



LIBERTARIAN

PARTY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY January 16, 2019

Date and Time: Wednesday, 16 January 2019 at 4pm Mountain time

Where: Online: Zoom

Committee Attendees: Caryn Ann Harlos, Joe Dehn, Ed Fochler,, James Gholston
Andrew Kolstee (came in during URL discussion)

Other Attendees: none

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm Mountain time.

Records of Past Meetings: The minutes of the 2 January meeting were approved.

Records Archive Update: Caryn Ann reported that because of snow she has not been going to the storage unit. She mentioned that some long-time members have told her they will be sending material. Michael Fucci continues to upload scanned PDFs of LP News, and Caryn Ann has been uploading some radio ads.

General LPedia: Caryn Ann has been doing regular patrolling and is continuing to work on categories.

LPedia URLs: There was discussion of the idea of reconfiguring the site to have all articles under "wiki/". James said he found that we have been using the current format (without "wiki/") at least since 2009. Ed said that switching would be more consistent with how the software is used on other sites (including Wikipedia), and that it would allow us to have names outside the wiki for static material. People who are reaching our site through links to specific articles would be affected – we don't know if MyWikis can implement an automatic redirect to the corresponding new URL – if not users would end up on the home page. On the other hand, statistics show that most users come from search engines rather than individual links; also, it might be possible to identify any links that are generating significant traffic and ask the owners of those pages to update them. It was decided to postpone a decision on this until we can get more information from MyWikis.



California: Joe reported that the LPC HPC had its organizational meeting and he was selected as chair. They reviewed an outline of work that they will be doing from various perspectives (tasks, subjects of interest, sources); this is all posted on an LPedia page. Caryn Ann said she can check to see what we have in storage relating to California.

Convention-Related Material: Mention was made of the fact that various people have made it a practice of collecting “one of everything” at past conventions. Caryn Ann said that the committee for the upcoming convention will be making use of LPedia in their work.

New York: Andrew reported that he is starting to go through the old records (circa 1972-1983). He also has been looking at Yahoo groups associated with the NY party, some of which are almost 20 years old. He has downloaded files associated with these groups, and is talking with somebody who might be able to help develop a script to download the messages. He is also considering starting an oral history project, making use of telephone conference calls to record the recollections of long-time activists. Joe said California is also interested in oral history, and perhaps could make use of this technique; he said it might be useful for getting activists to prompt each other to say things, but that one-on-one interviews might work better for certain kinds of people who wouldn't say much in a multi-person call.

Nevada: We are still awaiting final delivery of the material from Nevada.

South Carolina: Caryn Ann noted that somebody has started uploading material.

Ustream Downloading: Caryn Ann said she will be seeking volunteers to do the downloading of recordings of past LNC meetings; she has tested doing it in the course of preparing minutes for recent meetings.

Committee Membership: Caryn Ann said she will be forwarding the material from prospective members in a few days, and that more of the recent applicants have a specific interest in our committee and relevant skills.

Videos: Caryn Ann is looking into setting up an HPC channel on “BitTube” so we aren't entirely dependent on YouTube.



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Site Statistics: Ed reported that we are still getting about 80 users per day. Our Platform, current and past, seems to be a popular topic. About 70% of visits come from search engines, about 15% from people typing in “lpedia.org”, and about 12% from Facebook, leaving only about 3% from everything else.

Featured Article: Joe explained that he decided to feature the presidential election results article after running across it and seeing that the information would likely be of popular interest, but that although the numerical table had been kept up to date the text had not, and there were no graphics. He added paragraphs for several recent elections, added candidate photos that were available elsewhere on LPedia, and created a graph to put at the top. He suggested that this approach – finding an article that is basically interesting and fleshing it out – might be a good way to develop more articles that meet our “featured article” standards, rather than just waiting for people to bring up their own articles up to that level. He noted that in looking for photos of the presidential candidates in many cases he could only find ones from long after the time of their campaigns; he suggested that for biographical articles on important activists we should encourage the inclusion of multiple photos, showing how they looked in different eras and doing different things. The large collection of photos of activists taken by Avens O'Brien at the recent convention was mentioned; James will check with her to see if she will allow us to use them on LPedia.

Future Meetings: The next meeting is scheduled for 6 February 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58pm Mountain time.