

**Minutes of the 2007 Annual Convention  
of the Libertarian Party of New York  
held on April 28, 2007  
at the Radisson Hotel,  
1730 North Ocean Avenue,  
Holtsville, New York**

The convention was called to order by Chair Richard Cooper at 10:00

Tom Stevens moved to amend the agenda to place consideration of the matter of which County Organization shall be chartered in Queens County after the election of officers. Blay Tarnoff objected that it was out of order to consider a matter that is in violation of the Bylaws. The Chair ruled the vote in order. The motion to amend the agenda passed.

Jeff Russell was the only candidate to be nominated for the office of Chair. **Jeff Russell was elected Chair.**

The following candidates were nominated for the 2 offices of Vice Chair; their vote totals follow.

Christopher Garvey	26
M Carling	25
Mark Axinn	17
John Clifton	16
NOTA	1

**Christopher Garvey and M Carling were elected Vice Chairs.**

The following candidates were nominated for the office of Secretary; their vote totals follow.

Joseph Dobrian	23
Blay Tarnoff	18
NOTA	1

**Joseph Dobrian was elected Secretary.**

The following candidates were nominated for the office of Treasurer; their vote totals follow.

Gary Popkin	31
Ron Ramo	11
NOTA	0

**Gary Popkin was elected Treasurer.**

The following candidates were nominated for the 5 at large offices; their vote totals follow.

Donald Silberger	19	19	28	W		
Christopher Edes	16	16	19	23	W	
Audrey Capozzi	17	19	20	21	19	W
Werner Hetzner	14	15	20	18	19	W
Estelle Edwards	13	13	17	16	15	18
John Clifton	16	13	14	15	15	18
Mark Axinn	11	14	16	19	17	D
Tom Stevens	11	11	13	13	D	
Blay Tarnoff	14	12	14	12	E	
Ron Ramo	10	7	5	E		
Eric Sundwall	11	10	D			
Gary Donoyan	9	9	D			
Bruce Martin	8	7	D			
Jim Harris	6	6	D			
Alden Link	7	4	D			
Nic Leobold	4	3	E			
Andy MacAskill	9	D				
Max Kessler	5	D				
Gary Triestman	4	D				
Nat Weiner	2	E				
NOTA	0	0	0	0	0	0

W = Winner by majority of ballots cast

D = Dropped out voluntarily

E = Eliminated for lowest vote total

At 12:10, after the fourth round of voting for at large member, the meeting was recessed until 13:30, at which time voting continued. **Donald Silberger, Christopher Edes, Werner Hetzner, and Audrey Capozzi were elected members of the State Committee at large.**

After the sixth round of voting for at large member, M Carling moved that the winner among the remaining two candidates, John Clifton and Estelle Edwards, be chosen by the toss of a coin. The motion passed WITHOUT OBJECTION. Estelle Edwards won the coin toss. Tom Stevens moved to appeal the decision of the Chair that a toss of the coin was in order. Blay Tarnoff raised the point of order that it was too late to appeal the decision of the Chair after the coin toss had taken place. The Chair ruled that the appeal of the Chair was in order. The appeal to sustain the ruling of the Chair was tied. The Chair ruled that there would be an election to determine the winner among the two remaining candidates. M Carling raised the point of order that, per RONR (10<sup>th</sup> ed.), p.250, a tie in an appeal of the ruling of the Chair means that the decision of the Chair is sustained and the coin toss should therefore stand. The Chair ruled that the coin toss was in order but that an election would nevertheless be held to determine the winner. The result of the election was 19 votes for John Clifton and 17 votes for Estelle Edwards. **John Clifton was elected member of the State Committee at large.**

During the voting for members at large, the matter of which County Organization shall be chartered in Queens County was considered. Tom Stevens moved to restrict the charter of the Brooklyn-Queens County Organization to Brooklyn only and to charter Queens County alone. Blay Tarnoff objected that consideration of this matter was contrary to the Bylaws. M Carling moved to divide the question. The motion to divide PASSED. The motion to **restrict the charter of the Brooklyn-Queens County Organization to Brooklyn only** PASSED. The motion to **charter Queens County alone** PASSED.

Also during the voting for members at large, the matter of bylaws amendments was considered. Blay Tarnoff moved to adopt all the proposed bylaws amendments as a block. Tom Stevens moved to divide the question to consider each separately. The motion to divide the question PASSED. Blay Tarnoff presented the amendments to the body.

Amendment #1, which read as follows, PASSED.

**In Article II, substitute for section B, “Dues and expiration dates for Direct State Membership shall be set by the State Committee. No additional dues may be required of Lifetime Members.”**

Amendment #2, which read as follows, PASSED.

