

Libertarian Party of California

2017 Convention Minutes

April 29-30, 2017

Santa Clara Marriott

2700 Mission College Boulevard

Santa Clara, CA 95054

Call to Order

Chair, Ted Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m., April 29, 2017

Credentials Report

Honor Robson presented the initial Credentials Committee Report with the following delegate count: 75 delegates; accordingly, a simple majority was determined to be 38 delegates and a two-thirds majority was determined to be 50 delegates.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Matthew Barnes moved and William Lopez seconded to remove the Bylaws Committee Report from the agenda.

Discussion: Mary Gingell spoke in opposition to the motion noting that there should still be the opportunity for Bylaw Amendments to be presented from the floor, noting that she had seen one such amendment already proposed.

Jonathan Jaech, Bylaws Committee Chair, spoke in favor of the motion noting that he had taken on the task as committee chair with the intention of having an online forum where proposed Bylaw amendments could be presented and discussed. Although the online forum was somewhat successful, with the busy Presidential Election season as well as local candidate races, everyone got busy and in the end none of the proposals were agreed upon or posted in the timeframe prescribed by our Bylaws. Therefore he feels the time could be better spent on more pressing issues of the party.

Joe Dehn spoke in opposition to the motion. Because the Bylaws committee didn't do its job is no reason we can't address Bylaw amendments from the floor. There is already a safeguard as an amendment from the floor requires a 2/3 vote.

Substitute Motion: Aaron Starr moves with second to adopt the agenda as presented and have time for the one item that has been proposed.

Discussion: Kenneth Brent Olsen spoke in opposition to the substitute motion; he is aware of multiple proposals for changes to the Bylaws. We as a party need to look at the best ways to move forward and need to look at the best ways to advance, develop and build our party. Therefore we need to look at all proposals, take them into consideration and vote on them.

Motion: Call the question on the substitute motion

Vote: Substitute motion fails by voice count

Discussion on Main Motion: Mark Hinkle spoke in opposition to the main motion. Many of the existing Bylaws are out-of-date, such as voting by county which hasn't been done in many years. The fact that Bylaws haven't been updated since 2013 shows people visiting the website that we as a party have been "inactive" for years.

Matthew Barnes spoke in favor of the main motion. In working with activists on a daily basis the Bylaws have never helped in that endeavor. He stated that there was no Bylaws Committee report on purpose so the party wasn't burdened with new rules.

Motion: Aaron Starr moved to amend the motion, with second, to limit Bylaws Discussion to one half hour.

Vote: Motion to amend fails by voice count; 22 in favor, 36 opposed.

Vote: Main motion to remove the Bylaws Committee Report from the Agenda fails by voice count

Vote: Agenda adopted without objection

Officer's Reports

Chair's Report

Ted Brown, Chair, reported the following:

We are still basking in the major highlight of 2016 -- the presidential election. California led a large delegation at the LP National Convention in Orlando, and I was proud to be the delegation chairman. During the campaign, Gary Johnson visited California, holding events in both the north and south. I went to the Hollywood event, and was surprised that I didn't know 80% of the attendees. This is a good thing, and I take it as a sign that the Johnson campaign has attracted a lot of new people to the Libertarian cause.

The California LP fielded several candidates in the June primary election, including Alex Appleby and Kennita Watson for Congress. Though they didn't end up in the Top Two, I recruited several write-in candidates in districts with

unopposed incumbents and 5 of them proceeded to the November election and did well. These intrepid representatives of liberty are Mimi Robson, Baron Bruno, Ken Anton, Donn Coenen, and Mike Everling.

We also had some nonpartisan wins in November. Susan Marie Weber got reelected to the Palm Desert City Council, Brian Holtz to the Purissima Water Board, and Jonathan Hall to the Tehachapi-Cummings Water Board. One new officeholder in San Diego is Wallace Stewart. There's a little story about him. I got an e-mail from our tireless ballot access specialist, Richard Winger, that San Diego Republicans were digging up candidates for small non-partisan races. I stole this idea and e-mailed several LP members in rural San Diego County, Wallace Stewart responded and filed for the Vista Fire Protection Board. He was elected unopposed.

During the campaign, your chairman was able to do a few interviews plugging the state party. Johnson and Weld did a Univision interview, and I was interviewed on streaming afterwards. I probably don't have a future in stand-up comedy, but I did get invited to three stage comedy shows in Hollywood, where I was a panelist in the Bill Maher style. The improv actors really seemed to like my idea of police robots using sleeping gas to subdue criminals instead of remote bombs. That was a lot of fun! Jeff Hewitt and I presented LP ideas to students at Glendale College as part of an election forum. Young people remain very interested in LP ideas. In fact, I have a standing invitation every quarter to address political science classes at Pierce College, along with representatives of the other parties, and to take questions from students.

