

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE COMMITTEE  
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023  
ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP AND PORCUPINE APP**

**MEMBERS PRESENT (41)**

David B. "Chance" Haywood (JD1)<sup>1</sup>  
Paul M. Grindle (JD2)<sup>1</sup>  
Gary S. Popkin (JD2)<sup>1</sup>  
William Cody Anderson (JD3)<sup>1</sup>  
Justin N. Carman (JD3)<sup>1</sup>  
Stephen C. Healey (JD3)<sup>1</sup>  
John A. Janes (JD4)<sup>1</sup>  
Karen A. Keniry-Thompson (JD4)<sup>1</sup>  
Brian L. Wells (JD4)<sup>1</sup>  
Daniel J. Castello (JD5)<sup>1</sup>  
Shawn C. DeGrand (JD5)<sup>1</sup>  
Erinn Rose Leatherman (JD5)<sup>1</sup>  
Adam M. Magoon (JD5)<sup>1</sup>  
Keith C. Redhead (JD5)<sup>1</sup>  
Mark S. Braiman (JD6)<sup>1</sup>  
Craig L. Colwell (JD6)<sup>1</sup>  
Samuel Hordeski (JD6)<sup>V</sup>  
Christopher M. Olenski (JD6)<sup>2</sup>  
David S. Penner (JD6)<sup>1</sup>  
Steven G. Becker (JD7)<sup>1</sup>  
Justin Pelletier (JD7)<sup>V</sup>  
Sean C. Phelan (JD7)<sup>1</sup>  
James M. Ziobro (JD7)<sup>1</sup>  
Erin M. Becker (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Andrew M. Kolstee (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Frances Law (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Leonard E. Morlock (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Michael R. Rebmann (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Charles R. Roggen (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Jame J. VanDewalker (JD8)<sup>1</sup>  
Duane J. Whitmer (JD8)<sup>2</sup>  
Juan R. Ayala (JD9)<sup>1</sup>  
Robert J. Cocomello (JD9)<sup>1</sup>  
Daniel P. Donnelly (JD9)<sup>2</sup>

Robert J. Greibesland (JD9)<sup>2</sup>  
Jeffrey J. Denecke (JD10)<sup>1</sup>  
Jonathan H. Gunther (JD10)<sup>1</sup>  
Robert E. Schuon (JD10)<sup>1</sup>  
Blay Tarnoff (JD10)<sup>1</sup>  
Irwin Mark Weinblatt (JD11)<sup>1</sup>  
Richard F. Purtell (ex-officio)<sup>1</sup>

**MEMBERS ABSENT (18)**

Mark N. Axinn (JD1)  
Morry C. Davis (JD1)  
Matthew I. Morgan (JD2)  
Lora L. Newell (JD3)  
Jennifer L. O'Connor (JD3)  
Amanda H. Ellithorpe (JD4)  
Zachary D. Remian (JD4)  
Matthew K. Guilianelli (JD5)  
Craig L. Shute (JD5)  
Jeffrey C. Bradley (JD7)  
Marc A. Smith (JD7)  
Maura E. Botsford (JD8)  
William K. Schmidt (JD9)  
Christian J. Vondras (JD9)  
George T. Ostrowski (JD10)  
Randyn Tarnoff (JD10)  
John Clifton (JD11)  
Francisco Olvera (JD11)

**OBSERVERS**

T.J. Ferreira, Porcupine Administrator  
Susan Overeem-Cummings, Staten Island Chair

**KEY**

- (1) Present at first roll call at 7:03 p.m.
- (2) Entered during the meeting.
- (V) Filled vacancy during meeting.
- (E) 2nd Vice Chair; ex-officio voting member.

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair. Secretary Mark Braiman conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

The Credentials and Nominations Report (**Exhibit 1**) indicated that there were thirty-five (35) of fifty-seven (57) voting members of the State Committee present at the time of roll call. Daniel Donnelly, Robert Greibesland, Christopher Olenski, and Duane Whitmer (4) later entered the meeting, to give thirty-nine (39) members present out of fifty-seven (57) members of the State Committee before the filling of vacancies. Samuel Hordeski and Justin Pelletier were elected to

fill vacancies, to give forty-one (41) members present out of fifty-nine (59) members on the Committee. The Secretary determined that a quorum was present at all times during the meeting.

The **Agenda (Exhibit 2) was adopted** without objection.

