



2006 National Convention Portland, Oregon

APPROVED SEPT. 29, 2018

Bob Sullentrup
National Secretary, Libertarian Party

Libertarian Party National Chair Michael Dixon opened the 2006 Portland convention at 9:10am PST, July 1.

Adam Mayer, the Oregon Chair welcomed the delegates to Portland and announced a series of workshops taking place during the convention.

2004 LP presidential nominee Michael Badnarik, currently a candidate for Congress from Texas, delivered the keynote address. His speech can be viewed at lp.org.

Next the convention featured a historical LP video which can also be viewed at lp.org.

Chair Michael Dixon gaveled the business session to order at 9:54 am.

Credentials Committee

Chair Dixon introduced Emily Salvette, the chair of the 2006 Convention Credentials Committee.

Ms. Salvette (MI) noted that of 646 prospective delegates and 147 alternates, 273 showed up with 7 alternates for a total of 280 votes. This means a majority was 141, 187 was required for 2/3rds, and a 7/8ths majority was 245.

Ms. Salvette accepted a motion from the floor to accept the delegate credentials the Committee supplied, and the motion carried unanimously.

Emily Salvette then introduced the members of the Credentials Committee which included:

Wes Benedict, TX

Gerhard Langguth, AR
Kevin Takenaga, CA
Vicki Kirkland, FL
Willie Harmon, PA, (did not attend the Convention)
David Shock, GA
Kevin Knedler, OH
Jack Tanner, FL
Michael Houze, IN

Former Chair Geoff Neale (TX) moved the agenda be changed to adjourn at 6pm each day rather than 5pm as listed on the agenda. The motion carried.

Geoff Neale (TX) then moved to suspend the rules and drop the first platform plank ballot.

Starchild (CA) moved to amend Geoff's motion to rearrange the schedule delaying the platform discussion. Mr. Starchild's amendment failed.

Geoff Neale's motion to drop the first platform plank ballot failed. *Little did anyone know at the time, this was a fateful vote of the Convention.*

Aaron Starr (CA) rose to a point of order requesting non-voting attendees move to the back of the room. The Chair requested delegation chairs see to it Mr. Starr's request was accommodated.

A motion to approve the agenda passed.

Treasurer's Report

Mark Nelson presented his report as Treasurer. As treasurer, he has emphasized that he:

- Ensure that donor funds were used for what they were raised for.
- Ensure LNC actions were consistent with our rules, especially our budget.
- Ensure the staff was consistent in the financial reporting.
- Became a strong proponent of the project based funding

Early in the term, two actions emerged that Mark termed 'fiscally questionable'. They included: the Ballot Access Project going "negative" – spending more funds for ballot access than was raised or appropriated to the project. Secondly, that the LNC gave the presidential campaign unlimited use of the donor list.

Mark noted these actions resulted in a lack of funds for prospecting new donors. This in turn resulted in an ongoing drop in revenue. Finally, this lack of funds negatively impacted our key vendor relationships.

Mark then addressed the related issues of \$25 dues and the Unified Membership (revenue sharing) Program. He noted there was strong disagreement on whether \$25 adequately covered costs. Mark noted \$25 did not cover the costs of service and acquisition in the first year of a member's enrollment.

Moreover, \$25 didn't cover marginal members inasmuch as many were slow to renew. \$25 would, however, be adequate to cover the costs of servicing the regular donor, including UMP.

Many life members had not donated in several years and reflected an obligation for which we had no recurring cash.

Another factor that depressed financials was that state outreach for prospecting and renewals were ineffective.

Mark next discussed the \$50 dues proposal. The best evidence, coming from a profession survey completed in 2002, was clear: \$50 would be, at best, neutral in terms of gross revenue. Mark continued that \$50 might be positive in terms of net income to LNC, but was dependant upon the cost of members renewing at \$50. We knew that would be higher, Mark noted we just could not estimate how much higher the costs might be.

What was clear was:

- \$50 dues would be detrimental to states assuming no increase in UMP payments
- \$50 dues with an increase in UMP would create negative net income to the LNC and would most likely still result in a loss of revenue to states.
- An \$25 /\$50 proposal would be excessively costly to administer.

Moreover, Mark viewed the \$50 dues level as a bald-faced attempt to purge 'povertarians'.

Mark next addressed the issue of \$0 dues. Financially, this resulted in:

- A reduction in revenue from those that solely paid dues
- Reductions in revenue more than offset by reduction in UMP payments
- Potentially more efficient fund raising by restructuring renewal expenses

Moreover, it resulted in other benefits, not the least of which was cultural. We could move the LP's organizational focus away from serving membership to being a political party. And UMP funds were moved to educational support for states.

Despite these shortcomings, there were many items Mark identified that represented good news for this term:

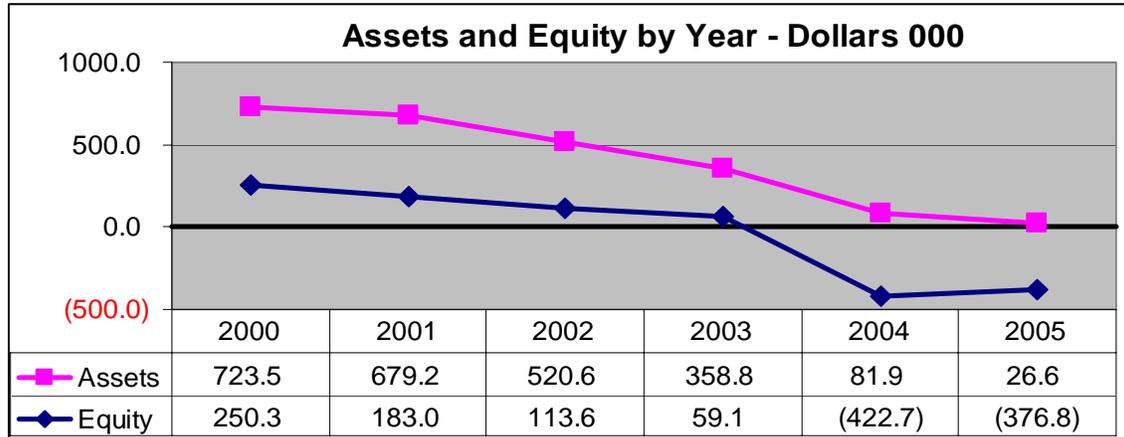
We:

- Had a 48-state presidential ballot access in 2004
- Recovered lost pledge recovery
- Raiser’s Edge completed and operational
- Financial procedures manual was completed
- We outsourced material sales (BCRA requirement)
- Decided what to do about LP News outsourcing
- Began the Libertarian Leadership School
- Moved the LP headquarters office
- Reduced fund raising costs
- Built professional relationships
- Improved outreach to affinity organizations
- Increased revenue from major donors
- (not an LNC-induced item) Grew the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance (LSLA)

A year-by-year balance sheet analysis is as follows:

2000 to 2005 Balance Sheet Summary

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Assets	\$ 723,523	\$ 679,165	\$ 520,611	\$ 358,841	\$ 81,922	\$ 26,624
Liabilities	\$ 473,345	\$ 496,133	\$ 616,186	\$ 299,702	\$ 504,607	\$ 403,462
Equity	\$ 250,278	\$ 183,032	\$ 113,574	\$ 59,139	\$ (422,685)	\$ (376,838)
Change		\$ (67,246)	\$ (69,458)	\$ (54,435)	\$ (481,824)	\$ 45,847



The Libertarian Party's annual revenues and later expenses and income are as follows:

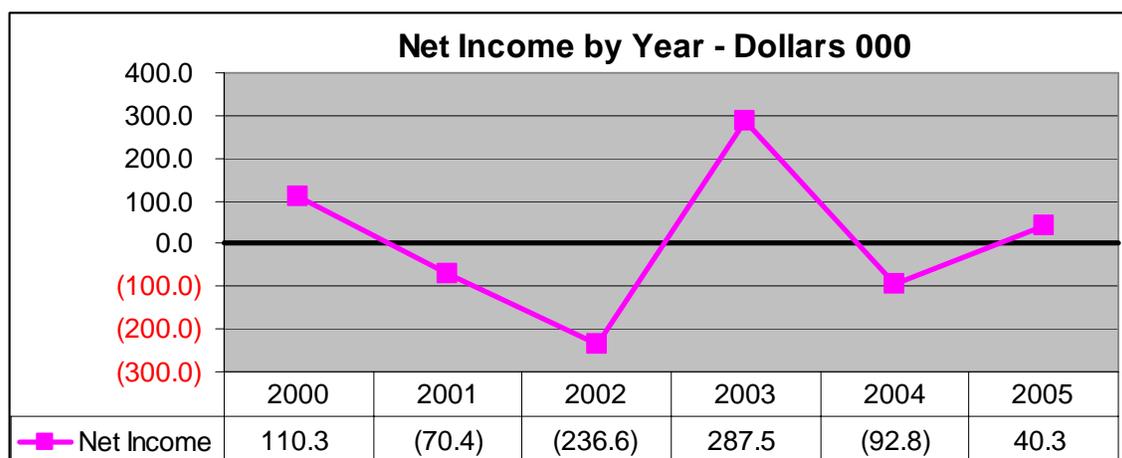
2000 to 2005 Revenue Summary

Revenue	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
DM - House	\$ 1,051,591	\$ 498,331	\$ 359,607	\$ 335,847	\$ 480,760	\$ 545,473
Pledge	\$ 502,661	\$ 479,545	\$ 435,217	\$ 419,748	\$ 351,889	\$ 307,715
Membership	\$ 528,106	\$ 484,985	\$ 384,990	\$ 550,471	\$ 473,444	\$ 344,043
Major Donors	\$ 292,003	\$ 74,665	\$ 141,900	\$ 195,954	\$ 2,570	\$ 82,825
Telephone	\$ 135,793	\$ 83,347	\$ 49,912	-	\$ -	\$ -
E-mail Web	\$ 110,080	\$ 139,207	\$ 169,098	-	\$ -	\$ -
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 128,318		\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 2,620,234	\$ 1,760,080	\$ 1,540,724	\$ 1,630,338	\$ 1,308,662	\$ 1,280,056
Conv Reg	\$ 242,145	\$ -	\$ 145,387	\$ 897	\$ 178,017	\$ -
Conv Fund	\$ 130,034	\$ -	\$ 28,930	\$ -	\$ 35,992	\$ -
Prospect	\$ 229,285	\$ 116,664	\$ 41,255	\$ -	\$ 80,638	\$ 74,242
Website	\$ 109,880	\$ 82,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
List Rental	\$ 87,562	\$ 39,559	\$ 36,583	\$ 12,075	\$ 16,099	\$ 10,406
LP News	\$ 80,985	\$ 65,415	\$ 65,003	\$ 29,865	\$ 43,578	\$ 56,715
Material Sales	\$ 76,502	\$ 44,953	\$ 58,435	\$ 41,402	\$ 44,105	\$ 11,896
Drug War	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,974	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 420,521	\$ 4,620
Ballot Access	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,228
Libertarian Leadership						
School	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,733
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9	\$ 169	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 956,393	\$ 348,716	\$ 502,567	\$ 84,248	\$ 819,118	\$ 207,840
Total Revenue	\$3,576,627	\$2,108,796	\$2,043,291	\$1,714,586	\$2,127,781	\$1,487,896

2000 to 2005 Expense and Income Summary

Expenses	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Staff	\$ 574,507	\$ 577,805	\$ 564,514	\$ 474,246	\$ 506,407	\$ 430,187
Affiliate Support	\$ 525,377	\$ 487,149	\$ 384,911	\$ 305,174	\$ 298,518	\$ 278,145
Ballot Access	\$ 507,105	\$ 100,101	\$ 134,367	\$ 8,084	\$ 270,398	\$ 6,678
HQ Fundraising	\$ 356,602	\$ 240,991	\$ 310,532	\$ 286,302	\$ 195,639	\$ 172,772
Convention	\$ 314,698	\$ 10,562	\$ 164,114	\$ -	\$ 193,578	\$ 12,389
Prospect	\$ 335,660	\$ 177,325	\$ 16,095	\$ -	\$ 80,470	\$ 116,990
Candidate Support	\$ 262,273	\$ 27,113	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,162	\$ -
LP News	\$ 135,253	\$ 135,491	\$ 108,177	\$ -	\$ 54,948	\$ 79,012
General Office	\$ 110,099	\$ 122,498	\$ 176,090	\$ 58,712	\$ 78,352	\$ 86,075
Professional Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,753	\$ 69,913
Software and Equipment	\$ 90,001	\$ 33,360	\$ 26,084	\$ 34,575	\$ 128,566	\$ 15,653
Rent/Utilities	\$ 88,699	\$ 92,197	\$ 97,242	\$ 118,320	\$ 116,460	\$ 107,519
Other campaign	\$ 55,549	\$ 4,864	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 17,112	\$ -
Material Sales	\$ 45,952	\$ 29,708	\$ 50,758	\$ 14,733	\$ 30,217	\$ 10,520
Website/Internet	\$ 33,136	\$ 16,514	\$ 14,730	\$ 11,762	\$ 38,663	\$ 35,404
Governance	\$ 31,401	\$ 123,520	\$ 59,001	\$ 69,905	\$ 17,022	\$ 14,250
Media Relations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,904
Drug War	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,720	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Branding/Marketing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,509	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Lib Leadership						
School	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,171
Deprec	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,200	\$ 93,340	\$ -
Interest	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 605	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$3,466,312	\$2,179,198	\$2,281,844	\$1,427,118	\$2,220,604	\$1,447,582

Net Income	\$ 110,315	\$ (70,402)	\$ (238,553)	\$ 287,468	\$ (92,824)	\$ 40,314
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Mark noted that in reviewing the financials the following factors:

- There was a hot economy in late 90's
- There was a democratic president in late 1990's; a republican president depresses our own fundraising
- The 9/11/01 tragedy and the Iraq War have depressed fundraising, including an anthrax scare that shut down postal mail inbound to Washington, DC
- Disaster Relief overwhelmed all charitable giving 2004-2005

Nevertheless, the LP has created a new fund raising environment with a focus on answering the question “were you effective with my donations?”