Since the general election, a special election came up in Los Angeles in the 34th Congressional District. Angela McArdle agreed to run for it, and she did a great job in getting the Libertarian message out, despite being only one of 23 candidates.

California Libertarians also manned a booth at the popular California State Fair in Sacramento last summer. Mark Hinkle and national LP affiliate director Andy Burns made this happen, and a lot of our members volunteered to staff the booth over a three week stretch. As a result of their efforts, a lot of people heard about the LP and Johnson/Weld who may not have otherwise.

Membership is up, though not as I'd hoped for. This is a top goal during the coming year. Thankfully, we have a new enthusiastic and able secretary, Mimi Robson, who's been working on the data base and on membership issues. Due to her revisions, it's now a lot easier to identify who our members are. She's been doing a great job as secretary, and I have no doubt her contributions will increase membership numbers. Thanks for all you've done already, Mimi.

I became more involved in convention planning this time by serving on the Convention Committee. Let me tell you, it was quite a learning experience to see

just how much has to happen to put on an event like this. Our Convention Committee has also done a great job. Robert and Jennifer Imhoff have been the boots on the ground to make sure everything comes off smoothly here at the hotel. We wouldn't have this great convention without their efforts. The other committee members are Alex Appleby, Mark Hinkle, Bill Lopez, and Starchild. Everyone contributed to a very complicated process; well done!

Finally, I want to thank all of the activists at the state and local level who have done so much to help our party grow and prosper. I can't mention everyone, but I'll mention a few. Some are old timers who have been active for years, like Elizabeth Brierly, our newsletter editor; Mark Hinkle, who did so much on the state fair project; Matt Barnes, who contributed our office space in Monrovia; and Boomer Shannon for "you name a project, he's helped with it". Then there are new activists, who have been coming on like gangbusters. Robert and Jennifer Imhoff, whose involvement in the convention planning has been indispensable; Alex Appleby, who ran a very visible Congressional campaign and has been involved in so many projects since then, including a booth at the Asparagus Festival last weekend; Mimi Robson, who ran a great State Senate campaign and then agreed to be our very efficient secretary; Baron Bruno, who ran a great State Assembly campaign, and now will be working on boosting our fundraising; and Angela McArdle, a new member who jumped right into a very active congressional race to present the Libertarian alternative in a very left-wing district.

I am looking forward to all of us continuing to promote liberty in the upcoming year.

Northern Vice-Chair's Report:

Brian Thiemer, Northern Vice-Chair presented his report.

County Party Highlights:

- Kings County (Activated):
 - Chair: Kenneth Brent Olsen
- San Joaquin County (elected officers!):
 - Chair: Alex Appleby
- Alpine County: 721 registered voters; 5 Libertarians
 - Free County Movement?
- State Party Office moved to Monrovia (So Cal);
Nor Cal office in stasis

County Party Statistics:

- 14 Counties Active
- 8 Counties in the beginning stages
- 26 Counties are Dormant

Election Highlights:

- **CA Assembly 1:**
 - Candidate: Donn Coenen
 - 1:1 match up, 52,871 votes, 26.2%
 - District covers 9 counties
 - Spent so little, didn't need to file a FPPC report
- **CA Assembly 2:**
 - Candidate: Ken Anton
 - 1:1 match up, 51,245 votes, 27.1%
 - District covers 5 counties
 - Spent so little, didn't need to file a FPPC report
- **Fairfield City Council:**
 - Candidate: Brian Thiemer
 - 1:1 match up, 51,245 votes, 27.1%
 - Top 2 out of 4: 8,793 votes; 15.8% (4th place)
 - Endorsed by city newspaper

Registration Totals:

	<u>Jun-16</u>	<u>Feb-17</u>	<u>8 month Delta</u>
State Total Registrations	17,915,053	19,432,609	+1,517,556
State Total- Total LIB	115,189	141,461	+26,272
State Total- LIB Percent	0.64%	0.73%	

Northern 48 counties had a net gain of 11,070 registered Libertarian voters.

Top 10 Registration Change (net voters):

<u>County</u>	<u>Jun 2016</u>	<u>Feb 2017</u>	<u>net new voters</u>
State Total	115,189	141,461	26,272
Sacramento	5,207	6,906	1,699
Santa Clara	4,635	5,826	1,191
Contra Costa	3,172	3,993	821
Alameda	3,931	4,641	710
Fresno	2,266	2,820	554
Placer	2,857	3,373	516
San Francisco	2,602	3,100	498
San Mateo	1,862	2,319	457
San Joaquin	1,691	2,111	420
Solano	1,267	1,687	411

Top 10 Registration by Percentage Gain:

<u>County</u>	<u>Jun 2016</u>	<u>Feb 2017</u>	<u>8 month gain</u>
State Total	115,189	141,461	23%
Colusa	45	62	38%
Yolo	675	913	35%
Kings	290	386	33%
Sacramento	5,207	6,906	33%
Solano	1,276	1,687	32%
Tulare	876	1,158	32%
Stanislaus	1,327	1,729	30%
Lassen	102	131	28%
El Dorado	1,222	1,546	27%
Sutter	299	377	26%

