

**Minutes of the March 4, 2007 Meeting of the State Committee  
of the Libertarian Party of New York  
held by telephone conference call**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Cooper at 20:10.

**Members in attendance:**

Richard Cooper, Chair  
Joseph Dobrian, Vice Chair (did not respond to quorum count at 21:10)  
M Carling, Vice Chair, Membership Structure and Mailing Committee Chair, Outsourcing Agreement  
Committee Chair  
Blay Tarnoff, Secretary, Party Telecommunications Officer  
Gary Popkin, Treasurer  
Chris Garvey, At-large  
Gary Donoyan, At-large  
Andy MacAskill, Nassau County Representative  
Estelle Edwards, Suffolk County Representative (did not respond to quorum count at 21:10)  
Jeffrey Monheit, Brooklyn-Queens Representative  
Donald Silberger, At-large (arrived 20:15; did not respond to quorum count at 21:10)  
Werner Hetzner, Capital Region Representative (arrived 20:20)

**Members not in attendance:**

Eric Sundwall, At-large  
Audrey Capozzi, At-large  
Gary Triestman, Hudson Valley Representative, Newsletter Editor  
Rob Robinson, Ithaca Libertarians Representative  
Tom Stevens, Manhattan Representative  
John Clifton, Immediate Past Chair

Richard Cooper issued a Convention Report. **Joseph Dobrian volunteered to prepare a one sheet summary of Robert's Rules of Order to enable members to participate in the business meeting at the upcoming Annual Convention.**

Gary Popkin issued a Treasurer's Report stating that we have approximately \$7000 in the treasury.

Chris Garvey moved to approve the following amendment to the Bylaws for submission to the upcoming Annual Convention:

We hereby improve the voting system to allow voters to express more information in their votes and to reconcile the desire to express their opinions honestly in their vote, with the desire not to be strategically foolish:

1. Each vote in an N-candidate election with  $N > 2$  (Note: N includes all "write-in" candidates, if they are allowed) shall consist of one numerical score from 0 to 99 awarded to each candidate (for example 57, 0, 34, 99 could be one vote in a 4-candidate election);
2. Voters are allowed to fill entries with an "X" ("intentional blank") if they desire not to express an opinion about that candidate (for example 57, 0, X, 99);
3. A candidate's "total" is the average of all his non-blank scores;

4. The candidate with the highest total wins.
5. (Exception: to prevent candidates admired by a small group but unknown to everybody else from winning, the winner must have at least half the summed-score as the candidate with the greatest score-sum. This also removes any fear from voters about honestly putting "blank.")
6. Any illegible or out-of-range score shall be treated as "blank" so that the rest of that ballot's scores still get used.

The motion was WITHDRAWN WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Blay Tarnoff moved to **approve the following nine amendments to the Bylaws for submission to the upcoming Annual Convention (see PDF document "LPNY Bylaws proposal 2007.pdf" at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lpny\\_committee/files/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lpny_committee/files/)):**

- 1) MOTION: 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."**
- 2) MOTION: 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."**
- 3) MOTION: 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."**
- 4a) MOTION:  
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".

**4b) MOTION:**

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”.**

**5) MOTION:**

**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”.**

**6) MOTION: 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.**

**7) MOTION: 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.”.**

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

Joseph Dobrian moved to order the previous question, immediately ending debate and immediately bringing the substantive motion to a vote. The motion to order the previous question PASSED. The motion to approve the amendments to the Bylaws for submission to the upcoming Annual Convention PASSED.

**Blay Tarnoff volunteered to edit down the Bylaws amendment proposal to a reasonable size that comports with the requirements of the Bylaws for the notification to be sent to the membership.**

A quorum count at 21:10 confirmed that 9 members who count toward quorum were present.

Gary Donoyan moved to **direct the Web Editor to grant the Secretary statewide access to the Nidus membership database.** The motion PASSED unanimously.

Chris Garvey moved to adjourn. The motion PASSED.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:25.

Respectfully submitted, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007,  
Blay Tarnoff, Secretary, Libertarian Party of New York