With our limited financials, Mark encouraged the Party to ‘pick its battles’ since the cost of direct confrontation in large races is beyond our means. We should take action when we have, or can create a competitive advantage. We should look for where we can move issues forward, and work to remove politicians that create obstacles to our issues. Finally, we should focus on focus on smaller battles that we can win.

Approval of 2004 Convention Minutes

Scott Stewart (AZ) moved to approve the 2004 Atlanta Convention minutes which carried unanimously. Ken Bisson was listed in the minutes as living in the wrong state.

Bylaws Committee Report

Bylaws Committee Chair Dan Karlan thanked the Bylaws Committee members for their service and dedication. He also noted the composition of the Bylaws Committee had changed since its creation and currently includes:

Geoff Neale (TX)
Bill Hall (MI)
Sean Haugh (NC, not present)
Rick McGinnis (TX)
Deryl Martin (TN)
Richard Moroney (IA)
Tim Hagan (NV)
Carl Milsted, Jr. Ph.D. (NC)
Fred Collins (MI)

Important Note to Reader: At the Portland Convention Bylaws Articles 5, The National Campaign Platform and 6, The Libertarian Party Program, were removed. Accordingly, references to Article 13, Conventions, below now correspond to Article 11 in the

Portland Bylaws. So, to find the corresponding location in the current Bylaws, subtract two from the article number whenever the article number exceeds six.

Bylaws Back on Agenda at Every Convention

The first motion brought by the Bylaws Committee was to bring the Bylaws Committee work back at every Convention rather than every four years in off-presidential years.

The specific technical motion was to amend Convention Rule 1, Agenda item 6, by striking the limiting text:

6. Bylaws and Rules Committee report (~~Non-nominating conventions only~~)

The proposal carried.

Require LNC Votes to be Conducted by Roll Call

The next motion was to require roll call voting on all substantive motions on the LNC.

The specific technical motion was to add to Article 10, Section 11 the following sentences:

Append:

The National Committee shall use roll call voting on all substantive motions. Additionally, the National Committee must have a roll call vote upon request of any single Committee member present on any motion. On all roll call votes, the vote of each individual Committee member shall be recorded in the minutes.

This motion carried.

Make Appeal to Judicial Committee Easier & More Varied

The requirement that 5% of the membership must agree to bring a matter before the Judicial Committee has all but guaranteed that the Judicial Committee has never been called into action. In recognition of that apparent irrelevance, the Platform Committee first considered a proposal to eliminate the Judicial Committee. That proposal simply didn't fly, but the notion of making it easier to bring a matter before the Judicial Committee had clear, immediate, and substantial support. We propose providing three

alternate routes to bringing a matter before the Judicial Committee (and abandoning the unworkable 5% of national membership route):

1. 5% of the delegates to the most recently convened Convention.
2. 10% of the State Chairs
3. 20% of the current LNC

The specific technical motion is to amend Article 10, Section 11, as follows –

Current wording:

Upon appeal by 5% of the Party members whose dues are current, the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

Proposed wording:

Upon appeal by

- 5% of all individuals credentialed as delegates to the most recently convened regular Convention, or
- 10% of the Chairs of affiliate parties, or
- 20% of the membership of the current National Committee,

the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

After this plank's allotted time for debate, it failed. This opened the door for amendments.

Aaron Starr (CA) moved to amend by retaining the original wording but replace the word 'shall' with 'may' as follows. This amendment failed.

*Upon appeal by 5% of the Party members whose dues are current, the Judicial Committee ~~shall~~ **may** consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws.*

Mr. Hacker moved to dispense with further consideration of this item at that time and to come back to it later. That motion carried.

Note: The follow-up work on this Bylaws provision occurred after the Dues Resolution later in the convention. It is placed here for continuity.

Steve Damerell moved to amend the proposed wording to replace the bullet points with the italicized text to have it read as follows:

Upon appeal by

- ~~● 5% of all individuals credentialed as delegates to the most recently convened regular Convention, or~~
- ~~● 10% of the Chairs of affiliate parties, or~~
- ~~● 20% of the membership of the current National Committee,~~

One percent of the Party sustaining members,

the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

Steve Damerell's amendment with 'one percent' of party members failed. Next, an amendment to change 'one percent' above to 'five percent' also failed. Finally, three percent was introduced as an amendment and that carried.

The main motion was now:

Upon appeal by three percent of the Party sustaining members the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

The main motion as amended carried.

Steve Dasbach raised a question early in the proceedings clarifying that 'sustaining members' was in essence the same as what was meant by 'dues paying' members prior to the zero dues resolution of the LNC.

Define Sustaining Members and Set Minimum Dues

This proposal was an involved motion that codified 'sustaining member' as the notion of membership as it surfaced in Bylaws Articles 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13.

One possible interpretation of the Bylaws, though not that of the majority of the Bylaws Committee, regarding dues admits of an ambiguity that the LNC exploited last year to set dues to zero. Many on the Bylaws Committee believed this action was inconsistent with the Bylaws. If an action of the LNC affects the Bylaws, then that action was itself a violation of the Bylaws. This would likely remove any ambiguity by defining Sustaining members as those whose dues are current, and in addition either setting the dues in the Bylaws, not to be changed by the LNC, or setting a minimum dues level, which the LNC could exceed but could not reduce.

The specific technical motion has as its basis Article 7. Sections of this article were modified and expanded to six sections. Since the sequence is somewhat confusing, Article 7 is listed here to show the starting point.

ARTICLE 7: MEMBERSHIP

1. Members of the Party shall be those persons who have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.
2. Dues for membership in the Party shall be set by the National Committee.
3. Only members whose national dues are current shall be counted for delegate apportionment, and National Committee representation. Only members whose national dues are current shall be eligible to hold National Party offices or be a candidate for President or Vice President.

The specific technical motion consisted of several parts, the first of which was to insert a new section in Article 7 after the first section as follows:

To be inserted, inducing a renumbering of 2 and 3 to 3 and 4:

2. “Sustaining member” is any Party member who has given at least \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or who is a life member.

Note: At the end of Saturday’s proceedings, Dana Johansen (VA) moved to amend the replacement by substituting the following text:

*“Sustaining member” is any Party member who has **donated an amount to be set by the LNC but not less than** \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or who is a life member.*

The amendment failed. *This note is placed here as well as below in order to assist the reader.*

The specific technical motion also included a new section in Article 7 to be placed after the first section.

Newly inserted section 3 (induces a renumbering of sections 3 and 4 to 4 and 5)

3. The National Committee may offer life memberships, and must honor all prior and future life memberships.

The specific technical motion also includes an updated to what had been Section 2 (now section 4) in Article 7.

Current language:

4. Dues for membership in the Party shall be set by the National Committee.

Proposed language:

4. The National Committee may create other levels of membership and shall determine the contribution or dues levels for such memberships.

In addition to the above, another section was inserted after the above replacement.

Section 5 (induces a renumbering of section 5 to section 6)

5. Higher levels of contribution by or on behalf of a Party member qualify as sustaining member status for any provision of these Bylaws.

The specific technical motion also revises Section 6 (what had been the original third section)

The current language with amendment:

6. Only **sustaining** members ~~whose national dues are current~~ shall be counted for delegate apportionment and National Committee representation. Only **sustaining** members ~~whose national dues are current~~ shall be eligible to hold National Party offices or be a candidate for President or Vice-President.

David Terry (OR) moved¹ to make the second sentence read:

*Only sustaining members shall be eligible **to become delegates to a national convention**, to hold National Party office or be a candidate for President or Vice President.*

Mr. Terry's amendment was ruled out of order.

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 9, section 1:

Current language with amendment:

No person shall serve as an officer who is not a **sustaining** member of the Party.

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 10, section 2, paragraph c:

Current language with amendments:

2. The National Committee shall be composed of the following members:

...

c. any additional members as specified below:

Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party **sustaining** membership (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national **sustaining** membership. Affiliate parties may, by mutual consent, band together to form "representative regions," and each such "region" with an aggregate national party **sustaining** membership of 10% or more shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national party **sustaining** membership. [Remainder of this paragraph is unchanged.]

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 10, Section 4:

Current language with amendment:

A National Committee member shall be a **sustaining** member of the Party, and shall not be the candidate of any party except the Party.

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 10, Section 11:

¹ Delegate Motion #13

Current language with amendment²:

Upon appeal by 3% of the Party **sustaining** members whose dues are current, the Judicial Committee shall consider the question of whether or not a decision of the National Committee contravenes specified sections of the Bylaws. If the decision is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it shall be declared null and void.

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 11, Section 1:

Current language with amendment:

The Judicial Committee shall be composed of seven Party **sustaining** members elected at each Regular Convention, and any five members shall constitute a quorum. [Remainder of this paragraph is unchanged.]

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 13, Section 4 paragraph a:

Current language with amendment:

a. One delegate for each 0.1 percent, or fraction thereof, of the total Party **sustaining** membership in that affiliate; provided that at least one such delegate must be a resident of that State or District.

The specific technical motion also included changing Article 13, Section 5:

Current language:

In order to be counted for delegate allocation, **sustaining** membership applications must be sent to the National Headquarters by either the individual member or the affiliate party and received or postmarked no later than ~~the last day of the seventh month~~ **December 31** prior to the Regular Convention. The Secretary shall make a count of the **sustaining** members qualified under the requirements set forth here and shall compute the delegate allocations for the affiliate parties. Notification of the **sustaining** membership totals and allocation totals shall be sent by the Secretary to the Chair of each affiliate party no later than ~~the last day of the sixth month~~ **January 31** prior to a Regular Convention. [Remainder of this paragraph is unchanged.]

² Amended earlier in “Make Appeal to Judicial Committee Easier and More Varied”

The specific technical motion also included changing the first bullet point defining Platform Committee eligibility of Article 13, Section 7b:

Current language with amendment:

One member by each of the ten affiliate parties having the largest **sustaining** memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations. [Remainder of this bullet is unchanged.]

The specific technical motion also included changing the first bullet point defining Credentials Committee eligibility of Article 13, Section 7c:

Current language with amendment::

One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the largest **sustaining** memberships as determined for Convention delegate allocations. [Remainder of this bullet is unchanged.]

The entire series of amendments as detailed above passed.

Make the Treasurer Job Conform to Reality

This section of the Bylaws Committee report included a group of three proposals that somewhat strangely all passed without amendment. The three proposals included:

- Make the Treasurer job conform to reality
- Requiring Financials presented to Convention to be audited by an outside firm
- Requiring the LNC to keep its accounting books by GAAP

The first of these three, making the definition of Treasurer conform to reality, applies to the Bylaws provision that does not take into account that paid staff might be employed to do much of the routine accounting functions.

The specific technical motion is to amend Bylaws Article 9, Section 7 (definition of role of Treasurer) by appending the following text:

Article 9 Section 7

7. The Treasurer shall receive, expend and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chair and the National Committee. The

Treasurer shall make an annual financial report to the National Committee and shall perform all duties required of the office by applicable federal and state law.

Append

The Treasurer is responsible for oversight of all financial functions, including, but not limited to receipts, disbursements, internal and external reporting. The Treasurer shall report to the National Committee and the Convention both the financial situation of the Party and the results of its activities.

The second of these Bylaws changes would mandate that the financial report presented to the Convention delegates would have been audited by an agency outside the LNC, perhaps a commercial accounting firm. The delegates would by this requirement have considerable confidence in the numbers so provided.

The specific technical motion is to append the following sentences to Bylaws Article 9 (Officers), Section 7 (Definition of Treasurer):

Article 9, Section 7

7. The Treasurer shall receive, expend and account for the funds of the Party under the supervision and direction of the Chair and the National Committee. The Treasurer shall make an annual financial report to the National Committee and shall perform all duties required of the office by applicable federal and state law.

Append

The report of the Treasurer to the Convention, specified in Convention Rule 1 agenda item 5, shall include an independent auditor's report opining whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Party and the changes in its net assets and its cash flow for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Unaudited interim financial statements shall also be presented. Such reports shall be made available to every delegate.

The final of these Bylaws changes is to keep its books by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The LNC's own set of governing rules, the Policy Manual, already mandates that all financial records of the LP are to be maintained "consistent with GAAP" unless applicable law conflicts with this stipulation. This proposal would take the matter out of the capacity of the LNC to alter, mandating GAAP in the Bylaws instead.

The specific technical motion is to make the following addition to Bylaws Article 12 (Finance and Accounting), Section 2:

Article 12, Section 2
2. The National Committee shall cause an efficient double-entry system of accounts to be installed and maintained.
Append
Financial statements of the Party shall be prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

The three items passed without amendment.

Change of Membership Definition

The specific proposal was to replace Article 7, Section 1 as follows:

Current language:
1. Members of the party shall be those who have certified in writing that they oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.
Proposed language:
1. A member of the Party shall be any libertarian who has self-identified as a member.

After calling the question immediately, this motion failed.