State of Jefferson:

- Resolved, the Libertarian Party of California supports movements, like the State of Jefferson, that empower people to build the system of governance that serves them best.
 - Convention July 23, 2016
 - Had some Chair Pro Tems

Buzz and Feedback:

- Affiliate Inquiries:
 - Before election.....6 counties in the initial stages
 - After election.....Silence
- Individual Inquiries:
 - Before election.....1 every 5 minutes (state & national)
 - After election.....nothing
- Prop 64:
 - Before recommendation > Far more interest
 - After recommendation > People confused. . .

Registration Data:

- Get your county voter registration database!
 - Per California Election Code 2185 : a county chairperson is entitled to copies of the county's database, at no charge.

“Upon written demand of the chair or vice chair of a party state central committee or of the chair of a party county central committee, the county elections official shall furnish to each committee, without charge therefor, the index of registration for the primary and general elections, for any special election at which a partisan office is to be filled, or for any statewide special election.”

Southern Vice-Chair's Report:

Jonathan Jaech, Southern Vice-Chair, gave his report.

It's been an honor to serve as your Southern Vice-Chair for the past three years. I hope you've been satisfied or happy or even proud to be a part of this 'rockin So Cal PARTY, where "you can be different and still fit in." I've tried my best to be supportive, and to do the activism that I can.

2016 was a good year in Southern California, by many measures. The presidential numbers were more than three times higher than our previous record. A lot of folks were busy campaigning. Our membership grew. Our members were at peace with one another. We found ways to support one another despite our disagreements. People patched over old wounds, and moved on. When the vibe is good, when we follow our own principles of non-aggression, a lot of good activity blooms.

So there's a lot to report and I don't have much time. 2016 was a huge energy pulse that infused new members and a new positivity. I am so grateful to Gary Johnson and Bill Weld for attracting such fine members to us. Let's multiply that gift, that positivity! Let's grow those new members!

Aaron Starr fought a dramatic battle in Oxnard that is still ongoing. Susan Marie Weber (on the ExCom) won re-election in Palm Desert. Jeff Hewitt was all over the place for Calimesa. Our Chair Ted marshalled write-in candidates all over the state. Several made it on the November ballot. 4 of them right here in Southern Cal. Mimi Robson got 22% of her state senate district, with a tiny campaign chest. Baron Bruno ran an inspired, committed campaign in a three-way race in heavily Democrat territory. Both Mimi and Baron volunteered for the ExCom after their campaigns. Mike Everling was also on the November ballot, for state assembly. Alive Free Happy was all over the place, just doing a tremendous job, sending crews to staff booths at colleges and fairs, collecting data, building up infrastructure, building websites for local campaigns, leveraging the Johnson campaign to build up the local Party, too many things to mention. Judd Weiss ran for VP with John McAfee. Alicia Dearn ran for VP and became Chair of the San Diego LP. Angela McArdle ran for US Congress with a team of supporters. Jay Jones and Jill Pyeatt kept working hard to grow regional supper clubs. Mark Herd ran for LA City Council. I could go on, but you get the picture.

It's great to see all that activity, and more than awesome to feel the good vibrations! Something new is blowing in the wind! But if we're honest with ourselves, we face a long road ahead before liberty prevails over tyranny, before we conquer all the obstacles holding us back.

So let's start with the fundamentals. If we want to make the world a better place, we've got to start by making our party a better place. We've got to avoid the venom, de-toxify our environment. I could see that happening all over the place last year. Not that everything was perfect -- perfection ain't possible, folks. If there was infighting anywhere, I didn't hear about it. A lot of us had a great time campaigning, and doing other stuff together. I already talked about that.

The point is we win by making this party a nicer place to be. By that metric, we are winning! People will come to a nicer place to be. When that happens, our movement gets bigger and more cohesive. As it swells, we gain political power, and the adversaries of freedom step up their attacks.

Sure, we have a long way to go before the ugly game of electoral politics gets better. But we are winning the culture wars, if you look at the long-term trending. The millennials are far more libertarian, as a group, than the generation before them. California legalized weed. The Cannabis industry is booming, festivals and commerce springing up everywhere. All those people are with us. The crypto movement, open source, gamer, sci-fi, fantasy, maker movements are growing. Take a look at Burning Man. Those people are all with us. The moderate sensible

middle class people, who liked Gary Johnson and Bill Weld, are with us. The organic natural food, live off the earth people are with us. The homeschoolers and un-schoolers are with us. The religious freedom people are with us. The true conservatives are with us. Silicon Valley and Silicon Beach are with us. A lot of people in the entertainment business, a lot of musicians and artists are with us in the cultural sense. We've got to let them know that we are with them.