**In Article VI, section B,**

**strike out the current title and insert “Meetings”,  
in subsection 1,**

**insert “in person or by teleconference” after “shall meet” and  
insert “in person” after “to be held”,**

**in subsection 2, strike out “may be held at any place within the State of New York except as provided for under Article IV Section C” and insert “held in person, other than the meeting held at the close of the Annual Convention, must be held within the State of New York”,**

**in subsection 3, strike out “may” and insert “shall”,**

**in the unenumerated final paragraph, strike out “and” and insert “any”,**

**insert “4.” prior to the beginning of the unenumerated final paragraph to make it an enumerated fourth subsection, and**

**add subsection “5. The State Committee may conduct mail balloting via the internet.**

**The wording of a motion to be approved by internet balloting shall be vetted online for at least 72 hours before being submitted to a vote to ensure that it is phrased in a concise, unambiguous, and complete form appropriate to its purpose.”**

Amendment #3, which read as follows, FAILED.

In Article VI, add section “K. The five officers shall form the Executive Committee of the State Committee. The Executive Committee shall have the powers of the State Committee between meetings of the State Committee except that the Executive Committee may not: 1. rescind any action of the State Committee, 2. suspend a member of the Party, 3. adopt or amend a budget, 4. charter or revoke the charter of a County Organization, 5. endorse a candidate for public office, 6. pass a resolution in the name of the State Committee, or 7. take any action for which more than a simple majority of the State Committee would be required to enact. The Executive Committee may meet via teleconference or may conduct mail balloting via the internet.”

Amendment #4a, which read as follows, FAILED.

In Article II, section A,

strike out all subsections and the final sentence,  
insert “subscribe to the Principles and Objectives of the LPNY and pay such dues as may be required. A ‘member’ as used in these By-Laws is a person who has satisfied the foregoing criteria. A ‘pledged member’ as used in these By-Laws is a member who has signed and submitted one of the following” after “who shall”,  
add subsection “1. a declaration of agreement with the Principles and Objectives of the LPNY, either directly to the LPNY or to one of its chartered County Organizations or”, and  
add subsection “2. if the individual has applied for a combined State and National membership under a coordinated program, a statement certifying that he opposes the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals, either to the National Libertarian Party, directly to the LPNY or to one of its chartered County Organizations.”,  
in Article III, section D, subsection 3, insert “pledged” before “member”,  
in Article IV,  
in section A,  
insert “pledged” before “LPNY member” and  
insert “pledged” before “members in good standing” if amendment 6 has passed and  
in section D, subsection 2,  
insert “pledged” before “members of the LPNY”,  
insert “pledged” before “LPNY members”, and  
strike out the comma after “such”,  
in Article V, section F,  
insert “pledged” before “members” and  
strike out “of” and insert “in”,  
in Article VI, section G, insert “pledged” before “members in good standing”,  
in Article IX, strike out “that they subscribe to the Principles and Objectives of the LPNY as provided in Articles I and II on” and insert “in satisfaction of Article II of”,  
in Article XII,  
in section B, subsection 1, insert “pledged” before each of the two occurrences of “membership”,  
in section D, subsection 2, item c, insert “pledged” before “members”,  
in section E, subsection 1, insert “pledged” before “members”, and  
in section F, subsection 1, insert “pledged” before “LPNY members”, and  
in Article XVI, section A, subsection 2,  
in item a, insert “pledged” before “members”,  
in item b, insert “pledged” before “members”, and  
in item c,  
insert “pledged” before “members” and  
strike out “estimate” and insert “estimated”.

Amendment #4b, which read as follows, FAILED.

In Article II, section A, substitute for subsection 2, “sign and submit one of the following:  
a. an application to that effect either directly to the LPNY or to one of its chartered County Organizations or b. if the individual has applied for a combined State and National membership under a coordinated program, a statement certifying that he opposes the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals, either to the National Libertarian Party, directly to the LPNY or to one of its chartered County Organizations, and” and

in Article IX, strike out “that they subscribe to the Principles and Objectives of the LPNY as provided in Articles I and II on” and insert “in satisfaction of Article II of”.



Amendment #5, which read as follows, FAILED.

In Article VI, section G, add “Failure to maintain membership in good standing shall be grounds for suspension or removal from the State Committee.” and  
in Article X,  
capitalize the “c” in “committee” and  
strike out “in good standing of such Committee”.

Amendment #6, which read as follows, PASSED.

**In Article IV, section A,**

**insert “The Convention shall have the discretion to allow other members in good standing to vote on any or all matters unless three (3) members who are entitled to vote object.” after the first sentence and**

**insert “pledged” before “members in good standing” in the newly inserted sentence if amendment 4a has passed.**

Amendment #7, which read as follows, PASSED.

**In Article VI, section I, add “Any member of the State Committee who has previously failed to attend or participate in two (2) consecutive properly called meetings and has evinced no other intent to continue in office may be removed from the State Committee for having abandoned the position; for this vote, the member or members in question need not be counted for quorum purposes.”.**

Amendment #8, which read as follows, PASSED.

**In Article X, section B, strike out “, exclusive of the Immediate Past Chair”.**

After consideration of the Bylaws amendments and the fifth round of voting for at large member, Bruce Martin moved to allow all present members in good standing to vote on all remaining matters. The motion PASSED.

The Convention was adjourned at 14:45.

Respectfully submitted, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2007,  
Blay Tarnoff, Past Secretary, Libertarian Party of New York