A motion emerged to change the language to:

1. A member of the Party shall be any libertarian who supports smaller government, lower taxes and more individual freedom

This amendment was amended by Robert Schubring (MI)³ to append the words ‘without violence’. This amendment to the amendment failed.

A substitute amendment from Thomas Stevens then emerged which passed, stating:

³ Delegate Motion #12

Final proposed language, as amended:

1. Members of the party shall be those persons who have certified in writing that they support smaller government, lower taxes and more individual freedom

The main motion failed and the current language remains in place.

Saturday PM

Credentials

In the Saturday PM session, Credentials Chair Emily Salvette reported 306 delegates. Ms. Salvette moved to amend the credentials roll to accept the delegates. The motion carried.

Beyond these 306, certain state chairs wished to have the convention accept a small number of additional delegates not included.

After a request to split the question by state, the following occurred:

Idaho moved to have the Convention accept Robbi Blesson as a delegate. The motion passed.

Massachusetts moved to add Renee Ruiz. The motion passed.

Washington moved to include David Bergland and David Carson. The motion passed.

California moved to include Starchild, David Hollist and Astor from San Francisco. After a request to divide the question, the Convention:

- Rejected the seating of Astor with 39 negative votes. The measure required seven-eighths to pass.
- Rejected the seating of Starchild 156-23. The 87.1% was less than the 87.5% required.
- Seated David Hollist.

The report of the Bylaws Committee continued.

Modify Presidential Nominating Method

The Bylaws specify (Rule 9, paragraph 4) that any candidate for President (and Vice-President – see proposal 13) who submits to the Secretary the signatures of 30 delegates is entitled to formal nomination time in front of the Convention. There is no specification for a form or procedure that must be followed to acquire those signatures or deliver them to the Secretary.

At the most recent Nominating Convention, the Secretary received sheets of paper of varied form and content, on which the many signatures were so distributed that it was impossible for the Secretary to vouch for the validity and non-duplication of names.

(Important disclaimer: nothing in the previous sentence should be construed as indicating the Secretary doubted, or had reason to doubt, the validity of the signatures.)

The Platform Committee and members of the Credentials Committee have come up with a process that will make the submission of the minimum 30 unique signatures much more susceptible to validation. However, the Platform Committee wanted to make sure that the mechanism that is adopted is permitted in the Bylaws, beyond challenge.

The specific technical motion is to amend Convention Rule 9, Section 4, by appending the following sentence:

Append

The affixing of signatures to a nominating petition per this requirement shall be effected by a transfer of signature tokens issued by the Credentials Committee.

The motion carried.

Region formation to include only membership in affiliates

This provision along with the next two was presented as a group of three. A request to divide the question separated them into three parts.

Although this question would appear to have been a simple matter, the most recent Convention exposed an ambiguity in the Bylaws that the committee proposed to rectify. When considering whether or not an affiliate or group of affiliates meets the 10% threshold specified in the Bylaws for region formation, it has been assumed that the denominator in that fraction is national membership within affiliated parties. Thus, as an extreme, if all the affiliates grouped into a single region-of-the-whole, this region would be entitled to 10 Regional Representatives and 10 Regional Alternates.

However, the Bylaws are not as clear as we would like on this point, and admit of the alternate possibility that the denominator is instead all national members worldwide, including those outside affiliates (Puerto Rico, Guam, etc.).

With this interpretation, a region-of-the-whole would be entitled to only 9 Regional Representatives and Alternates. This proposal would make the calculation completely unambiguous, specifying the denominator as only the national membership within affiliates.

The specific technical motion was to amend Bylaws Article 10, Section 2, paragraph c, as follows:

Current language: *(note: amended earlier)*

Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party **sustaining** membership (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national **sustaining** membership. [Remainder of paragraph unchanged]

Proposed language:

Any affiliate party with 10% or more of the total national party sustaining membership **within affiliate parties** (as determined for delegate allocation) shall be entitled to one National Committee representative and one alternate for each 10% of national sustaining membership.

Automatic Removal of Officers and At-Large for Non-Attendance

While the LNC has the authority to remove officers and at-large members, this is an extremely severe action, and the LNC usually has much critical business to attend to. But an officer or at-large member who has been absent for a significant number of LNC meetings imposes a severe burden on the remaining members, who take their commitment seriously.

This proposal would ease the difficulty for the LNC for this one reason, consistent non-attendance over the course of 3 meetings: perhaps one full year of LNC meetings.

The specific technical motion is to make the following insertion to Bylaws Article 10, Section 5 as new paragraph 3:

Insert:

An officer or member-at-large who fails to attend two consecutive regular meetings of the National Committee shall be automatically removed from his position upon the Credentials report of the Secretary if not present at the opening of the third consecutive meeting. The affected member shall have until the opening of the next regular meeting of the National Committee to appeal this action to the Judicial Committee; once the Credentials report of the Secretary at this meeting has been issued, the suspension shall be final unless the Judicial Committee rules to re-instate the suspended member.

This measure passed.

Eliminate Requirement for Libertarian Party Program

The Program is a document that the Bylaws requires be written by the LNC. This document shall be: “a maximum of 10 issues; which are currently receiving widespread, national public attention; are readily identifiable by most individuals as matters which affect them personally and directly; and offer interim or transitional proposals which move toward a libertarian society, which are clearly identified as interim or transitional proposals.”

This sounds like a great idea. The problem is that the LNC has given little or no attention to this document until very recently, because the purpose of the LNC is NOT to be a document creation committee, but to be the board of directors of the Libertarian Party.

Nevertheless, such a document has been composed, and was considered by the LNC at the meeting Friday, June 30.

Eliminating this Bylaw does not mean we cannot have such a document. It just means that we are not required to have this document, and it can be created and maintained as the need arises.

The specific technical motion is simply to delete Bylaws Article 6 in its entirety.

This measure passed.

Drop Weakest Finisher after Every Ballot

Next came another group of three measures that included

- Dropping weakest finisher after every ballot
- Changing the delegate list submission deadline from one month to one week before the Convention and additional routes
- Eliminate Requirement for National Campaign Platform

All three ended up carrying, though the second item was brought up again Sunday morning.

The Bylaws specify (Rule 9, Section 2) that if there is no winner after the first ballot in the polling for the Presidential and Vice-Presidential contest, the vote is repeated; it is only after the second ballot that the weakest finisher is dropped.

However, at nearly every Nominating Convention at which there has not been a winner on the first ballot, a motion to suspend the rules – to allow dropping of the last-place finisher immediately, rather than delaying that until after the second ballot – has been

entertained and adopted. This proposal would formally remove that delay, and bow to the consistent suspension of the Rules. The proposal also recommends any candidates with support less than 5% be dropped.

The specific technical motion is to make the following amendments to Convention Rule 9, Section 2:

Current language:

The Party's nominee for President shall be chosen by majority vote. If, ~~after two ballots~~, no candidate has attained a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes ~~on the latest ballot~~ shall be struck from subsequent ballots. This procedure shall be repeated after every ~~subsequent~~ ballot in which no candidate has received a majority vote, until one candidate attains a majority.

Proposed language:

The Party's nominee for President shall be chosen by majority vote. If no candidate has attained a majority, the candidate with the fewest votes and any other candidates polling less than 5% shall be struck from subsequent ballots. This procedure shall be repeated after every ballot in which no candidate has received a majority vote, until one candidate attains a majority.

This measure carried.

Change in Delegate List Submission Deadline (1 month to 1 week) and Additional Routes

The Bylaws specified that the affiliate delegate lists must be submitted no later than one month before the corresponding Convention. This proposal would change the deadline to one week before the Convention.

The proposer has offered this argument: At the 2004 convention the Credentials Committee encountered a significant problem. At least one state, owing to legal restrictions, sent amendments to National HQ via email only a day or so before the Convention start, but every staff member was working at the Convention, so the changes were neither received nor processed.

This resulted in a problem with credentialing. The affiliate correctly identified that the Bylaws permitted what they did, but the Bylaws allow a nearly impossible situation. This language (or something that sounds better) specifies an HQ cutoff, and the procedure for handling amendments after that fact. Making the deadline one week instead of one month

addresses the difficulty that one affiliate is required by law to hold their Convention on a fixed date.

The specific technical motion is to amend Bylaws Article 13, Section 5, sentence 4, as follows:

Current language:

A list of the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates chosen by each affiliate party shall be sent to the National Headquarters no later than one ~~month~~ prior to start of the first general session of the Regular Convention. Amendments to such lists may be made by the affiliate parties until the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the Convention. [The remainder of this Section is unchanged.]

Proposed language:

A list of the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates chosen by each affiliate party shall be sent to the National Headquarters no later than one **week** prior to start of the first general session of the Regular Convention. Amendments to such lists may be made by the affiliate parties **and submitted electronically or in person to the Credentials Committee** until the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the Convention.

This measure passed.

Note: This issue was reconsidered Sunday morning and changed again. Geoff Neale, who moved for the suspension of the rules on Sunday, argued this motion had inadvertently 'improved the process too much'.

Eliminate Requirement for National Campaign Platform

In 2004 Michael Badnarik did not submit a separate Campaign Platform, instead choosing to use the LP Platform itself. Without either a separate Program or Campaign Platform, there no longer exists any official document detailing immediate 'transitional' proposals. The Platform reformatting project attempted to take this into account, by dividing Platform language into Issue, Principle, Solution, and Transition.

The Platform Committee declared the Party seemed to be getting along just fine without these documents. Those who want transitional language now have an avenue, by amending the Platform itself. There is no reason why the Platform could not speak to both direction and destination. Just about every imaginable libertarian policy document

already exists somewhere, and if none is totally on a particular candidate's message, he is always free to create his own.

The specific technical motions are to:

- delete Bylaws Article 5 in its entirety, and
- amend Convention Rules as follows:

Rule 1, Section 9 –

Current language with amendment:

Nomination of Party candidates for President and Vice-President (in appropriate years) ~~including ratification of the National Campaign Platform~~

This measure passed.

Platform Retention Vote

There is a complicated process mandated for the review of every plank in our Platform called the Platform Retention Vote. The intention of this process was to provide a simple mechanism for delegates to vote up or down on every plank in the Platform.

The Platform Committee decided that in principle, this sounded fine, but the mechanics were perceived as difficult. The Bylaws require electronic tabulation, a three-hour voting window, and a secondary review of any planks to be deleted based upon this vote. The number of votes cast in each convention is a small portion of the total delegates, and the process is expensive because of the requirement to rent tabulation equipment and have machine readable forms printed. To this date, no one on the committee can recall any instance where a plank was deleted through this process. (little did we know what was about to happen at this convention)

Additionally, the Bylaws still provided for the deletion of any plank on a simple majority vote.

At the same time, the Bylaws Committee recognized the merit – from the perspective of the individual delegates – of having the opportunity, quickly and easily, to indicate that some planks are so unsatisfying that they should be considered for deletion by a process that is not subject to the constraints on the Convention agenda.

The Bylaws Committee developed the following procedure, borrowing from the 'token' approach conceived for the Presidential nomination process, which it believed addressed the problems while offering the delegates a clear route to a deletion decision.

The specific proposals were to:

Delete Convention Rule 1 (order of business) item 8; then revise item 4:

4. ~~Retention~~ **Deletion** of planks from the previous platform

Revise Convention Rule 7, Section 2 as follows:

Current language:

2. After the adoption of the convention agenda, the convention will vote, without debate, whether to retain each of the planks in the existing platform. Delegates will cast separate votes on each plank, and use a computer readable ballot to record their votes. Delegates will be given three hours to mark their ballots and return them to their delegation chair. In the event that computer readable ballots are not available, a roll call vote shall be used. Each plank approved by a majority of those voting on that plank shall be retained in the new platform (including any amendments to that plank which are subsequently approved). If the number of delegates participating in the vote on any plank is less than the quorum in effect at the beginning of the polling period, then that plank shall be retained and a second vote on that plank, pursuant to Section 8 below, shall not occur.

Proposed language:

2. After the adoption of the convention agenda, the convention will vote whether to delete planks from the existing platform. This will be accomplished as follows:
 - a. The Credentials Committee shall issue five signature tokens to each delegate.
 - b. Tokens shall only be issued to delegates. Delegates are responsible for transferring possession of unused tokens to their alternates if necessary.
 - c. Each delegate may cast each token as a recommendation for deletion of one plank by noting on the token the plank to be deleted and signing the token.
 - d. A delegate may cumulate recommendations by casting any number of tokens for deletion of the same plank.
 - e. Delegates will be given until one hour prior to the scheduled start of the platform report to mark their tokens and deliver them to the Secretary.
 - f. Prior to the scheduled start of the platform report, the Secretary shall review the tokens received and tabulate and report the tokens submitted for deletion of each plank.

- g. As its first item of platform business, the convention shall vote whether to delete each of those planks that received a number of tokens for deletion equal to 20% or more of the number of credentialed delegates. Such votes shall be cast without amendment or debate.

Delete Convention Rule 7, Section 8 pertaining to the second platform plank ballot.

Because of the nature of the operations proposed, this proposal would take effect at the 2008 Convention.

The Chair initially called the motion to have failed. After a call for a division, a standing vote revealed it carried.

A last proposal of the Bylaws Committee was contingent on the matter of having the presidential nominee use the LP Platform as his/her campaign platform. Since the motion above passed and replaced certain Bylaws provisions, the text no longer existed in the Bylaws to consider how to move some of it from the Bylaws into the Convention Rules. Thus the last item was rendered moot.