A request for public comment by Chair Andrew Kolstee received no comments.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of one (1) State Committee vacancy from Judicial District 5. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance. Chair Andrew Kolstee, hearing no nominations from the floor, postponed filling this vacancy until the next meeting of the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of two (2) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 6. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that Samuel Hordeski had been nominated in advance and had accepted the nomination and is eligible.

The first round of voting for the vacancy in Judicial District 6 was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 2)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Samuel Hordeski	27	90.00%
None of the Above (NOTA)	3	10.00%
<b>Total Votes</b>	30	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	30	

**Samuel Hordeski was elected to fill a vacancy in Judicial District 6 on the State Committee.**

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of three (3) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 7. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that Justin Pelletier had been nominated in advance and had accepted the nomination and is eligible.

The first round of voting for the vacancies in Judicial District 7 was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 3)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Justin Pelletier	26	89.66%
None of the Above (NOTA)	3	10.34%
<b>Total Votes</b>	29	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	32	

**Justin Pelletier was elected to fill a vacancy in Judicial District 6 on the State Committee.**

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of two (2) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 10. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance. Chair Andrew Kolstee, hearing no nominations from the floor, postponed filling these vacancies until the next meeting of the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of two (2) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 12. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance. Chair Andrew Kolstee, hearing no nominations from the floor, postponed filling these vacancies until the next meeting of the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of one (2) State Committee vacancy from Judicial District 13. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance. Chair Andrew Kolstee, hearing no nominations from the floor, postponed filling this vacancy until the next meeting of the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the continuation of the Election of the Platform Committee Representative to the National Libertarian Party, for which one round of voting had been completed at the meeting of September 11, 2023.

Michael Rebmann withdrew from the election.

Erin Rose Leatherman and Pietro Geraci spoke to their candidacies.

The first round of voting for the Libertarian Party of New York's National Platform Committee Representative was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 1)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Erinn Rose Leatherman	25	69.44%
Pietro Geraci	9	25.00%
None of the Above (NOTA)	2	5.56%
<b>Total Votes</b>	36	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	36	

**Erinn Rose Leatherman was elected the Libertarian Party of New York's Representative to the 2024 National Platform Committee.**

The Chair called for an election for the Libertarian Party National Platform Committee Alternate Representative.

Pietro Geraci and Michael Rebmann were entered into nomination.

The first round of voting for the Libertarian Party of New York’s National Platform Committee Alternate Representative was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 1)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Michael Rebmann	13	54.17%
Pietro Geraci	10	41.67%
None of the Above (NOTA)	1	4.16%
<b>Total Votes</b>	24	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	24	

**Michael Rebmann was elected the Libertarian Party of New York’s Alternate Representative to the 2024 National Platform Committee.**

The Chair called for an election for the Libertarian Party National Credentials Committee Representative.

Justin Carman was entered into nomination.

The first round of voting for the Libertarian Party of New York’s National Credentials Committee Representative was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 1)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Justin Carman	27	96.43%
None of the Above (NOTA)	1	3.57%
<b>Total Votes</b>	28	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	28	

The Chair called for an election for the Libertarian Party National Credentials Committee Alternate Representative.

Chance Haywood was entered into nomination.

The first round of voting for the Libertarian Party of New York’s National Credentials Committee Alternate Representative was conducted using OpaVote, since Porcupine polls were not operational. The results were as follows:

<b>Candidate (vote for 1)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Chance Haywood	18	81.82%
None of the Above (NOTA)	4	18.18%
<b>Total Votes</b>	22	100.00%
<b>Total Voters</b>	22	

Chair Andrew Kolstee directed the Secretary to transmit the results of the elections for Platform and Credentials Committees to Caryn Ann Harlos, Secretary of the Libertarian National Committee.

Field Development Director Andrew Kolstee issued a report. Four counties had hearings regarding their affiliation, and they were adjourned from the prior State Committee meeting until after the 2023 general election.

A hearing on revocation of the affiliation of Albany County was held. Justin Carman from Albany County reported that twenty people were present at the prior meeting, but that he was the only officer. Justin Carman stated he would be willing to serve as County Liaison. Carman believes that there may be funds in the bank account. Karen Keniry-Thompson stated that she believed all of the Albany County funds were previously donated to the Saratoga County Libertarian Party. Motion by William Cody Anderson to **revoke the affiliation of the County Affiliate in Albany County** was seconded by Michael Rebmann and passed by voice vote. Justin Carman was appointed **County Liaison for Albany County** without objection.