And we've got to build a compelling culture. A culture of mutual respect, first. Add to that mutual support in the game of politics. With that ethical foundation, we'll win respect for our words and deeds. Activists will have a reason to join, and do their activism with us. Candidates for public office will find meaningful support here. Our politics will be open, fresh, inspiring, respectful, winning!

There's one very important fundamental that we can't overlook. Practice what you preach. We must make this party a nicer place for good people to be. Nicer than any other party; nicer than people imagine a political party can be. By doing that so we will earn the people's trust. So people know that we can and will use whatever office we run for to make their home better now and in the long term.

So I'm happy to report that the state of affairs for libertarians in Southern California over the past year was . . . nice. And the forecast for the year ahead is for that niceness to continue and grow. As we become nicer, we will attract new volunteers and allies to help us out in the great work ahead. That great work to make our party the nicest club one could ever hope to join. And by doing that, to win!

Secretary's Report:

Honor Robson, Secretary, reported the following:

As a new member of the Executive Committee I want to start by introducing myself. I have been a member of the Libertarian Party for over 3 decades, and in that time have been active in regards to many issues, both nationally and at the state level, however I've only recently become active in the State Party. Last year Ted Brown, our Party Chair, contacted me and asked if I would run for State Senate in my district and I said yes without hesitation. After the election I realized that many things weren't being kept up-to-date at the State Party and when the previous Secretary resigned Ted asked if I would be willing to take over as Secretary and I agreed. I was appointed first by the State Operations Committee and then by the full Executive Committee in February of this year and have since been working to update several items that had been neglected.

My first priority was to insure that all previous Executive Committee and Convention Minutes were completed and approved. This was accomplished in the February 26, 2017 Executive Committee meeting and were promptly posted on the State's website. In addition I had the minutes of the February meeting completed within about a week and a half and an email motion was made and

passed to approve those minutes and they were posted on the State Website within two weeks. This was important as I feel that for complete transparency of the Executive Committee all official business should be available to the membership.

The next priority was insuring that our party membership was brought current. A problem was discovered that individuals that had joined or renewed their membership through the county affiliates had not been processed through the State's database. I have been working closely with the counties to insure that all membership is current, although there is still work to be done in that regard.

With that being said, the membership at the end of the first quarter of 2016 was 800 and the membership at the end of the first quarter of 2017 was 1,044, which is an increase of 31%! And I suspect that once all of the counties have been updated it will reflect an even larger increase!

Going forward, I want to insure that the membership is brought current in a far more efficient and effective way. If you are in a county that I haven't yet contacted, please know that I will be contacting you shortly. Also know that I check my email daily and will respond within a day or two. I can also be reached by phone if there is something you feel needs to be addressed.

I look forward to working with the state and county affiliates in the year to come. I know together we can increase outreach and membership and get our message out to many!

Treasurer's Report:

Gale Morgan was not present at the convention so no report was given.

Consent Calendar

There are no items on the Consent Calendar

Recess for Lunch

Meeting Recessed at noon

Reconvene

Chair, Ted Brown, called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

Bylaws Committee Report

The Bylaws Committee Chair, Jonathan Jaech, report is: the Committee has no report this year, but did experiment with using a forum for bylaws discussion, which is still up at [LP Bylaws Discussion - Index](#)

The Chair called for Bylaw Proposals from the Floor

Motion: Mark Hinkle moved, with standing second, to remove Convention Rule 4 and renumber.

Rule 4: Polling Procedure

~~In all cases where a roll call vote is required, polling shall be conducted by county. The Secretary will solicit the vote from each county delegation in alphabetic order. A representative for each delegation shall report the vote for that delegation. Convention seating will be by county. Each county's delegates shall elect a representative for their county. If any delegate challenges the vote reported by any county's representative, the Secretary shall poll the delegates from that county individually.~~

Point of Information: Aaron Starr spoke to Rule 16: Amendments of the Convention Rules: Amendments of the convention rules can be made by a simple majority if the changes will take effect at the close of the convention.

Vote: Motion Passes; 38 in favor, 13 opposed.

Motion: Kenneth Brent Olsen moved with standing second to amend Bylaw 10: Officers, Sections 1 and 4; Bylaw 12: Executive Committee, Section 1 and Convention Rule 13: Election of Party Officers, Section 1 to create an additional Vice-Chair position for the central counties of the State:

Bylaw 10: Officers

Section 1

The Party officers shall consist of a Chair, a Northern Vice-Chair, a Southern Vice-Chair, ~~a~~ **Central Vice-Chair**, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. All of these officers shall be elected for two-year terms, beginning in odd-numbered years at an annual convention of the State Central Committee of the Party, by attending delegates, and shall take office immediately upon the close of such convention. Only delegates from a specific region may vote for candidates for Vice-Chair of that region.