Platform Committee Report

The Platform Committee was comprised of 20 individuals, 10 having been selected by the LNC and 10 being appointed by the 10 states with the largest membership. Those members included:

LNC Appointees

George Squyres (AZ) Chair
David Aitken (CO)
Robert Murphy (OK)
Lorenzo Gaztañaga (MD)
Trevor Southerland (GA)
David W. Owens (PA)
Adam Mayer (OR)
Donny Ferguson (VA)
Tim West (WV)
Lee Wrights (NC)

Largest States

California Brian Holtz
Texas Guy McClendon
Florida Bill Van Allen
Georgia Joel Mountain
Pennsylvania Mik Robertson
Michigan Andy Lecureaux
Ohio Norma Skoog
Virginia Steve Damerell
New York Bonnie Scott
Washington Greg Clark

This list may differ slightly from those named in the Delegation Chairs Manual since certain members thinking they would be able to attend the Portland convention turned out not to be able to do so.

Platform Committee Chair George Squyres entertained a motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of consolidating several planks into one.

The Platform Committee noted each of the following planks represent a consolidation of several existing planks. These consolidations have been done considering completeness, redundancy, and relevance in a changing world.

Corporate Welfare, Monopolies and Subsidies

Incorporates: Both Monopolies (II.6) and Subsidies (II.7)

Property & Resource Rights

Incorporates: Property Rights (I.12), Resource Use (III.9), Unowned Resources (IV.C.3), and Space Exploration (IV.D.3)

Crime and Victimless Crime

Incorporates: Crime (I.2) and Victimless Crime (I.3)

Postal Service and Public Utilities

Incorporates: Postal Service (III.13) and Public Utilities (II.9)

Reproductive Rights

Incorporates: Population (III.5) and Women's Rights (I.20)

The motion to suspend the rules passed, as did the motion to consolidate these planks. Next George Squyres entertained a motion to suspend the rules to consider all Revisions en banc.

The Platform Committee report noted the following planks have been revised to incorporate suggestions from the membership received at the Platform web site and/or to address flaws revealed by the change in format.

- I.22 Sexuality and Gender
- I.18 Immigration
- II.2 Taxation
- II.5. Government Debt
- I.17 Conscription

This motion to suspend the rules to consider all Revisions en banc was ruled out of order since one of these, Immigration, had a minority report.

Steve Dasbach objected to considering the revisions in the absence of the original Platform, which was missing from the delegate handout. This objection caused the Secretary to present on the overhead screen each plank in the original for the delegates to consider for two minutes each.

I.22 Sexuality and Gender revision

The existing plank was as follows:

I.22 Sexual Rights – Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: Government has presumed to decide acceptability over sexual practices in personal relationships, imposing a particular code of moral and social values and displacing personal choice in such matters.

The Principle: Adults have the right to private choice in consensual sexual activity.

Solutions: We advocate an end to all government attempts to dictate, prohibit, control or encourage any private lifestyle, living arrangement or contractual relationship.

Transitional Action: We would repeal existing laws and policies intended to condemn, affirm, encourage or deny sexual lifestyles, or any set of attitudes about such lifestyles.

The Platform Committee presented the following replacement

I.22 Sexuality and Gender – 2006 Platform Committee Proposal

The Issue: Politicians use popular fears and taboos to legally impose a particular code of moral and social values. Government regularly denies rights and privileges on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

The Principle: Consenting adults should be free to choose their own sexual practices and personal relationships. Government does not have legitimate authority to define or license personal relationships. Sexuality or gender should have no impact on the rights of individuals.

Solutions: Culture wars, social friction and prejudice will fade when marriage and other personal relationships are treated as private contracts, solely defined by the individuals involved, and government discrimination is not allowed.

Transitional Action: Repeal the federal Defense of Marriage Act and state laws and amendments defining marriage. Oppose any new laws or Constitutional amendments defining terms for personal, private relationships. Repeal any state or federal law assigning special benefits to people based on marital status, family structure, sexual orientation or gender identification. Repeal any state or federal laws denying same-sex partners rights enjoyed by others, such as adoption of children and spousal immigration.

End the Defense Department practice of discharging armed forces personnel for sexual orientation. Upgrade all less-than-honorable discharges previously assigned solely for such reasons to honorable status, and delete related information from military personnel files. Repeal all laws discriminating by gender, such as protective labor laws and marriage, divorce, and custody laws which deny the full rights of each individual.

The amendments considered by the Convention:

I.22 Sexuality and Gender - Convention amendment

The first amendment was to replace ‘contracts’ with ‘matters’

Solutions: Culture wars, social friction and prejudice will fade when marriage and other personal relationships are treated as private ~~contracts~~ **matters**, solely defined by the individuals involved, and government discrimination is not allowed.

This amendment failed.

I.22 Sexuality and Gender Convention amendments

The next amendment was to replace ‘personal relationships’ with ‘civil unions’:

Solutions: Culture wars, social friction and prejudice will fade when marriage and other ~~personal relationships~~ **civil unions** are treated as private contracts, solely defined by the individuals involved, and government discrimination is not allowed.

This amendment failed

The proposal of the Platform Committee withstood both attempts at amendment and passed as originally presented.

I.18 Immigration

The existing plank was as follows:

I.18 Immigration - Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: We welcome all refugees to our country and condemn the efforts of U.S. officials to create a new "Berlin Wall" which would keep them captive. We condemn the U.S. government's policy of barring those refugees from our country and preventing Americans from assisting their passage to help them escape tyranny or improve their economic prospects.

The Principle: We hold that human rights should not be denied or abridged on the basis of nationality. Undocumented non-citizens should not be denied the fundamental freedom to labor and to move about unmolested. Furthermore, immigration must not be restricted for reasons of race, religion, political creed, age or sexual preference. We oppose government welfare and resettlement payments to non-citizens just as we oppose government welfare payments to all other persons.

Solutions: We condemn massive roundups of Hispanic Americans and others by the federal government in its hunt for individuals not possessing required government documents. We strongly oppose all measures that punish employers who hire undocumented workers. Such measures repress free enterprise, harass workers, and systematically discourage employers from hiring Hispanics.

Transitional Action: We call for the elimination of all restrictions on immigration, the abolition of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Border Patrol, and a declaration of full amnesty for all people who have entered the country illegally.

The Platform Committee presented the following replacement

I.18 Immigration – 2006 Platform Committee Proposal

The Issue: Our borders are currently neither open, closed, nor secure. This situation restricts the labor pool, encouraging employers to hire undocumented workers, while leaving those workers neither subject to nor protected by the law. A completely open border allows foreign criminals, carriers of communicable diseases, terrorists and other potential threats to enter the country unchecked. Pandering politicians guarantee access to public services for undocumented aliens, to the detriment of those who would enter to work productively, and increasing the burden on taxpayers.

The Principle: The legitimate function and obligation of government to protect the lives, rights and property of its citizens, requires awareness of and control over the entry into our country of foreign nationals who pose a threat to security, health or property. Political freedom and escape from tyranny demands that individuals not be unreasonably constrained by government in the crossing of political boundaries. Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human as well as financial capital across national

borders.

Solutions: Borders will be secure, with free entry to those who have demonstrated compliance with certain requirements. The terms and conditions of entry into the United States must be simple and clearly spelled out. Documenting the entry of individuals must be restricted to screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. It is the obligation of the prospective immigrant to demonstrate compliance with these requirements. Once effective immigration policies are in place, general amnesties will no longer be necessary.

Transitional Action: Ensure immigration requirements include only appropriate documentation, screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. Simplifying the immigration process and redeployment of surveillance technology to focus on the borders will encourage the use of regular and monitored entry points, thus preventing trespass and saving lives. End federal requirements that benefits and services be provided to those in the country illegally.

Since this plank had a minority report from the Platform Committee, the Convention first had to decide whether to use the revision or the minority report as the basis for the amendments. After debate, including a 10-minute extension of time, the majority report was selected for debate.

The amendments considered by the Convention

I.18 Immigration - [Convention amendment](#)

The first amendment was to add the last sentence of the minority report to the end of the Transition Action section.

Transitional Action: Ensure immigration requirements include only appropriate documentation, screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. Simplifying the immigration process and redeployment of surveillance technology to focus on the borders will encourage the use of regular and monitored entry points, thus preventing trespass and saving lives. End federal requirements that benefits and services be provided to those in the country illegally. **[Repeal all measures that punish employers who hire undocumented workers.](#)**

This amendment carried.

I.18 Immigration - [Convention amendment](#)

The next amendment was by David Aitken (CO)⁴ proposing to append the last sentence below.

Transitional Action: Ensure immigration requirements include only appropriate documentation, screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. Simplifying the immigration process and redeployment of surveillance technology to focus on the borders will encourage the use of regular and monitored entry points, thus preventing trespass and saving lives. End federal requirements that benefits and services be provided to those in the country illegally. Repeal all measures that punish employers who hire undocumented workers. **Use diplomatic persuasion to encourage less-free nations to change their economic and personal liberties policies so fewer people will want to emigrate.**

This amendment failed.

I.18 Immigration - Convention amendment

The next amendment was by Nick Sarwark (MD)⁵, was to append the last sentence below

Transitional Action: Ensure immigration requirements include only appropriate documentation, screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. Simplifying the immigration process and redeployment of surveillance technology to focus on the borders will encourage the use of regular and monitored entry points, thus preventing trespass and saving lives. End federal requirements that benefits and services be provided to those in the country illegally. Repeal all measures that punish employers who hire undocumented workers. **Repeal all immigration quotas.**

This amendment carried

I.18 Immigration - Convention amendment

Lastly, a clarification was approved changing 'who hire' to 'for hiring'.

Transitional Action: Ensure immigration requirements include only appropriate documentation, screening for criminal background and threats to public health and national security. Simplifying the immigration process and redeployment of surveillance

⁴ Delegate Motion #10

⁵ Delegate Motion #17

technology to focus on the borders will encourage the use of regular and monitored entry points, thus preventing trespass and saving lives. End federal requirements that benefits and services be provided to those in the country illegally. Repeal all measures that punish employers who ~~hire~~ **for hiring** undocumented workers. Repeal all immigration quotas.

This amendment carried

This revision as amended passed.

II.2 Taxation

The existing plank was as follows:

II.2 Taxation – Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: The scope of government at all levels - federal, state & local - has grown far beyond what is authorized by the US Constitution, and by many state Constitutions. Consequently, taxation at all levels has expanded, and now imposes a crushing burden on the US taxpayer. Collection of income taxes is highly invasive, and leads to loss of privacy.

The Principle: Individuals have sole ownership of all the time that constitutes their lives, and to the fruits of their labor. Individual income taxes are more onerous than consumption taxes, tariffs, and excise taxes. To the extent taxes are necessary to accomplish authorized functions of government, such functions should be funded by taxes that do not invade individuals' privacy or self-ownership.

Solutions: Only minimal revenues are required to fund legitimate government functions. Such minimal amounts should be collected in a voluntary, non-intrusive manner, so privacy is protected as an unalienable right. Many government functions would be privatized, so voluntary user fees would eventually replace taxation.

Transitional Action: Eliminate all taxation on individual incomes. As unauthorized functions of the federal government are eliminated, subsequent cost savings would be applied to reduction of taxes, and the federal debt. When ranking the effect of various taxes, certain forms of taxation have a worse economic effect than others. For example death taxes would be eliminated before sales taxes, and fines on actions having a negative effect on others, such as a "Pollution Tax."

The Platform Committee presented the following replacement

II.2 Taxation – 2006 Platform Committee Proposal

The Issue: The scope of government at all levels - federal, state & local - has grown far beyond what is authorized by the US Constitution, and by many state Constitutions. Consequently, taxation at all levels has expanded, and now imposes a crushing burden on the US taxpayer. Collection of income taxes is highly invasive, and leads to loss of privacy.

The Principle: Individuals have sole ownership of all the time that constitutes their lives, and to the fruits of their labor. Individual income taxes are more onerous than consumption taxes, tariffs, and excise taxes. To the extent taxes are necessary to accomplish authorized functions of government, such functions should be funded by taxes that do not invade individuals' privacy or self-ownership.

Solutions: Only minimal revenues are required to fund legitimate government functions. Such minimal amounts should be collected in a voluntary, non-intrusive manner, so privacy is protected as an unalienable right. Many government functions would be privatized, so voluntary user fees would eventually replace taxation.

Transitional Action: Eliminate all taxation on individual incomes. As unauthorized functions of the federal government are eliminated, subsequent cost savings would be applied to reduction of taxes, and the federal debt. When ranking the effect of various taxes, certain forms of taxation have a worse economic effect than others. For example death taxes would be eliminated before sales taxes, and fines on actions having a negative effect on others, such as a "Pollution Tax."

The amendments as considered by the Convention included:

II.2 Taxation - **Convention amendment**

The first amendment was to delete the last two sentences of the Transition Action section:

Transitional Action: Eliminate all taxation on individual incomes. As unauthorized functions of the federal government are eliminated, subsequent cost savings would be applied to reduction of taxes, and the federal debt. ~~When ranking the effect of various taxes, certain forms of taxation have a worse economic effect than others. For example death taxes would be eliminated before sales taxes, and fines on actions having a negative effect on others, such as a "Pollution Tax."~~

This amendment passed.

II.2 Taxation - Convention amendment

The next amendment by Guy McLendon (TX) was to append the last sentence below:

Transitional Action: Eliminate all taxation on individual incomes. As unauthorized functions of the federal government are eliminated, subsequent cost savings would be applied to reduction of taxes, and the federal debt. **All criminal sanctions for tax evasion shall be ended.**

This amendment was amended to change the words 'criminal sanctions' to 'civil sanctions'

This amendment to the amendment carried.