A hearing on revocation of the affiliation of Fulton County was held. Motion by Steven Becker to **revoke the affiliation of the County Affiliate in Fulton County** was seconded by Sean Phelan and passed without objection.

A hearing on the revocation of the affiliation of Richmond County (Staten Island) was held. Andrew Kolstee recommended that because there is some activity by Susan Overeem-Cummings, to adjourn the hearing until the first meeting of the full State Committee after March 1, 2024. Motion by Brian Wells to **adjourn the hearing to consider revocation of the affiliation of the County Affiliate in Richmond County (Staten Island) until the first State Committee meeting after March 1, 2024** was seconded by Cody Anderson and passed by voice vote.

A hearing on the revocation of the affiliation of Schoharie County was held. Current County Chair Lora Newell was not present. William Cody Anderson reported that repeated attempts to

gather a convention failed and has volunteered to serve as County Liaison. A convention was attempted on April 8, 2023 but had inadequate attendance. Andrew Kolstee recommended to adjourn the hearing until Lora Newell is present. Motion by Justin Carman to **adjourn the hearing to consider revocation of the affiliation of the County Affiliate Schoharie County until the first State Committee meeting after the March 1, 2024** was seconded by Steven Becker and passed by voice vote.

Chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. New York has 41 delegates to the National Convention. New York is ranked in the top 5 which entitles New York to a Credentials Representative. The United States Supreme Court in October 2023 declined to consider the ballot access case. An Independent Nominating Petition is necessary in order to get a Presidential candidate on the November 2024 ballot.

Treasurer William Cody Anderson issued a Treasurer's Report in writing (**Exhibit 3**) and the report was **accepted** without objection.

Platform Committee Chair Daniel Castello issued a report. The next meeting is on Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Committee on State Committee Elections Chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. Feedback on proposed Rules changes were received, and the committee revised its proposals for Rules changes based on that.

Andrew Kolstee issued a brief report on behalf of several committees: IT Committee; the Humanitru database is almost ready to go live. Anyone encountering issues on the LPNY.org website should email Justin Carman. The Communications Committee is getting ready to prepare specific issues campaigns, featuring videos. The next meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2023.

Motion by Daniel Castello to **set the date and location of the nominating convention for March 16-17, 2024 in Watkins Glen** was seconded by Craig Colwell and debated. Motion by Christopher Olenski to **postpone consideration of the motion** until the next meeting of the Executive Committee was seconded by William Cody Anderson and debated. The motion to postpone passed by a vote of 17-9-5 (see Appendix 1A for details).

Andrew Kolstee's proposal to **set the 2024 Organizational Meeting for September 21-22, 2024 at a location to be determined by the Executive Committee** passed without objection.

Andrew Kolstee's requested the creation of a Delegate Selection Committee for the purpose of establishing a rubric to select delegates to the National Convention, including presenting to the

State Committee potential amendments to the Rules of the Libertarian Party, including the possibility of inserting the rubric in the Rules.

Motion by Christopher Olenski to **adopt the rubric used at the preceding convention** was seconded by William Cody Anderson. The Chair presented the prior rubric adopted on December 5, 2021 and rule the rubric out of order based on the Rules. Motion by Christopher Olenski to **challenge the ruling of the chair** failed for lack of a second.

**A Delegate Selection Committee was constituted for the purpose of establishing a rubric to select delegates to the National Convention, including presenting to the State Committee potential amendments to the Rules of the Libertarian Party, including the possibility of inserting the rubric in the Rules** passed without objection.

The Chair **appointed Chance Haywood, Andrew Magoon, Leonard Morlock, Christopher Olenski, and Justin Pelletier to the Delegate Selection Committee.**

Motion by Justin Carman to **appoint Adam Magoon as Acting County Chair and County Liaison of Niagara County** passed without objection.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **adjourn** was seconded by Karyn Keniry-Thompson and passed without objection.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 9:06 p.m.

