 2022. These earlier meetings took place before I had my system in place for getting the minutes recorded and formatted accurately and efficiently. In case anyone needs to check back on what transpired at those meetings, the incorrectly formatted drafts already have essentially all the information that will end up in the final minutes, except Porcupine vote details for the October 23, 2022 meeting.

EXHIBIT 2 (Page 1 of 2)

LPNY Treasurer's Report June 25, 2023

Housekeeping Committee account balance as of June 25, 2023: **\$2410.50** (+\$1286.64 since June 4)

Constituted Committee account balance as of June 25, 2023: **\$25,111.60** (-\$4468.27 since June 4)

Deposits to Housekeeping account since June 4:

Transfer in from CC - \$5,000

Disbursements from Housekeeping account since June 4:

Humanitru - \$3,480.00

Grasshopper - \$33.29

Constant Contact - \$200.07

Deposits to CC account since June 4:

Net Donations - \$571.73

Disbursements from CC account since June 4:

Transfer out to Housekeeping - \$5,000.00

EXHIBIT 2 (Page 2 of 2)

Since I was not at the last state committee meeting, I wanted to reiterate our inflow position for the record.

A summary of monthly donation income since the current state committee was seated appears below. We have seen monthly income trending downward since November 2022.

Oct 22 - \$1005.75

Nov 22 - \$1663.41

Dec 22 - \$1455.07

Jan 23 - \$1019.95

Feb 23 - \$1285.21

Mar 23 - \$1193.01

Apr 23 - \$1032.17

May 23 - \$825.60

Although our recurring monthly expenses have held steady for some time, the implementation of the Humanitru CRM system will have significant one-time (\$1200) and recurring costs (\$3000/year) that we will need to cover going forward.

In short: monthly revenue must be increased significantly in order to adequately cover both our additional recurring expenses, as well as the unexpected expenses, such as for legal and candidate support, we are certain to incur. I defer to the Finance Director to speak to the ways in which he intends to attain the means we require, and to the Communications Director to speak to progress made on resuming our email outreach, which has traditionally been our best opportunity to energize our base and ask for donations periodically.