The revised amendment after the substation failed 84-99.

The resulting main motion was:

II.2 Taxation - Convention amendment

Transitional Action: Eliminate all taxation on individual incomes. As unauthorized functions of the federal government are eliminated, subsequent cost savings would be applied to reduction of taxes, and the federal debt.

The measure failed to achieve the 2/3 needed for passage.

II.5 Government Debt

The existing plank was as follows:

II.5. Government Debt – Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: The national debt imposes debt upon Americans without their consent, and loads our economy with a fiscal anchor that will burden many future generations. Our escalating national debt is nothing less than theft from our grandchildren.

The Principle: The government should operate on a "pay as you go" basis, and not incur debt.

Solutions: A debt-free government frees up economic resources, allowing for lower taxes, economic growth and lower interest rates.

Transitional Action: Eliminate the national debt using an incremental approach, being careful to avoid social disruption. We support the passage of a “Balanced Budget Amendment” to the US Constitution that restricts Congress from spending any more than it collected in revenue the previous year.

Eliminate earmarks, pork-barrel spending, and other forms of political corruption. Congress should sell assets and reduce spending on non-essential functions to pay off the national debt as quickly as possible. Congress would be authorized to borrow money during a crisis for a finite period of time with 2/3 approval of both chambers of Congress and the approval of the president.

The Platform Committee presented the following replacement

II.5. Government Debt – 2006 Platform Committee Proposal

The Issue: The national debt imposes debt upon Americans without their consent, and loads our economy with a fiscal anchor that will burden many future generations. Our escalating national debt is nothing less than theft from our grandchildren.

The Principle: The government should operate on a "pay as you go" basis, and not incur debt.

Solutions: A debt-free government frees up economic resources, allowing for lower taxes, economic growth and lower interest rates.

Transitional Action: Eliminate the national debt using an incremental approach, being careful to avoid social disruption. We support the passage of a “Balanced Budget Amendment” to the US Constitution that restricts Congress from spending any more than it collected in revenue the previous year.

Eliminate earmarks, pork-barrel spending, and other forms of political corruption. Congress should sell assets and reduce spending on non-essential functions to pay off the national debt as quickly as possible. Congress would be authorized to borrow money during a crisis for a finite period of time with 2/3 approval of both chambers of Congress and the approval of the president.

The amendments considered by the Convention included:

II.5. Government Debt – [Convention Amendment](#)

Nick Sarwark (MD)⁶ introduced the first amendment to delete the last sentence of the transition section:

The Issue: The national debt imposes debt upon Americans without their consent, and loads our economy with a fiscal anchor that will burden many future generations. Our escalating national debt is nothing less than theft from our grandchildren.

Transitional Action: Eliminate the national debt using an incremental approach, being careful to avoid social disruption. We support the passage of a “Balanced Budget Amendment” to the US Constitution that restricts Congress from spending any more than it collected in revenue the previous year.

Eliminate earmarks, pork-barrel spending, and other forms of political corruption. Congress should sell assets and reduce spending on non-essential functions to pay off the national debt as quickly as possible. ~~Congress would be authorized to borrow money during a crisis for a finite period of time with 2/3 approval of both chambers of Congress and the approval of the president.~~

This amendment carried.

This version ultimately carried as the main motion. Subsequent amendment failed.

II.5. Government Debt – **Convention Amendment**

Gerhardt Langguth (AR)⁷ proposed changes to the Issue section changing ‘debt’ to ‘a burden’, and ‘burden’ to ‘haunt’:

The Issue: The national debt imposes ~~debt~~ **a burden** upon Americans without their consent, and loads our economy with a fiscal anchor that will ~~burden~~ **haunt** many future generations. Our escalating national debt is nothing less than theft from our grandchildren.

Transitional Action: Eliminate the national debt using an incremental approach, being careful to avoid social disruption. We support the passage of a “Balanced Budget Amendment” to the US Constitution that restricts Congress from spending any more than it collected in revenue the previous year.

Eliminate earmarks, pork-barrel spending, and other forms of political corruption. Congress should sell assets and reduce spending on non-essential functions to pay off the national debt as quickly as possible.

⁶ Delegate Motion #19

⁷ Delegate Motion #20

This amendment failed

The main motion as amended carried.

I.17 Conscription

The existing plank was as follows:

I.17 Conscription – Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: We oppose any form of national service, including conscription into the military, a compulsory youth labor program, or any other kind of coerced social program.

The Principle: Impressment of individuals into the armed forces is involuntary servitude.

Solutions: Recognizing that registration is the first step toward full conscription, we oppose all attempts at compulsory registration of any person and all schemes for automatic registration through government invasions of the privacy of school, motor vehicle, or other records. We call for the abolition of the still-functioning elements of the Selective Service System. We call for the destruction of all files in computer-readable or hard-copy form compiled by the Selective Service System. We oppose adding women to the pool of those eligible for and subject to the draft, not because we think that as a rule women are unfit for combat, but because we believe that this step enlarges the number of people subjected to government tyranny.

Transitional Action: We call for the immediate and unconditional exoneration of all who have been accused or convicted of draft evasion, desertion from the military in cases of conscription or fraud, and other acts of resistance to such transgressions as imperialistic wars and aggressive acts of the military. Members of the military should have the same right to quit their jobs as other persons. We call for the end of the Defense Department practice of discharging armed forces personnel for homosexual conduct. We further call for retraction of all less-than-honorable discharges previously assigned for such reasons and deletion of such information from military personnel files. We recommend the repeal of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the recognition and equal protection of the rights of armed forces members. This will thereby promote morale, dignity, and a sense of justice within the military.

The Platform Committee presented the following replacement

I.17 Conscription – 2006 Platform Committee Proposal

The Issue: Any form of coerced national service program is a type of involuntary servitude. Examples include conscription into the military and compulsory youth labor programs.

The Principle: Coerced national service programs presume the government can claim ownership of the lives of individuals. Such programs are a form of involuntary servitude, and are a clear violation of the US Constitution 13th Amendment.

Solutions: All forms of national service will be staffed by willing participants, without the need for conscription or other means of mandating such service. When people perceive a just cause, history has shown that they willingly volunteer to serve.

Transitional Actions: All schemes for automatic registration through government invasions of the privacy of school, motor vehicle, or other records should be immediately eliminated. The still-functioning elements of the Selective Service System should be abolished, and all associated records, should be destroyed. The President should immediately pardon, providing unconditional exoneration, for all who have been accused or convicted of draft evasion, desertion from the military in cases of conscription or fraud, and other acts of civil resistance.

The amendments considered by the Convention

First, typos (extraneous commas) Nick Sarwark (MD) caught were eliminated without objection.

I.17 Conscription – Convention Amendment

The first substantive amendment was to change ‘youth labor programs’ to ‘social programs’.

The Issue: Any form of coerced national service program is a type of involuntary servitude. Examples include conscription into the military and compulsory ~~youth labor programs~~ **social programs**.

Transitional Actions: All schemes for automatic registration through government invasions of the privacy of school, motor vehicle, or other records should be immediately eliminated. The still-functioning elements of the Selective Service System should be abolished, and all associated records, should be destroyed. The President should immediately pardon, providing unconditional exoneration, for all who have been accused

or convicted of draft evasion, desertion from the military in cases of conscription or fraud, and other acts of civil resistance.

The amendment failed.

I.17 Conscription – Convention Amendment

Thomas Stevens (NY)⁸ moved to change ‘fraud’ to ‘ethical noncompliance’ in the Transition Actions section.

The Issue: Any form of coerced national service program is a type of involuntary servitude. Examples include conscription into the military and compulsory youth labor program.

Transitional Actions: All schemes for automatic registration through government invasions of the privacy of school, motor vehicle, or other records should be immediately eliminated. The still-functioning elements of the Selective Service System should be abolished, and all associated records should be destroyed. The President should immediately pardon, providing unconditional exoneration, for all who have been accused or convicted of draft evasion, desertion from the military in cases of conscription or ~~fraud~~ **ethical noncompliance**, and other acts of civil resistance to conscription.

This amendment failed.

I.17 Conscription – Convention Amendment

The final amendment was to delete the last sentence of the Transition Actions section.

The Issue: Any form of coerced national service program is a type of involuntary servitude. Examples include conscription into the military and compulsory youth labor program.

Transitional Actions: All schemes for automatic registration through government invasions of the privacy of school, motor vehicle, or other records should be immediately eliminated. The still-functioning elements of the Selective Service System should be abolished, and all associated records should be destroyed. ~~The President should immediately pardon, providing unconditional exoneration, for all who have been accused or convicted of draft evasion, desertion from the military in cases of conscription or~~

⁸ Delegate Motion #23

~~fraud, and other acts of civil resistance to conscription.~~

This amendment failed.

The main motion, which had sustained three attempts at amendment, passed.

Statement of Principles

The Bylaws Committee also proposed a change affecting the famous phrase 'cult of the omnipotent state', but the discussion was postponed until Sunday morning prior to the Chair's nominations.

III.6 Transportation

Guy McLendon (TX)⁹ proposed a rewrite of III.6 – Transportation.

The existing plank was as follows:

III.6 Transportation – Atlanta 2004 Platform

The Issue: Government interference in transportation is characterized by monopolistic restriction, corruption and gross inefficiency. We condemn the re-cartelization of commercial aviation by the Federal Aviation Administration via rationing of take-off and landing rights and controlling scheduling in the name of "safety."

The Principle: The transportation industry should not be treated differently from any other industry, and should be governed by free markets and held to strict liability.

Solutions: We therefore call for the dissolution of all government agencies concerned with transportation -- including the Department of Transportation, the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Federal Aviation Administration, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Coast Guard, and the Federal Maritime Commission -- and the transfer of their legitimate functions to competitive private firms. We demand the return of America's railroad system to private ownership. We call for the privatization of airports, air traffic control systems, public roads and the national highway system.

Transitional Action: As interim measures, we advocate an immediate end to government regulation of private transit organizations and to governmental favors to the transportation industry. In particular, we support the immediate repeal of all laws

⁹ Delegate Motion #32

restricting transit competition such as the granting of taxicab and bus monopolies and the prohibition of private jitney services. We urge immediate deregulation of the trucking industry.

Guy's rewrite was:

III.6 – Commerce and Transportation

The Issue: Federal regulation of interstate commerce and transportation imposes significant economic costs that often have minimal justification. Governmental control stifles the free market, grants monopolies to those with political access, and thereby spawns corruption and inefficiencies.

The Principle: the federal government is granted only limited authorization by the Constitution to regulate interstate commerce and associated transportation, and its current role vastly exceeds what is authorized. For too long, federal officials, including Supreme Court justices, have chosen to subvert the Constitution's original intent rather than to comply with and maintain it.

Except for defending the United States from outside invasion, the Constitution grants no power to federal officials relevant to public safety. However, based upon the 10th Amendment, state citizens can grant such power to officials in their respective state governments.

Solutions: Government should not obstruct the free flow of goods and services between individuals.

Transitional Action: the Commerce Clause needs to be clarified via amendment based upon an extrapolation of original intent. A future amendment should allow strictly limited federal involvement based upon the enumerated powers "establish ... roads", and "regulate commerce ... among the several states".

Initiate a detailed study of every federal department, and develop a transition plan to bring all federal functions into constitutional compliance. All unauthorized federal functions should be transferred to state governments, or abolished. This plan could result in constitutional amendments that legalize the few federal functions that truly are working in the general welfare as opposed to being a kickback to some special interest group.

Limit the federal government to sponsorship of projects that absolutely can not be delegated to private industry. Before tolerating any federal regulation, concerns such as establishment of public safety standards should be handled by such free market entities as

trade organizations and standards bodies.

Privatize by competitive bid Amtrak and airport security. Fully deregulate the airline and trucking industries. Eliminate licensing requirements and monopolies for such local transportation as taxi services and buses.

A motion to table this matter passed and the matter was never removed from the table for reconsideration.

Bylaws, Continued

At this point two matters affecting the Bylaws were considered.

A Bylaws proposal from David Terry (OR)¹⁰ affecting Article VII, Section 3 was ruled out of order as in conflict with other parts of the Bylaws.

Mr. Terry's proposal was to include the bolded text:

Only Sustaining members shall be counted for delegate apportionment and national Committee representation. Only sustaining members shall be eligible **to become delegates to a national convention**, to hold national party office or be a candidate for president or vice-president.

Dana Johansen (VA) moved to amend the Article VII, Membership, by redefining "sustaining member" by substituting the following text:

Note: this is the item referred to in the section above, "Define Sustaining Members and Set Minimum Dues".

"Sustaining member" is any Party member who has ~~given at least~~ **donated an amount to be set by the LNC but not less than** \$25 to the Party in the prior twelve months, or who is a life member.

The amendment failed.

A motion to adjourn passed at 5:25pm PST.

¹⁰ Delegate Motion #13

Sunday AM

Chair Michael Dixon reconvened the convention at 9:05 Sunday.

Pat Dixon (TX), an elected Libertarian and about to become a new LNC At-Large rep, addressed the group, followed by BetteRose Ryan (SD) to start the Sunday proceedings.

Credentials

In the Sunday AM session, Credentials Chair Emily Salvette reported 299 delegates with 12 alternates for a total of 311. A majority was 156, 208 was two-thirds and 273 was seven-eighths.

Ms. Salvette moved to amend the credentials roll to accept the delegates. The motion unanimously carried.