Section 4

The Vice-Chairs shall act as assistants to the Chair. The Northern Vice-Chair shall reside in the northern ~~half~~ **third** of the state, and the Southern Vice-Chair shall reside in the southern ~~half~~ **third** of the state, ~~and the~~ **Central Vice-Chair shall reside in the central third of the state** ~~(with the state divided at the northern boundaries of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino counties~~ **with the state divided by thirds as follows: the Southern third shall end at the northern boundaries of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernardino counties; the Central third shall begin north of the Southern boundaries and extend to the northern boundaries of San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, Contra**

Motion: Aaron Starr moved with second that this item be postponed until the maker of the motion provides printed copies of the proposal to the delegates;

Discussion: Robert Imhoff reminded the delegates that all of the information regarding this motion is available on the State Facebook page.

Substitute Motion: Boomer Shannon moved, with standing second, to refer this motion to the Bylaws Committee for review. As this is such a sweeping motion and involves several sections of the Bylaws it should be looked at carefully and brought back to the full delegation next year.

Discussion: Kenneth Brent Olsen, the maker of the main motion, spoke in favor of referring the motion to the Bylaws Committee.

Vote: Substitute motion passes by show of hands

Motion: Mark Hinkle moved, with standing second, to remove Convention Rule 14.B (which is now 13.B per previous removal of Rule 4).

Rule 14 (13): Election of At-Large Executive Committee Members

~~B. Each county delegation shall tabulate its total vote. The delegation chairs shall deliver their written totals to the Secretary, who shall conduct a roll call vote of the counties. When all of the county delegations have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed.~~

Discussion: Robert Imhoff spoke in favor of the motion; as we have already removed Rule 4 it makes no sense to keep another reference to voting by county.

Motion: Aaron Starr moved to amend the main motion with standing second to only remove the first 2 sentences of 14 (13).B which pertain to voting by county and revise the third sentence regarding the Secretary calling the voting closed as follows:

Rule 14 (13): Election of At-Large Executive Committee Members

B. ~~Each county delegation shall tabulate its total vote. The delegation chairs shall deliver their written totals to the Secretary, who shall conduct a roll call vote of the counties.~~ When all of the county delegations *delegates* have submitted their votes, the Secretary shall declare the voting closed.

Vote: Amendment of Main Motion passes by voice count.

Substitute Motion: Matthew Barnes moves with standing second to refer this amendment to the Bylaws Committee.

Vote: Substitute motion fails by show of hands

Vote: Main motion passes by show of hands

Motion: Joe Dehn moves with standing second to amend Bylaw 10, Section 5 by adding the following sentence to the end of the section:

Bylaw 10: Officers

Section 5

The Secretary shall provide a monthly report, to the Executive Committee and to all county chairs, showing the number of Central Committee members affiliated with each county, including the number not affiliated with any county, if any, and the total number of Central Committee members statewide.

Substitute Motion: Aaron Starr moved with standing second to commit this motion to the Bylaws Committee with a favorable recommendation.

Vote: Substitute motion fails by show of hands.

Vote: Main motion fails by lack of 2/3 majority (50); 23 in favor, 17 opposed

Recess

Meeting Recessed at 3:04 p.m.

Call to Order

Chair, Ted Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m., April 30, 2017

Credentials Report

Honor Robson presented the Credentials Committee Report with the following delegate count: 81 delegates; accordingly, a simple majority was determined to be 41 delegates and a two-thirds majority was determined to be 54 delegates.

Election of Party Officers

Ted Brown, Party Chair, recognized William Hajdu who announced he would be resigning his seat as At-Large Representative of the State Executive Committee.

Motion: Per the Convention Rules, "Each candidate for At-Large Member shall be allowed one nominating speech no longer than three minutes."

Motion to suspend the rules to allow three minutes total to be used by the nominee in any way they wish (e.g. one-minute nomination speech and two-minute candidate speech).

Vote: Motion passes without objection.

Motion: Motion to suspend the rules; if only one nomination is received for any of the State Officer positions delegates shall vote by voice count with the nominee and NOTA.

Vote: Motion passes without objection.

Motion: Motion to suspend the rules to allow each delegate to cast up to six votes for At-Large Member, with the nominee receiving the least votes filling the vacated At-Large seat for a one-year term.

Vote: Motion passes without objection.