Mark Stephen Braiman  
Secretary

# Exhibit 1

## CREDENTIALS AND NOMINATIONS REPORT

**ROLL CALLS** (Column #1 at 6:30 p.m., P=Present; #2 indicates a time of later arrival)

JD	State Committee Member	1	2	JD	State Committee Member	1	2	JD	State Committee Member	1	2
EO	Richard F. Purtell	P		5	Craig L. Shute			8	Duane J. Whitmer		20:15
1	Mark N. Axinn			6	Mark S. Braiman	P		9	Juan R. Ayala	P	
1	Morry C. Davis			6	Craig Colwell	P		9	Robert J. Cocomello	P	
1	David B. "Chance" Haywood	P		6	Christopher M. Olenski		19:09	9	Daniel P. Donnelly		19:07
2	Paul M. Grindle	P		6	David S. Penner	P		9	Robert J. Greibesland		20:30
2	Matthew I. Morgan			6	Samuel J. Hordeski		V	9	William K. Schmidt		
2	Gary S. Popkin	P		6	VACANT			9	Christian J. Vondras		
3	William Cody Anderson	P		7	Steven G. Becker	P		10	Jeffrey J. Denecke	P	
3	Justin N. Carman	P		7	Jeffrey C. Bradley			10	Jonathan H. Gunther	P	
3	Lora Newell			7	Justin Pelletier		V	10	George T. Ostrowski		
3	Jennifer L. O'Connor			7	Sean C. Phelan	P		10	Robert E. Schuon	P	
4	Amanda H. Ellithorpe			7	Marc A. Smith			10	Blay Tarnoff	P	
4	Stephen C. Healey	P		7	James M. Ziobro	P		10	Randyn Tarnoff		
4	John A. Janes	P		7	VACANT			10	VACANT		
4	Karyn A. Keniry-Thompson	P		7	VACANT			10	VACANT		
4	Zachary D. Remian			7	VACANT			11	John Clifton		
4	Brian L. Wells	P		8	Erin M. Becker	P		11	Francisco Oliveira		
5	VACANT			8	Maura E. Botsford			11	Irwin Mark Weinblatt	P	
5	Daniel J. Castello	P		8	Andrew M. Kolstee	P		12	VACANT		
5	Shawn C. DeGrand	P		8	Francis Law	P		12	VACANT		
5	Matthew K. Guilianelli			8	Leonard E. Morlock	P		13	VACANT		
5	Erinn Rose Leatherman	P		8	Michael R. Rebmann	P		13	VACANT		
5	Adam M. Magoon	P		8	Charles R. Roggen	P			# Present	35	
5	Keith C.Redhead	P		8	Jame J. VanDewalker	P			(out of 57 total)		

Nominations Received:

For the vacancy in Judicial District 6, a nomination was received from Samuel J. Hordeski of Cortland County, and the Secretary verified his eligibility.

For the vacancy in Judicial District 7, a nomination was received from Justin Pelletier of Monroe County, and the Secretary verified his eligibility.



## Exhibit 2 (page 1 of 2)

### LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK AGENDA OF THE STATE COMMITTEE OF MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

**6:30 P.M. Call to Order (Andrew Kolstee, Chair)**

**6:30 P.M. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum (Mark Braiman, Secretary)**

**6:35 P.M. Public Comment**

**6:40 P.M. Adoption of Agenda**

**6:45 P.M. Filling of Vacancies on the State Committee**

Judicial District 5 (1 vacancy)  
Judicial District 6 (2 vacancies)  
Judicial District 7 (4 vacancies)  
Judicial District 10 (2 vacancies)  
Judicial District 12 (2 vacancies)  
Judicial District 13 (2 vacancies)

**7:00 P.M. Continuation of Election of Platform Committee Representative**

Candidates remaining from Round 1:  
Pietro Geraci, Erinn Rose Leatherman, Michael Rebmann

**7:15 P.M. Election of Platform Committee Alternate Representative**

**7:30 P.M. Election of Credentials Committee Representative**

**7:45 P.M. Election of Credentials Committee Alternate Representative**

**8:00 P.M. Hearings to Consider Revocation of County Affiliates**

Albany County  
Fulton County  
Richmond County (Staten Island)  
Schoharie County

**8:30 P.M. Hearing Requests**

Consideration to approve a hearing to consider the revocation of the affiliation of New York County (Manhattan)

**8:40 P.M. Treasurer's Report (Cody Anderson)**

**8:50 P.M. Chair's Report (Andrew Kolstee)**

## **Exhibit 2 (page 2 of 2)**

### **8:55 P.M. Platform Committee Report (Daniel Castello)**

### **9:00 P.M. Committee on State Committee Elections Report (Andrew Kolstee)**

### **9:05 P.M. Old Business**

### **9:30 P.M. New Business**

Consideration to set the date of the Nominating Convention for the weekend of March 16-17, 2024 at a location to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Consideration to set the date of the State Convention for the weekend of September 21-22, 2024 at a location to be determined by the Executive Committee.