Beyond these 311, certain state chairs wished to have the convention accept a small number of additional delegates not included.

The Washington chair moved to have the Convention accept Brian Carr and Mic McWilliams seated. No one was opposed and the motion passed.

The California chair Aaron Starr moved to have the Convention accept Jascha Lee. No one was opposed and the motion carried.

The Nevada chair Jim Duensing moved to have the Convention accept Starchild, rejected a day before, as a delegate from the Nevada delegation. The motion carried.

Emily introduced Andrew Hall, son of Bill Hall, the LNC's legal counsel, who helped the committee throughout the convention.

Platform Plank Balloting

Secretary Bob Sullentrup reported the surprising results of the first platform plank balloting of the day before. While no plank had ever been removed from the platform in the history of the LP using this method, only four of 62 planks were retained outright in 2006.

By contrast, in 2004 the least popular plank, Immigration, received 71% of the vote.¹¹

¹¹ Inasmuch as the action this convention took to remove platform planks is unprecedented, some explanation or at best speculation is in order as to the cause.

The other 58 platform planks were candidates for being removed on an upcoming second platform plank ballot. An additional 16 had been amended during the day and thus were to be removed from the second ballot, leaving 42 platform planks.

Retained	I.1 - Freedom and Responsibility	55.4%
Retained via Amendment	I.2 - Crime	48.3%
Retained via Amendment	I.3 - Victimless Crime	49.6%
Fails	I.4 - The War on Drugs	49.2%
Fails	I.5 - Safeguards for the Criminally Accused	48.1%
Fails	I.6 - Justice for the Individual	47.7%
Fails	I.7 - Juries	47.9%
Fails	I.8 - Individual Sovereignty	48.1%
Fails	I.9 - Government and Mental Health	44.1%
Fails	I.10 - Freedom of Communication	49.6%
Fails	I.11 - Freedom of Religion	49.8%
Retained	I.12 - The Right to Property	51.9%
Retained	I.13 - Protection of Privacy	51.5%
Fails	I.14 - Government Secrecy	48.8%
Fails	I.15 - Internal Security and Civil Liberties	48.5%
Retained	I.16 - The Right to Keep and Bear Arms	50.4%
Retained via Amendment	I.17 - Conscription and the Military	46.7%
Retained via Amendment	I.18 - Immigration	43.7%
Fails	I.19 - Freedom of Association & Government Discrimination	47.1%
Retained via Amendment	I.20 - Women's Rights and Abortion	42.0%
Fails	I.21 - Family Life	44.1%
Retained via Amendment	I.22 - Sexual Rights	46.0%

-
- As an oversight and mix up of responsibilities, copies of the Atlanta Platform were not produced for the delegates' convention binders. Thus, the delegates did not know what exactly they were voting on
 - The Secretary's platform plank ballots made it very easy to 'vote a straight ticket' to retain or remove all planks. As late as 2004, some of the ballots were the 'Scantron machine-readable with a #2 pencil' forms with circles to darken, but without a ready means of voting all up or all down. While the Bylaws stipulate ballots be 'machine readable', there is no provision to actually use any machine to tabulate them. The ballot the Secretary produced is machine readable by a scanner, but an Excel program was used for the data entry and tabulation. In fact, Scantron equipment is long obsolete and expensive to rent, if available at all.
 - Perhaps the delegates were intent on removing so many planks to allow the Platform Committee to accelerate their work by clearing the decks to make way for a Platform overhaul.
 - The Libertarian Reform Caucus sponsored a meeting Friday afternoon which attracted 50 people and 'got people thinking' according to soon-to-be LNC Vice-Chair, Chuck Moulton

	Fails	I.23 - American Indian Rights	41.8%
	Fails	II.1 - The Economy	46.7%
Retained via Amendment ¹²		II.2 - Taxation	46.7%
	Fails	II.3 - Inflation & Depression	43.0%
	Fails	II.4 - Finance and Capital Investment	45.4%
Retained via Amendment		II.5 - Government Debt	49.0%
Retained via Amendment		II.6 - Monopolies	46.7%
Retained via Amendment		II.7 - Subsidies	47.7%
	Fails	II.8 - Trade Barriers	45.8%
Retained via Amendment		II.9 - Public Utilities	44.0%
	Fails	II.10 - Unions and Collective Bargaining	44.8%
	Fails	III.1 - Energy	44.5%
	Fails	III.2 - Pollution	44.5%
	Fails	III.3 - Consumer Protection	46.0%
	Fails	III.4 - Education	47.7%
Retained via Amendment		III.5 - Population	42.4%
	Fails	III.6 - Transportation	45.8%
	Fails	III.7 - Poverty and Unemployment	46.0%
	Fails	III.8 - Health Care	46.0%
Retained via Amendment		III.9 - Resource Use	45.8%
	Fails	III.10 - Agriculture	45.6%
	Fails	III.11 - Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)	43.3%
	Fails	III.12 - Social Security	46.8%
Retained via Amendment		III.13 - Postal Service	43.3%
	Fails	III.14 - Civil Service	42.8%
	Fails	III.15 - Election Laws	48.3%
	Fails	III.16 - Secession	37.2%
	Fails	IV.A1 - Negotiations	44.1%
	Fails	IV.A2 - International Travel and Foreign Investments	44.3%
	Fails	IV.A3 - Human Rights	47.5%
	Fails	IV.A4 - World Government	45.0%
	Fails	IV.B1 - Military Policy	45.4%
	Fails	IV.B2 - Presidential War Powers	47.7%
	Fails	IV.C1 - Foreign Aid	46.0%
	Fails	IV.C2 - International Money	44.8%

¹² While II.2 Taxation had been *debated* during the day, it was not *amended*, the measure failing to get the 2/3rds necessary.

Retained via Amendment	IV.C3 - Unowned Resources	43.3%
Fails	IV.D1 - Colonialism	40.3%
Fails	IV.D2 - Foreign Intervention	48.8%
Retained via Amendment	IV.D3 - Space Exploration	41.6%
Fails	V - Omissions	46.6%

The second platform plank ballots were available and distributed Sunday morning.

After reviewing the matter carefully after the Convention, and without the pressure of having to resolve the issue before Kinko's closed (we did not make the deadline anyway), it turns out that on the second platform plank ballot there were four errors. Luckily, none of them affected the outcome of any platform plank ballot.

There were three 'Type I', relatively non-critical, errors on the second platform plank ballot. 'Type I' errors are those planks that should not have been on the ballot but were. That allowed delegates to vote on three planks whose results in the end could safely be ignored.¹³

The planks that were on the ballot but should not have been on the ballot include:

- I.16, The Right to Keep and Bear arms
- II.5, Government Debt
- IV.D3, Space Exploration

There was, however, one 'Type II' error. A Type II error is a plank that should have been on the second ballot but was not. Plank II.2, Taxation, had been *debated* earlier in the day, not *amended* since the revision failed to achieve a 2/3 majority. Aaron Starr (CA) pointed out the oversight with a challenge to the Chair for a ruling on the interpretation.

The chair ruled in favor of the challenge and directed the delegates to treat the plank as a write-in. Thus, thanks to Aaron Starr, the harm that this Type II error might have caused was averted.¹⁴

¹³ When the second platform plank ballot was created, the minutes had not been compiled beyond page 9. The Secretary thought he had looked on all laptops and in all documents where platform information had been kept – the document containing notes for these minutes, in the document for the overhead display and additional documents from the Platform Committee. As he confessed to the Convention, he blew it.

¹⁴ As it turns out, Plank II.2 Taxation ended up failing on its own. The Excel program used to enter and tabulate ballots had a default setting to retain all the planks – we were expecting that feature would minimize data entry. Thus, a sufficient number of 'remove all' or negative write-in votes were submitted. Thankfully, the 2008 Convention will feature a new process for platform plank balloting using the five tokens given to each delegate to cast their votes.

Credentialing

A motion to suspend the rules to change the convention list, allowing two minutes for consideration, failed.

Bylaws Change for Credentials Committee

Dan Karlan moved to suspend the rules to consider an important matter from the Bylaws affecting the operation of the Credentials Committee. The motion to suspend the rules carried.

Geoff Neale of the Bylaws Committee reported an item named 'Change in Delegate List Submission deadline (1 month to 1 week) and Additional Routes' passed on Saturday.

Geoff said the Bylaws change improved things too much. First of all, delegate lists should go to the Credentials Committee, not HQ. If we wait too late in the game, practically all of HQ is at the Convention and unable to receive delegate changes in time. Moreover, one week was too little time, and one month should be retained. Finally, Geoff recommended we nix the words 'electronic or' since the information exchange will occur at the Convention and is best done in person.

Revised language as of Saturday, July 1:

A list of the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates chosen by each affiliate party shall be sent to the National Headquarters no later than one week prior to start of the first general session of the Regular Convention. Amendments to such lists may be made by the affiliate parties and submitted electronically or in person to the Credentials Committee until the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the Convention.

Newly proposed language on July 2:

A list of the names and addresses of all delegates and alternates chosen by each affiliate party shall be sent to the ~~National Headquarters~~ **Credentials Committee** no later than one ~~week~~ **month** prior to start of the first general session of the Regular Convention. Amendments to such lists may be made by the affiliate parties and submitted ~~electronically or in person~~ to the Credentials Committee until the close of the Credentials Committee meeting preceding the Convention.

Geoff's motion carried, much to the relief of Emily Salvette, Credentials Committee chair among others.

Statement of Principles

The matter of the change to the Party's 'Statement of Principles' postponed from late Saturday's proceedings returned.

Current Language
We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.
Proposed Language
We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the idea of unlimited government and defend the rights of the individual.

After some debate, an amendment sought to change 'the idea of unlimited government' to 'the omnipotent state'. After an extension of time, this amendment failed.

Since this matter requires a seven-eighths vote for passage, it only required 38 votes to defeat the main motion. After a count of the 'nay' votes revealed more than 38 delegate were opposed, the matter failed.

Platform Committee Continuation

Lorenzo Gaztañaga moved the 2006 Platform Committee be continued as a Special Committee until the appointment of the 2008 Platform Committee, and be charged, in addition to its work on the Platform, with bringing a proposal to the 2008 Bylaws Committee, for reforming the Bylaws on Platform debate.

The motion passed.

Election of LNC Chair

Bill Redpath, George Phillies and Ernie Hancock ran for Chair of the LNC.

A random selection process determined Bill Redpath would be nominated first, then George Phillies followed by Ernie Hancock.

Nominating Bill Redpath were Dr. James W. Lark, III, Richard Winger and Geoff Neale.

Nominating George Phillies were Steven Boone (MD), Jack Tanner (FL) and Jose Castenada (CA).

Nominating Ernie Hancock were Barry Hess, Angela Keaton, Ernie Hancock and Starchild.

Balloting for Chair proceeded while, with no objection, the race for Vice-Chair got underway before the results for Chair were announced.

Bill Redpath emerged victorious with 184 votes.

Bill Redpath	184	64.3%
Ernie Hancock	66	23.1%
George Phillies	26	9.1%
NOTA	10	3.5%

Note: After a review, Alaska voted 5-0-1 for the candidates, respectively. Records show only five delegates for Alaska: Betty Hoch, Ed Hoch, Len Karpinski, Trent Pool and Ron Windeler. The Alaska ballot was included in the above as 4-0-1.

Election of LNC Vice-Chair

Tony Ryan, Chuck Moulton and M Carling ran for Vice-Chair of the LNC.

A random selection process determined Tony Ryan would be nominated first, then Chuck Moulton followed by M Carling.

Nominating Tony Ryan were Rob Campia of the Marijuana Policy Project and Michelle Poague.

Nominating Chuck Moulton were Nick Sarwark (MD), Steve Damerell (VA) and Richard Schwarz (PA).

Nominating M Carling were Ruth Bennett (WA), Richard Burke (OR) and M Carling (CA/NY).

Balloting for Vice-Chair proceeded.

The results from the first ballot for vice-chair revealed:

Chuck Moulton:	118	41.0%
M Carling	100	34.7%

Tony Ryan	66	22.9%
NOTA	4	1.4%

Note: As was the case in the election for chair, Alaska voted 2-3-1 for the candidates. Records show only five delegates for Alaska. The Alaska ballot was included in the above as 1-3-1.

These results were not announced until after the election for Secretary. Second round ballots for Vice-Chair were prepared and distributed along with those for Treasurer. Tony Ryan would be dropped on the second ballot.

Final results for Vice-Chair:

Chuck Moulton	169	58.9%
M Carling	105	36.6%
NOTA	13	4.5%

Note: Alaska voted 2-4-0 for the candidates. Credentials records show only five delegates for Alaska. The Alaska ballot was included in the above as 1-4-0. Credentials records show North Carolina only had two delegates Sunday PM (when the voting actually occurred). North Carolina voted 3-0-0, but was included as 2-0-0 above.

Meanwhile, Judge John A. Buttrick addressed the group after having been introduced by David B. Schlosser, Arizona First Congressional District congressional candidate.

The Convention broke for lunch and reconvened at 12:40.

Sunday PM

Credentials

In the Sunday PM session, Credentials Chair Emily Salvette reported 298 delegates with 16 alternates for a total of 314. A majority was 158, 209 was two-thirds and 274 was seven-eighths.

Ms. Salvette moved to amend the credentials roll to accept the delegates. The motion unanimously carried.

Colorado moved to seat Joe Thompson and PA moved to seat Harry Joe Tabor. Both measures passed.