Election of Chair:

Nomination: Jeff Hewitt nominated **Ted Brown**
Baron Bruno seconded the nomination

Vote: **Ted Brown** was elected Chair without opposition

Election of Northern Vice-Chair:

Nomination: Robert Imhoff nominated **Kenneth Brent Olsen**
Brian Thiemer seconded the nomination

Vote: **Kenneth Brent Olsen** was elected Northern Vice-Chair without opposition

Election of Southern Vice-Chair:

Nomination: Boomer Shannon nominated **Jonathan Jaech**
Angela McArdle seconded the nomination

Vote: **Jonathan Jaech** was elected Southern Vice-Chair without opposition

Election of Secretary:

Nomination: Jennifer Imhoff nominated **Honor "Mimi" Robson**
Elizabeth Brierly seconded the nomination

Vote: **Honor "Mimi" Robson** was elected Secretary without opposition

Election of Treasurer:

Nomination: Mark Hinkle nominated **Steven Haug**
Elizabeth Brierly seconded the nomination

Vote: **Steven Haug** was elected Treasurer without opposition

Election of At-Large Members of the Executive Committee:

Nomination: Terry Floyd nominated **Boomer Shannon**

Nomination: Angela McArdle nominated **Wendy Hewitt**

Nomination: Jeff Hewitt nominated **Robert Imhoff**

Nomination: Elizabeth Brierly nominated **Mark Hinkle**

Nomination: Tyler Kuskie nominated **Zachary Moore**

Nomination: Jarrett Tilford nominated **Tyler Kuskie**

Nomination: Robert Imhoff nominated **Alex Appleby**

Recess for Lunch

Meeting Recessed at noon

Reconvene

Chair, Ted Brown, called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Teller Committee

The Secretary, Honor Robson, appointed Alicia Mattson, Bill Hajdu, David Schrader and student volunteers Olivia Clark and Spencer Lindquist, to the Teller Committee to tally the votes for At-Large and Alternate At-Large Members of the Executive Committee.

Election of At-Large Members of the Executive Committee: (cont.)

Tellers Report; Alicia Mattson reported that 71 ballots were cast; majority required is 36

Vote: Alex Appleby	61 votes	Elected for 2-year Term
Boomer Shannon	54 votes	Elected for 2-year Term
Robert Imhoff	52 votes	Elected for 2-year Term
Wendy Hewitt	47 votes	Elected for 2-year Term
Tyler Kuskie	44 votes	Elected for 2-year Term
Zachary Moore	42 votes	Elected for 1-year Term
Mark Hinkle	32 votes	
NOTA	0 votes	

Election of Alternates At-Large Members of the Executive Committee:

Nomination: Robert Imhoff nominated **Jennifer Imhoff**

Nomination: William Hajdu nominated **José Castañeda**

Nomination: Jennifer Imhoff nominated **Baron Bruno**

62 votes were cast; majority required is 32

Vote: Jennifer Imhoff	45 votes	Elected for 1-year Term
Baron Bruno	41 votes	Elected for 1-year Term
José Castañeda	27 votes	
NOTA	1 vote	

Election of Judicial Committee: To fill vacated position for 1-year term

Nomination: Sandra Kallander nominated **Elizabeth Brierly**

Vote: Elizabeth Brierly was elected to the Judicial Committee without opposition

Platform Committee Report

Alex Appleby, Platform Committee Chair, presented the committee report:

The Platform Committee for the 2017 Libertarian Party of California Convention met Friday, 28 April 2017, from 1:52pm to 4:38pm, at the Santa Clara Marriott, in Santa Clara, California.

The following members attended all or part of the meeting:

Coordinator: Alex Appleby (San Joaquin County)

Representatives of County Organizations:

Randy Marsh, Contra Costa County
Kalish Morrow, Kings County
Boomer Shannon, San Bernardino County
Joe Dehn, Santa Clara County

Others Present (not part of the Committee):

Jay Jones (Los Angeles County)
Dave Schrader (Los Angeles County)
Kevin Moore (Contra Costa County)
Ken Gillespie (Yolo County)
Kenneth Brent Olsen (Kings County)
Daniel McCoy (Kings County)

The following recommendations were adopted for consideration by the convention. Except where noted, all of these recommendations were approved unanimously.

Proposal 1: amendment to V.14 Labor Relations
Proposal 2: amendment to IV.2 Freedom of Expression
Proposal 3: new plank (as IV.19 and renumber) Marijuana
Proposal 4: new plank (as V.2 and renumber) Government Fiscal Responsibility
Proposal 5: replace entire text of IV.10 Health and Medicine
Proposal 6: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine, item A
Proposal 7: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine, item J
Proposal 8: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine, item K (recommended by a vote of 8 to 1 of those in attendance with a vote of 4 to 1 of the committee members as noted at the time the report was given)

Proposal 1: Amendment to V.14 Labor Relations

Motion: Move to add to the end of the 3rd paragraph:

We oppose increases in the minimum wage under existing laws or the creation of new minimum wage requirements by any level of government.