Consideration of the creation of a Delegate Selection Committee for the purpose of establishing a rubric, including presenting to the State Committee potential amendments to the Rules of the Libertarian Party, including the possibility of inserting the rubric in the Rules.

### **10:30 P.M. Adjournment**

## Exhibit 3 (page 1 of 3)

### LPNY Treasurer's Report December 4, 2023

Housekeeping Committee account balance as of December 4, 2023: **\$3314.03**  
(+\$2028.92 since September 11)

Constituted Committee account balance as of December 4, 2023: **\$26,404.45**  
(-\$2224.00 since September 11)

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#### **Deposits to Housekeeping account since September 11:**

10/3 – Purchase rebate - \$28.21

10/26 – Transfer in from constituted committee account - \$2500.00

11/13 – Transfer in from constituted committee account - \$5000.00

**TOTAL DEPOSITS: \$7528.21**

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#### **Disbursements from Housekeeping account since September 11:**

9/13 – Grasshopper - \$33.33

9/14 – Constant Contact - \$232.91

9/20 – Rail Line (ESFS - deposit) - \$500.00

10/13 – Grasshopper - \$33.95

10/16 – Constant Contact - \$232.91

11/13 – Rail Line (ESFS - balance due) - \$2140.62

11/13 – Grasshopper - \$33.95

11/13 – Rebecca Secreti (ESFS - food truck) - \$1000.00

11/13 – Jeff Allen Design (ESFS – T-shirts) - \$522.72

11/13 – Shane Hazel (ESFS – appearance fee) - \$1000.00

11/13 – Clayton Baker (ESFS - appearance fee) - \$1000.00

11/14 – Constant Contact - \$232.91

### Exhibit 3 (page 2 of 3)

11/15 – Crown Plaza Syracuse (ESFS - rooms for speakers) - \$535.99

Checks in transit:

11/13 – Louis Perez (ESFS – appearance fee) - \$1275.00

11/16 – Duane Whitmer (reimbursement for tax letter postage) - \$170.23

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$7499.29**

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**Deposits to CC account since September 11:**

Net Donations - \$8754.36\*

11/10 – Insurance premium refund \$9.64

*\*\$6484.00 in ESFS gross income (less processing fees) and \$2280.00 in other donations (avg. ~\$800/mo.)*

Deposits in transit:

12/4 - Check donation \$100.00

12/4 – Insurance premium refund \$22.00

12/4 – Net cash donations from ESFS - \$212.00

**TOTAL DEPOSITS: \$9098.00**

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**Disbursements from CC account since September 11:**

10/5 – Tom For Guilford (campaign contribution) - \$800.00

10/5 – Craig Colwell (campaign contribution) - \$1000.00

10/26 – Transfer out to housekeeping account - \$2500.00

11/13 – Transfer out to housekeeping account - \$5000.00

12/4 – Transfer out to housekeeping account - \$2000.00

**Exhibit 3 (page 3 of 3)**

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$11,300.00**

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Respectfully submitted,

W. Cody Anderson  
Treasurer

## Appendix 1A

Shall we postpone the consideration of holding the nominating convention in Watkins Glen the weekend of March 16-17, 2024 to the Executive Committee

Expired

Yes ~ 17 ~ (55%)

No ~ 9 ~ (29%)

Abstain ~ 5 ~ (16%)

Steven Becker ~ Y

Mark Braiman ~ Y

Jame VanDewalker ~ N

E. Rose Leatherman ~ N

Adam Magoon ~ Y

Jeffrey Denecke ~ Y

Blay Tarnoff ~ A

Len Morlock ~ Y

Mark Weinblatt ~ Y

Chance Haywood ~ Y

Rich Purtell ~ N

Robert Schuon ~ N

Erin Becker ~ Y

Samuel Hordeski ~ A

Charles Roggen ~ N

Christopher Olenski ~ Y

Michael Rebmann ~ N

Daniel Donnelly ~ N

Cody Anderson ~ Y

Daniel Castello ~ N

Sean Phelan ~ Y

Karyn Thompson ~ Y

Steve Healey ~ A

John Janes ~ Y

Francis Law ~ Y

Juan Ayala ~ N

Jon Gunther ~ Y

Justin Pelletier ~ A

Shawn DeGrand ~ A

Justin Carman ~ Y

Keith Redhead ~ Y