Election of LNC Secretary

Bob Sullentrup was nominated from the floor for LNC Secretary by Pat Dixon (TX). With NOTA his only competition, Bob Sullentrup was elected by acclamation.

Election of LNC Treasurer

Mark Nelson and Geoff Neale ran for Treasurer of the LNC.

A random selection process determined Mark Nelson would be nominated first, then Geoff Neale.

Nominating Mark Nelson were Mark Nelson, Mark Rutherford and Bob Sullentrup.

Nominating Geoff Neale were Deryl Martin, Pat Dixon and Bill Redpath

Balloting for Treasurer and second ballot for Vice-Chair proceeded after the results for Vice-Chair were announced (see above).

Tony Ryan moved to suspend the rules to address the Convention. That motion required two-thirds and failed.

Ultimately Geoff Neale prevailed in the Treasurer's race:

Geoff Neale	194	68.6%
Mark Nelson	77	27.2%
NOTA	12	4.2%

Note: Alaska voted 5-1-0 for the candidates. Credentials records show only five delegates for Alaska. The Alaska ballot was included in the above as 4-1-0. Credentials records show New York had 11 delegates. New York voted 7-3-2. New York's totals are included in the above as 6-3-2. Credentials records show North Carolina only had two delegates Sunday PM. North Carolina voted 3-0-0, but was included as 2-0-0 above.

Election of LNC At-Large Representatives

At-Large candidates included and nominators included:

Admiral Michael Colley	Jim Lark and Michael Dixon
Pat Dixon	Jim Lark, Christiana Mayer, and Michael Badnarik
Jeremy Keil	Mark Rutherford and Jim Lark
Angela Keaton	Barry Hess, Tim Moultrie
Morey Straus	Angela Keaton, Starchild
Dan Karlan	Geoff Neale and Deryl Martin
Deryl Martin	Geoff Neale and BetteRose Ryan
M Carling	Steve Damerell

Elected as At-Large representatives were:

Admiral Michael Colley	254	58.9%
Angela Keaton	231	53.6%
Pat Dixon	211	49.0%
Jeremy Keil	174	40.4%
Dan Karlan	148	34.3%

Out of the running were

M Carling	141	32.7%
Deryl Martin	129	29.9%
Morey Straus	66	15.3%
NOTA	11	2.6%

Note: Alaska cast 29 votes for candidates. Credentials records show only five delegates for Alaska. The four extra ballots Alaska cast were removed from their total by reducing Admiral Colley's total from six to two in the results above. Credentials records show North Carolina had only two delegates, but cast 15 votes. In the results above, one vote for Keil, Colley, Dixon and Karlan were removed, making their totals from the state two. One was removed from Martin making his vote total one. None of these changes alter the outcomes or order of those elected.

Election of LNC Judicial Committee

Seven delegates emerged as candidates for the Judicial Committee. Since seven is the size of the Judicial Committee, and since there was no objection to electing all by voice vote, the following are members of the Judicial Committee:

Michael Dixon (NC)
Thomas Stevens (NY)
Allen Hacker (CA)
Gerhard Langguth (AR)
Nicholas Sarwark (MD)
Ruth Bennett (WA)
Joe Dumas (TN)

Resolution of Impeachment of George W. Bush

Lawrence Samuels (CA) moved the following resolution which failed after amendment.

Resolved, the crimes of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney have resulted in numerous wrongful deaths, illegal searches and seizures, illegal imprisonments and other violations of inalienable and constitutionally secured rights and all violations of the oath of office;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Libertarian Party, duly gathered in national convention this July 2, 2006, on behalf of the Party's members and in solidarity with all freedom-loving Americans, calls for the immediate impeachment for high crimes and misdemeanors and removal from office of President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney.

Note: while the amendments below represent the set of amendments, the actual order of presentation may have been different.

Ed Bowers moved to change the very first word 'Resolved' to 'Whereas'. Motion carried.

Thomas Sipos moved to turn the first three words, 'Whereas, the crimes' into six, 'Whereas, the crimes and unconstitutional wars'. This motion failed.

David Eckhardt moved the substitution of words 'and all violations of the oath of office' at the end of the first paragraph to ', all of these representing violations of their oaths of office'. This motion passed.

The main motion now read:

Resolved, the crimes of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney have resulted in numerous wrongful deaths, illegal searches and seizures, illegal imprisonments and other violations of inalienable and constitutionally secured rights, all of these representing violations of their oaths of office;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Libertarian Party, duly gathered in national convention this July 2, 2006, on behalf of the Party's members and in solidarity with all freedom-loving Americans, calls for the immediate impeachment for high crimes and misdemeanors and removal from office of President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney.

Ann Davis moved to alter a phrase by adding the italicized words in the second paragraph 'on behalf of the Party's members and in solidarity with all freedom-loving Americans, calls for the immediate impeachment *for high crimes and misdemeanors*'. Ann's amendment failed.

Finally, Jon Roland offered text in the same spot as Ann's: 'on behalf of the Party's members and in solidarity with all freedom-loving Americans, calls for the immediate impeachment *and removal from office*'.

The resolution now read:

Resolved, the crimes of Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney have resulted in numerous wrongful deaths, illegal searches and seizures, illegal imprisonments and other violations of inalienable and constitutionally secured rights, all of these representing violations of their oaths of office;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Libertarian Party, duly gathered in national convention this July 2, 2006, on behalf of the Party's members and in solidarity with all freedom-loving Americans, calls for the immediate impeachment and removal from office for high crimes and misdemeanors and removal from office of President George W. Bush and Vice President Richard B. Cheney.

The resolution failed to gain the required two-thirds vote.

Resolution in Condemnation of the United Nations 2006 Small Arms Review Conference

Alice Lillie moved the following resolution which passed after amendment.

**RESOLUTION IN CONDEMNATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
2006 SMALL ARMS REVIEW CONFERENCE**

by Alice Lillie

WHEREAS all individuals are endowed by God or Nature certain unalienable rights as specified by the United States Constitution, particularly the first ten Amendments (the Bill of Rights), which is the supreme law of the land,

WHEREAS the Second Amendment unconditionally guarantees to the individual the right to keep and bear arms, which is one of these natural rights,

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party Platform calls for that unconditional guarantee of the right to keep and bear arms,

WHEREAS, in disrespect to the supreme law of the United States, the United Nations does not acknowledge rights as being derived from God or nature, but rather believes that they are privileges to be granted or denied by civil governments, and the United Nations is known to be working toward the disarmament of individuals by their governments,

WHEREAS the present United States Administration has the propensity to lie and to ignore the United States Constitution as though the Constitution were no more than a piece of paper, and is known to be opposed to the individual's right to keep and bear arms,

and WHEREAS, right now, as the Libertarian Party National Convention meets here and as our nation celebrates its founding and its Constitution, the United Nations is right here in America insulting the American people, the United States Constitution and our country's national sovereignty by holding its 2006 Small Arms Review Conference, which is devising ways and means to confiscate our lawful property and means of self-defense,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party, in the strongest possible terms, condemns the United Nations 2006 Small Arms Review Conference

Note: while the amendments below represent the set of amendments, the actual order of presentation may have been different.

Mike Sylvester and Bruce Dovner amended the first paragraph.

Mike Sylvester moved to replace ‘United States Constitution’ with ‘Declaration of Independence’ and to delete the remainder of the first paragraph.

Bruce Dovner moved to replace ‘Declaration of Independence’ with ‘Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution’ while reinstating the deleted text.

Both amendments passed. The first paragraph now read:

WHEREAS all individuals are endowed by God or Nature certain unalienable rights as specified by the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, particularly the first ten Amendments (the Bill of Rights), which is the supreme law of the land,

Nick Sarwark (MD)¹⁵ moved to clarify ‘Second Amendment’ in the second paragraph to ‘Second Amendment to the Constitution’. Nick’s motion passed.

The second paragraph now read:

WHEREAS the Second Amendment to the Constitution unconditionally guarantees to the individual the right to keep and bear arms, which is one of these natural rights,

Robert Capozzi moved to delete paragraphs four and five. After a division of the question, both measures passed.

The resolution, which passed, finally read:

**RESOLUTION IN CONDEMNATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
2006 SMALL ARMS REVIEW CONFERENCE**

by Alice Lillie

WHEREAS all individuals are endowed by God or Nature certain unalienable rights as specified by the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, particularly the first ten Amendments (the Bill of Rights), which is the supreme law of the land,

WHEREAS the Second Amendment to the Constitution unconditionally guarantees to the individual the right to keep and bear arms, which is one of these natural rights,

¹⁵ Delegate Motion #31

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party Platform calls for that unconditional guarantee of the right to keep and bear arms,

and WHEREAS, right now, as the Libertarian Party National Convention meets here and as our nation celebrates its founding and its Constitution, the United Nations is right here in America insulting the American people, the United States Constitution and our country's national sovereignty by holding its 2006 Small Arms Review Conference, which is devising ways and means to confiscate our lawful property and means of self-defense,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party, in the strongest possible terms, condemns the United Nations 2006 Small Arms Review Conference

The resolution passed.

Bylaws Amendment on Affiliate Parties

Jim Duensing (NV)¹⁶ proposed a Bylaws amendment regarding affiliate parties.

Proposed Bylaws, Article 8, Section 7

Every Affiliate party must be considered a political committee by the Federal Election Commission before that affiliate party can file a list of delegates for any regular convention or non-regular convention.

Aaron Starr (CA) objected to consideration of the motion. The objection to consideration passed.

Adjournment Fails

Aaron Starr moved to adjourn. The motion failed.

Bylaws Amendment on Delegate Allocation

Steve Dasbach (VA)¹⁷ moved to amend Bylaws Article 13, Section 4 to reduce total delegate allocations for membership and Presidential vote totals.

¹⁶ Delegate Motion #4

¹⁷ Delegate Motion #29 lists Dana Johansen as having made the motion. We believe it to be otherwise.

The percentage of membership total for entitlement for a convention delegate would go from 0.1% to 0.14%, and the percentage of presidential vote total would go from 0.25% to 0.35% in Article 13, Section 4.

The net effect of these changes would be as follows:

Source	2004 Convention	2006 Convention	2008 Convention
Presidential Vote	424	426	286 + 25.5 ¹⁸ , or 311.5
Membership	1024	1024	714 + 25.5, or 739.5
Total Allocation	1448	1450	1051
Max Delegates	814	315	TBD

The Bylaws amendment passed.

Resolution to Withdraw Troops from Iraq

A resolution from Ron Windeler (AK)¹⁹ called for a withdrawal of troops from Iraq.

The President has achieved victory over the evil dictator, Saddam Hussein, and all the terrorists who were in his evil empire. He completed his course of ensuring that all of Saddam's weapons of mass destruction had been removed and his ambitions to acquire nuclear weapons have been thwarted. He carried out a regime change and liberated the people of the former empire from oppression. He has accomplished his mission of bringing democratic elections to the Iraqi people.

The American people have no interest in what form of regime or national government is adopted by the various people of former empires, creating a puppet democracy and forcing it upon the three nations of the region, is not in our national interest.

The Congress of the United States has not declared war on Iraq. The American people are not at war with the people of Iraq.

We the people of the United States petition the government to withdraw all foreign military forces from Iraq and let the Iraqi people determine their own destiny.

¹⁸ The 25.5 is the expected contribution from rounding of 51 (don't forget DC) affiliates. In half the cases delegate allocations would be rounded up normally. In the other half of the cases, the values would have rounded down. Since we award a delegate for 'fractions thereof', we must also round up in those cases.

¹⁹ Delegate Motion #2

Aaron Starr objected to consideration of this matter. The motion passed.

Second Platform Plank Vote

As described above, a second vote on platform planks was required owing to there having been over forty platform planks that had failed on Saturday's first platform plank ballot and had not been amended by the Convention. Were any plank to fail on this second ballot, the plank would be removed from the Platform.

Before proceeding, it is important to note that the basis for platform plank balloting was the Atlanta Platform. While 22 planks of the Atlanta Platform survived, the Portland Platform has 15 planks owing to platform plank amendment by consolidation.

As it happens, only three planks passed on the second ballot:

- I.4, The War on Drugs, 54.3%
- I.11, Freedom of Religion, 52.3%
- I.10, Freedom of Communication, 51.1%

The 22 planks of the Atlanta Platform that ultimately survived platform balloting are as follows. (To reiterate, do not conclude the Portland Platform consists of these 22 planks below. Several of these planks were consolidated, and the Portland Platform actually consists of 15 planks.)