Vote: Motion Adopted with no objection

Proposal 2: Amendment to IV.2 Freedom of Expression

Motion: In the 8th paragraph, move to insert phrase about unpopular speakers and at the same time clean up some problems with missing words:

Since we favor application of the First Amendment to public entities, while upholding the right of private enterprises to make their own rules governing their own property, we oppose the enactment — **at** colleges and universities that are primarily tax-funded — **of** speech codes that ban language that is deemed offensive **or policies which prevent students from hearing views that are unpopular.**

Motion to Amend: Sandra Kallander moved to amend with standing second as follows:

Since we favor application of the First Amendment to public entities, while upholding the right of private enterprises to make their own rules governing their own property, we oppose the enactment — at colleges and universities that are primarily tax-funded — of speech codes that ban language that is deemed offensive or policies which prevent students from hearing views that are ***based on their content.***

Discussion: Discussion ensued

Call the Question: Aaron Starr moves to call the question on the amendment with no objection.

Vote: Motion to amend fails by voice count

Vote: Main motion passes by voice count

Proposal 3: New Plank (as IV.19 and renumber) Marijuana

Motion: Move to add IV.19 Marijuana as follows (and renumber):

19. We applaud the trend toward legalization and/or decriminalization of marijuana both for medical and recreational purposes. However, we oppose the increase in new laws and regulations that have accompanied this trend, whether such measures are intended as a back-door way to continue prohibition or are simply taking advantage of marijuana's ambiguous legal status to achieve other goals. Specifically:

- A. We oppose measures enacted by the state or by local governments to limit the number of marijuana dispensaries or other businesses.
- B. We oppose the imposition of special taxes on marijuana cultivation or sale that do not apply in the same way to other medicinal or agricultural products.
- C. We support the right of individuals to grow marijuana plants for their own use on their own property without regulation or taxation by any level of government.

Motion to Amend: Matthew Barnes moves to amend the motion with standing second to strike the words "medicinal or" in sub-section B. to read:

- B. We oppose the imposition of special taxes on marijuana cultivation or sale that do not apply in the same way to other ~~medicinal or~~ agricultural products.

Substitute Motion: Mark Hinkle moves for a substitute motion with standing second to strike the word "special" and add the words "or fees" after taxes and delete everything after "sale" as follows:

- B. We oppose the imposition of ~~special~~ taxes **or fees** on marijuana cultivation or sale. ~~that do not apply in the same way to other medicinal or agricultural products.~~

Amendment to Substitute Motion: Harland Harrison moves for an amendment to the substitute motion with standing second to replace the word "special." as follows:

- B. We oppose the imposition of **special** taxes **or fees** on marijuana cultivation or sale. ~~that do not apply in the same way to other medicinal or agricultural products.~~

Vote: Amendment to Substitute Motion to replace the word “Special” fails by vote count.

Vote: Substitute Motion to strike the word “special” and add the words “or fees” after taxes and delete everything after “sale” passes by voice count.

Vote: Main Motion as amended by the Substitute Motion passes with no objection.

Proposal 4: New Plank (as V.2 and renumber) Government Fiscal Responsibility

Motion: Move to add new plank V.2 as follows (and renumber):

We believe the State of California should only pass balanced budgets and should work over time to eliminate its debt.

Motion to Amend: Aaron Starr moves to amend the motion with standing second to replace the word “pass” with “adopt” as follows:

We believe the State of California should only ~~pass~~ **adopt** balanced budgets and should work over time to eliminate its debt.

Vote: Motion to amend passes without objection.

Motion to Amend: Michelle Ellison moves to amend the motion with standing second to add the words “and unfunded obligations” as follows:

We believe the State of California should only adopt balanced budgets and should work over time to eliminate its debt **and unfunded obligations**.

Vote: Motion to amend passes without objection.

Motion to Amend: Aaron Starr moves to amend the motion with standing second to replace the word “Eliminate” with “Extinguish” as follows:

We believe the State of California should only adopt balanced budgets and should work over time to ~~eliminate~~ **extinguish** its debt and unfunded obligations.

Vote: Motion to amend fails by voice count.

Motion to Amend: Zachary Moore moves to amend the motion with standing second to eliminate the words “should work over time to” as follows:

2. We believe the State of California should only adopt balanced budgets and ~~should work over time to~~ eliminate its debt and unfunded obligations.

Vote: Motion to amend passes by voice count.

Vote: Main motion passes by voice count.

Proposal 5: Replace entire text of IV.10 Health and Medicine

Motion: Replace IV.10 in an effort to make it readable with the following:

The health and physical well-being of individuals are not proper concerns of government. These should be matters of personal choice and responsibility. The State should not be involved in the regulation of the profession of medicine or in the delivery of health care. An individual should have the right to choose among available health practices. Similarly, he or she has the right to refuse or reject treatment or other care.

