

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLATFORM COMMITTEE  
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Daniel Castello, Chair  
Andrew Kolstee, Acting Chair/Secretary  
Justin Carman  
Jennifer O'Connor  
Christopher Olenski  
Richard Purtell  
Michael Rebmann  
Keith Redhead  
Robert Schuon  
Blay Tarnoff  
Karyn Thompson

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Paul Grindle

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Acting Chair.

Acting Chair Andrew Kolstee called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Platform Committee.

Christopher Olenski was nominated by Daniel Castello, and he declined the nomination.

Andrew Kolstee was nominated by Robert Schuon, and he declined the nomination.

Robert Schuon was nominated by himself, and he accepted the nomination.

Keith Redhead was nominated by Karyn Thompson, and he declined the nomination.

Justin Carman was nominated by Blay Tarnoff, and he declined the nomination.

Daniel Castello was nominated by Justin Carman, and he accepted the nomination.

Daniel Castello and Robert Schuon spoke on their candidacies.

In the first round of voting for the position of Chair of the Platform Committee, the Acting Chair conducted a roll call vote as follows:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Vote Cast</b>
Justin Carman	Abstain
Daniel Castello	Abstain
Andrew Kolstee	Abstain
Christopher Olenski	None of the Above (NOTA)
Richard Purtell	Robert Schuon
Michael Rebmann	Daniel Castello
Keith Redhead	Daniel Castello
Robert Schuon	Abstain
Blay Tarnoff	Robert Schuon
Karyn Thompson	Daniel Costello

In the first round of voting, the results were as follows:

<b>Vote</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Daniel Castello	3	33.33%
Robert Schuon	2	22.22%
None of the Above (NOTA)	1	11.12%
Abstain	3	33.33%
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Total Voters</b>	<b>9</b>	

Robert Schuon was dropped from the ballot.

In the second round of voting for the position of Chair of the Platform Committee, the Acting Chair conducted a roll call vote as follows:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Vote Cast</b>
Justin Carman	Abstain
Daniel Castello	Abstain
Andrew Kolstee	Abstain
Christopher Olenski	None of the Above (NOTA)
Richard Purtell	Daniel Castello
Michael Rebmann	Daniel Castello
Keith Redhead	Daniel Castello
Robert Schuon	Daniel Castello
Blay Tarnoff	Daniel Castello
Karyn Thompson	Daniel Costello

In the second round of voting, the results were as follows:

<b>Vote</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Daniel Castello	6	66.37%
None of the Above (NOTA)	1	11.11%
Abstain	3	33.33%
<b>Total Votes</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Total Voters</b>	<b>9</b>	

**Daniel Castello was elected Chair of the Platform Committee.**

**Andrew Kolstee was appointed Secretary of the Platform Committee without objection.**

Motion by Blay Tarnoff to adopt the **Resolution of Intent (Exhibit 1)** was seconded by Robert Schuon and debated. Motion by Karyn Thompson to **amend the Resolution of intent by striking “Resolution” and inserting “Statement”** was seconded by Christopher Olenski and passed by voice vote. Motion by Michael Rebmann to **postpone consideration of the Statement of Intent to the next meeting of the Platform Committee** was second by Karyn Thompson and passed by voice vote.

Andrew Kolstee will create a working document for the committee to work on potential platform amendments. There was a general discussion regarding the direction of the committee and where to focus.

The next meeting was for Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **adjourn** was seconded by Robert Schuon and passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Andrew Martin Kolstee  
Secretary of the Platform Committee

**Exhibit 1**

Resolution of Intent

*with regard to amendments to the platform*

**WHEREAS** limiting the Libertarian platform to only those positions that are clearly dictated by the libertarian philosophy showcases the difference between Libertarian and other political parties, declaring we are philosophically grounded and can therefore be trusted not to drift into conflicting or opposite positions over time;

**WHEREAS** failing to anchor platforms in philosophy breeds widespread disdain of political parties, as exemplified by the ubiquitous complaint that "I didn't leave the X Party, it left me";

**WHEREAS** taking positions that other libertarians may disagree with alienates and may chase away potential members, who may in every way be perfect libertarians, as well as candidates and party officials who would otherwise be of great value to our cause;

**WHEREAS** deciding and declaring our intent to impose morally questionable force on everybody opens us to highly credible accusations of hypocrisy for violation of the non-aggression principle;

**WHEREAS** although political parties regularly decide and impose morally questionable force on everyone in their regular course of business, the traditional libertarian position has been to let the courts fill in the ambiguities and marginal cases; and

**WHEREAS** if we as a party are going to advocate imposing morality on people, it should be only such morality as we know and understand to be absolute and unquestionable; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that this Platform Committee shall not propose any amendment that does not logically and unambiguously derive from the libertarian principle of self-ownership.

Blay Tarnoff  
August 1, 2023