Retained	I.1 - Freedom and Responsibility
Retained via Amendment	I.2 - Crime
Retained via Amendment	I.3 - Victimless Crime
Retained via Second Ballot	I.4 - The War on Drugs
Retained via Second Ballot	I.10 - Freedom of Communication
Retained via Second Ballot	I.11 - Freedom of Religion
Retained	I.12 - The Right to Property
Retained	I.13 - Protection of Privacy
Retained	I.16 - The Right to Keep and Bear Arms
Retained via Amendment	I.17 - Conscription and the Military
Retained via Amendment	I.18 - Immigration
Retained via Amendment	I.20 - Women's Rights and Abortion
Retained via Amendment	I.22 - Sexual Rights
Retained via Amendment	II.5 - Government Debt
Retained via Amendment	II.6 - Monopolies
Retained via Amendment	II.7 - Subsidies
Retained via Amendment	II.9 - Public Utilities

Retained via Amendment III.5 - Population
 Retained via Amendment III.9 - Resource Use
 Retained via Amendment III.13 - Postal Service
 Retained via Amendment IV.C3 - Unowned Resources
 Retained via Amendment IV.D3 - Space Exploration

The disposition of these 22 planks as they emerged from Portland into the 15 retained or consolidated planks is as follows:

Portland Platform	Atlanta Platform
I.1 – Freedom and responsibility	I.1 - Freedom and Responsibility <i>Retained</i>
I.2 – Freedom of Communication	I.10 - Freedom of Communication <i>Retained via Second Ballot</i>
I.3 – Freedom of Religion	I.11 - Freedom of Religion <i>Retained via Second Ballot</i>
I.4 – Property Rights	I.12 - The Right to Property III.9 – Resource Use IV.C.3 – Unowned Resources IV.D.3 – Space Exploration <i>New consolidated version</i>
I.5 – The Right to Privacy	I.13 - Protection of Privacy <i>Retained</i>
I.6 – The Right to Keep and Bear Arms	I.16 - The Right to Keep and Bear Arms <i>Retained</i>
I.7 – Conscription	I.17 – Conscription <i>New version</i>
I.8 – Reproductive Rights	I.20 - Reproductive Rights III.5 – Population <i>New consolidated version</i>
I.9 – Sexuality and Gender	I.22 - Sexual Rights <i>New version</i>
II.1 – Government Debt	II.5 - Government Debt <i>New version</i>
II.2 – Corporate Welfare, Monopolies & Subsidies	II.6 – Monopolies II.7 – Subsidies <i>New consolidated version</i>
II.3 – Public Services	II.9 - Public Services III.13 – Postal Service <i>New consolidated version</i>

	I.2 – Crime
III.1- Crime And victimless Crime	I.3 – Victimless Crime <i>New consolidated version</i>
III.2 – The War on Drugs	I.4 - The War on Drugs <i>Retained via Second Ballot</i>
IV.1 – Immigration	I.18 - Immigration <i>New Version</i>

Those planks eliminated in Portland include:

- Fails I.5 - Safeguards for the Criminally Accused
- Fails I.6 - Justice for the Individual
- Fails I.7 - Juries
- Fails I.8 - Individual Sovereignty
- Fails I.9 - Government and Mental Health
- Fails I.14 - Government Secrecy
- Fails I.15 - Internal Security and Civil Liberties
- Fails I.19 - Freedom of Association & Government Discrimination
- Fails I.21 - Family Life
- Fails I.23 - American Indian Rights
- Fails II.1 - The Economy
- Fails²⁰ II.2 - Taxation
- Fails II.3 - Inflation & Depression
- Fails II.4 - Finance and Capital Investment
- Fails II.8 - Trade Barriers
- Fails II.10 - Unions and Collective Bargaining
- Fails III.1 - Energy
- Fails III.2 - Pollution
- Fails III.3 - Consumer Protection
- Fails III.4 - Education
- Fails III.6 - Transportation
- Fails III.7 - Poverty and Unemployment
- Fails III.8 - Health Care
- Fails III.10 - Agriculture
- Fails III.11 - Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA)

²⁰ While II.2 Taxation had been *debated* during the day, it was not *amended*, the measure failing to get the 2/3rds necessary for passage. Thus it was eligible for elimination on the second platform plank ballot.

Fails III.12 - Social Security
Fails III.14 - Civil Service
Fails III.15 - Election Laws
Fails III.16 - Secession
Fails IV.A1 - Negotiations
Fails IV.A2 - International Travel and Foreign
Investments
Fails IV.A3 - Human Rights
Fails IV.A4 - World Government
Fails IV.B1 - Military Policy
Fails IV.B2 - Presidential War Powers
Fails IV.C1 - Foreign Aid
Fails IV.C2 - International Money
Fails IV.D1 - Colonialism
Fails IV.D2 - Foreign Intervention
Fails V - Omissions

Aaron Starr moved to suspend the rules to remove all planks. Aaron's motion failed.

Jim Duensing (NV) moved to adjourn and the motion carried.

The 2006 Libertarian Party National Convention adjourned at 4:21 pm, July 2, 2006 in Portland, Oregon.

Special Thanks

Many months ago articles appeared in *LP News* calling for volunteers to help in the business processes of the Convention.

From this emerged two very capable and indispensable volunteers: **Joe Magyer** from Georgia and **Steve Burden** from Florida.

These two gentlemen prevailed despite having to wrestle a slow and unreliable printer while multiple simultaneous processes were going on, particularly Sunday as outbound mail-merged ballots were being prepared, inbound vote tallies were being sorted and tabulated and an unexpected second platform plank ballot was in the works. This is not to mention the ordinary chaos, continual interruption and general mayhem that are commonplace at Libertarian Party national convention.

Joe managed the lion's share of the work behind the Second Platform Plank Ballot which was unprecedented and unexpected. If it weren't for Joe, we would not have been able to give the Convention a parting glimpse of the results of the Second Platform Plank Ballot before adjournment.

Steve Burden is a Torch Club member to begin with and gave his actual labor in addition to his generous contribution to the Party. George Will calls contributions 'congealed labor', making Steve's contributions doubly rich. Steve plans to be back in 2008 and will help design the next generation of the system, tools and process integration we will develop in the interim and deploy in 2008.

Dan Karlan returned as he has for so many years before. Dan's involvement with the movement predates even the formation of the Party itself in 1971. Without Dan's and for that matter Joe's and Steve's capable assistance and anticipation of upcoming tasks, these minutes and convention operations would have suffered massively. The resulting delays would have been distinct and noticeable.

At the Torch Club breakfast Monday morning, I was pleased to present all three of these gentlemen awards for their indispensable service, however paltry compensation for their splendid work that may have been.

Election Results by Affiliate

	Chair			VC 1 st Ballot			VC 2 nd		Sec'y	Treasurer			
	Redpath	Phillies	Hancock	Ryan	Moulton	Carling	Moulton	Carling	Sullentrup	Neale	Nelson		
Tot:	184	26	66	Tot: 66	118	100	Tot: 169	105	Tot: Voice	Tot: 194	77		
AL	0	2	0	AL	0	2	0	AL	3	0	AL	3	0
AK	4	1	0	AK	1	1	3	AK	1	4	AK	4	1
AZ	2	0	5	AZ	0	4	2	AZ	4	1	AZ	6	1
AR	0	0	1	AR	0	1	0	AR	1	0	AR	1	0
CA	20	4	8	CA	4	11	18	CA	13	21	CA	25	3
CO	1	1	1	CO	7	0	0	CO	5	1	CO	0	7
CT	0	0	2	CT	0	2	0	CT	2	0	CT	0	2
DE	1	0	0	DE	0	1	0	DE	1	0	DE	1	0
DC	0	0	0	DC	0	0	0	DC	0	0	DC	0	0
FL	3	1	4	FL	1	4	3	FL	6	2	FL	2	6
GA	4	0	2	GA	2	1	2	GA	1	2	GA	0	0
HI	0	0	0	HI	0	0	0	HI	0	0	HI	0	0
ID	6	0	0	ID	6	0	0	ID	6	0	ID	6	0
IL	5	0	1	IL	0	3	5	IL	2	5	IL	5	2
IN	10	1	3	IN	7	4	4	IN	11	4	IN	4	11
IA	2	0	1	IA	4	0	0	IA	3	0	IA	0	4
KS	5	1	3	KS	5	2	2	KS	8	0	KS	3	6
KY	0	0	2	KY	0	0	2	KY	0	2	KY	0	2
LA	3	0	0	LA	3	0	0	LA	3	0	LA	3	0
ME	0	0	0	ME	0	0	0	ME	0	0	ME	0	0
MD	2	2	1	MD	0	3	2	MD	3	2	MD	3	2
MA	0	3	0	MA	0	3	0	MA	3	0	MA	0	0
MI	10	0	0	MI	4	4	4	MI	8	4	MI	11	1
MN	2	1	0	MN	0	3	0	MN	3	0	MN	2	0
MS	2	0	0	MS	0	0	2	MS	0	2	MS	2	0
MO	4	1	2	MO	2	4	1	MO	5	2	MO	0	7
MT	2	0	2	MT	1	1	1	MT	2	2	MT	1	3
NE	0	0	0	NE	0	0	0	NE	0	0	NE	0	0
NV	2	0	3	NV	2	2	1	NV	5	1	NV	4	2
NH	1	0	0	NH	0	1	0	NH	1	0	NH	0	1
NJ	1	0	0	NJ	0	0	1	NJ	0	1	NJ	1	0
NM	4	0	0	NM	0	4	0	NM	3	0	NM	3	0
NY	6	1	3	NY	0	6	4	NY	6	3	NY	6	3
NC	3	0	0	NC	0	3	0	NC	2	0	NC	2	0
ND	0	0	0	ND	0	0	0	ND	0	0	ND	0	0

	Chair			VC 1 st Ballot			VC 2 nd		Sec'y	Treasurer		
	Redpath	Phillies	Hancock	Ryan	Moulton	Carling	Moulton	Carling	Sullentrup	Neale	Nelson	
Tot:	184	26	66	Tot: 66	118	100	Tot: 169	105	Tot: Voice	Tot: 194	77	
OH	3	0	0	OH	1	2	0	OH		OH	2	0
OK	0	0	0	OK	0	0	0	OK		OK	0	0
OR	14	0	4	OR	0	8	11	OR		OR	18	1
PA	3	2	2	PA	1	5	0	PA		PA	6	1
RI	0	0	0	RI	0	0	0	RI		RI	0	0
SC	3	0	0	SC	0	3	0	SC		SC	3	0
SD	0	0	0	SD	3	0	0	SD		SD	0	3
TN	3	0	4	TN	7	0	0	TN		TN	7	1
TX	12	1	1	TX	1	9	5	TX		TX	14	0
UT	4	2	0	UT	0	4	1	UT		UT	6	0
VT	1	0	0	VT	0	0	1	VT		VT	1	0
VA	14	0	1	VA	1	8	5	VA		VA	10	3
WA	20	2	7	WA	0	7	20	WA		WA	25	3
WV	0	0	0	WV	0	0	0	WV		WV	0	0
WI	2	0	1	WI	3	0	0	WI		WI	2	1
WY	0	0	2	WY	0	2	0	WY		WY	2	0

Write-ins

Chair, Travis Nicks, two votes from Colorado
Treasurer, M Carling, one vote from Washington

NOTA

Chair, 10 votes, CO (2), IN (1), IA (1), MI (2), OR (1), SD (3)

Vice-Chair, first ballot, four votes, AZ (1), GA (1), WA (1), UT (1)

Vice-Chair, second ballot, 13 votes, AZ (2), CO (1), GA (3), NY (1), PA (1),
TN (4), WI (1)

Treasurer, 12 votes, CA (2), MA (3), MN (1), NY (2), OH (1), OR (1), PA (1),
VA (1)

Legend

Won this State

At - Large

	Keil	Martin	Colley	Keaton	P. Dixon	Straus	Karlan	Carling	
Tot:	174	129	254	231	211	66	148	141	Tot:
AL	0	3	3	3	3	0	3	0	AL
AK	3	2	2	6	2	2	2	6	AK
AZ	5	5	1	7	6	1	5	1	AZ
AR	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	AR
CA	15	8	24	29	19	16	14	23	CA
CO	4	6	7	6	3	0	3	1	CO
CT	2	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	CT
DE	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	DE
DC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	DC
FL	5	4	7	8	7	0	7	2	FL
GA	5	2	6	5	5	3	3	1	GA
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	HI
ID	6	0	6	6	3	2	2	0	ID
IL	0	1	8	8	7	1	5	8	IL
IN	9	5	15	11	5	4	3	5	IN
IA	2	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	IA
KS	3	2	8	8	8	1	5	6	KS
KY	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	KY
LA	0	1	3	3	3	2	0	3	LA
ME	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ME
MD	4	4	1	5	1	3	2	1	MD
MA	0	0	3	3	0	2	0	0	MA
MI	6	7	12	12	7	4	6	4	MI
MN	3	0	3	3	3	0	0	1	MN
MS	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	2	MS
MO	7	2	5	6	7	1	5	2	MO
MT	1	2	3	3	4	2	2	3	MT
NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NE
NV	2	4	4	3	5	1	4	0	NV
NH	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	NH
NJ	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	NJ
NM	2	0	4	2	4	2	2	4	NM
NY	8	2	11	9	6	4	5	8	NY
NC	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	0	NC
ND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	ND
OH	3	2	3	2	3	1	1	0	OH
OK	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	OK
OR	16	8	20	11	17	3	5	16	OR
PA	3	5	6	7	5	3	5	1	PA

At - Large									
	Keil	Martin	Colley	Keaton	P. Dixon	Straus	Karlan	Carling	
Tot:	174	129	254	231	211	66	148	141	Tot:
RI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	RI
SC	3	3	3	0	3	0	3	0	SC
SD	3	3	3	0	1	0	2	0	SD
TN	4	8	6	3	7	0	7	0	TN
TX	8	11	13	12	16	0	8	4	TX
UT	2	4	6	5	2	2	4	4	UT
VT	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	VT
VA	14	6	13	7	14	1	12	8	VA
WA	13	6	27	25	21	4	11	25	WA
WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	WV
WI	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	WI
WY	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	0	WY

Write-in

1 vote, Michael Dixon, from PA

NOTA

11 votes, CO (5), MA (2), TN (1), WA (3)

Judicial Committee						
M. Dixon	Stevens	Hacker	Langguth	Sarwark	Bennett	Dumas
Voice	Voice	Voice	Voice	Voice	Voice	Voice
Vote	Vote	Vote	Vote	Vote	Vote	Vote