Therefore, we advocate the following reforms:

- A. An end to all mandatory licensing and certification requirements for the practice of medicine.
- B. The repeal of laws and regulations which prohibit and otherwise curtail the selection and practice of unorthodox medical procedures.
- C. An end to all restrictions by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as well as state and local agencies on the use of medicines or other treatments.
- D. An end to forced or mandated medication such as fluoridation of water, compulsory vaccination, and involuntary sterilization.
- E. An end to compulsory hospitalization.
- F. The repeal of those laws and regulations which restrict and inhibit the practice of lay midwifery and planned out-of-hospital births and which permit harassment of lay midwives and home birth practitioners.
- G. The repeal of laws and regulations which discourage the development of privately-funded medical facilities such as women's health clinics and free-standing birth centers.
- H. An end to government subsidies to, and regulation of, all schools of medicine, nursing, and the allied health care professions.
- I. In order to revive price competition and consumer cost-consciousness in the medical industry, we would provide tax breaks not only for employer-provided health plans (whose value is not currently taxed as income), but also individual tax credits so that families and individuals can choose their own health plans.
- J. Inasmuch as medical evidence has not established that AIDS is casually transmitted, we oppose all attempts to abridge the individual rights of persons with AIDS.
- K. Since laws making sterile needles unavailable have contributed to the spread of AIDS and other diseases, we call for the repeal of those laws.

- L. The repeal of all laws mandating any non-consensual relationship between a health care provider and patient.
- M. The repeal of laws that force doctors and other health care professionals to report to the government the affairs of their patients, for example, medical records.

As financing of medical and health care is the responsibility of the individual, tax monies should not be used to fund it, nor should government programs force anyone to subsidize the health care costs of others. We therefore oppose:

1. all government-funded medical programs such as Medi-Cal;
2. tax-supported abortion services, neo-natal care, and research facilities;
3. grants and subsidies to members of the medical profession;
4. use of tax funds to extend health insurance to the uninsured;
5. laws requiring businesses to provide health insurance to employees;
6. laws requiring individuals to purchase insurance or taxing them for not doing so;
7. laws requiring insurance companies to insure persons or conditions they choose not to insure.

Motion: Aaron Starr moved to close discussion on proposal with no objection

Vote: Motion passes with no objection

Proposal 6: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine

Motion: In point A, move to replace the word “mandatory” with “government” and add a new sentence as follows:

An end to all ~~mandatory~~ **government** licensing and certification requirements for the practice of medicine. **We advocate private certifications to increase competition and promote patient education and safety.**

Motion: Aaron Starr moved to close discussion on proposal

Vote: Motion to close discussion passes by voice count

Vote: Main motion passes with no objection

Proposal 7: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine

Motion: In point J, move to strike first clause as follows:

~~Inasmuch as medical evidence has not established that AIDS is casually transmitted, w~~**We** oppose all attempts to abridge the individual rights of persons with AIDS.

Motion: Aaron Starr moved to close discussion on proposal with no objection

Vote: Main motion passes with no objection

Proposal 8: amendment to IV.10 Health and Medicine

Motion: Move to rewrite point K as follows:

~~Since laws making sterile needles unavailable have contributed to the spread of AIDS and other diseases, we call for the repeal of those laws.~~

We call for the repeal of laws making sterile needles unavailable.

Motion to Amend: Matthew Barnes moved to amend the proposal with standing second, as follows:

For the health and safety of society, we oppose laws making sterile needles unavailable.

Motion to Amend: Matthew Barnes moved to amend the proposal with standing second, as follows:

For the health and safety of society, we oppose laws **or regulations** making sterile needles unavailable.

Motion: Matthew Barnes moved to call the question with no objection

Vote: Motion to Amend passes with no objection

Motion to Amend: Aaron Starr moved to amend the proposal with standing second, as follows:

For the health and safety of society, we oppose laws or regulations making **limiting the availability of** sterile needles ~~unavailable~~.

Vote: Motion as amended passes with no objection

Vote: Main Motion as amended passes with no objection

The Chair called for additional Platform Proposals from the Floor

Motion: Marc Joffe moved, with standing second, to add the words “the California High Speed Rail Authority” to Section V.10 (now V.11 per Proposal 4) J, as follows:

J. The abolition of state and local agencies such as the California Public Utilities Commission, **the California High Speed Rail Authority**, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the California Department of Transportation, the Bay Area Rapid Transit District, the Metropolitan Transit Authority, and various other local and regional transit authorities.

Vote: Motion passes with no objection

Motion: Baron Bruno moved, with standing second, to revise the first paragraph of IV.10 as follows:

The health and physical well-being of individuals ~~are not proper concerns of government. These~~ should be matters of personal choice and responsibility. The State should not be involved in the regulation of ~~the profession of medicine or in the delivery of health care~~ medical care or in the delivery of health care. An individual should have the right to choose among available health practices. Similarly, he or she has the right to refuse ~~or reject,~~ **accept or modify** treatment or other care.

Vote: Motion passes with no objection

Chair recognized a lack of quorum in the room; therefore no further business could be conducted

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Minutes were approved by the Executive Committee via email motion on May 19, 2017

Respectfully Submitted



Honor M Robson
Secretary
California Libertarian Party