

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RULES COMMITTEE  
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andrew Kolstee, Chair  
Mark Braiman  
Daniel Castello  
Pietro Geraci  
Christopher Olenski  
Michael Rebmann

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Paul Grindle  
Karyn Thompson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair. It was determined that quorum was not present.

**The reading of the minutes of January 9, 2024, January 11, 2024, January 30, 2024, February 22, 2024, and April 9, 2024 meetings of the Rules Committee were waived and the minutes were approved** without objection.

Motion by Daniel Castello to **recommend Proposal B as follows to the State Committee for adoption as an amendment to the Rules of the Libertarian Party** was seconded by Pietro Geraci, debated.

11.1. **GENERAL PROVISIONS.** No more than one (1) County Affiliate shall be recognized by and affiliated with the Libertarian Party for each county. The recognized County Affiliate shall officially represent the LPNY Members in the county and shall exercise all of the powers of the County Committees as set forth herein and not prohibited by applicable law. The County Affiliate shall be organized as either a County Organization, ~~as outlined in Article 11.2.~~ or as a Constituted County Committee ~~as outlined in Article 11.5.~~

11.2. **UNORGANIZED COUNTIES.** An unorganized county is any county in which no recognized County Affiliate exists. The State Committee may recognize a Provisional County Organization and/or appoint an Acting County Chair ~~and~~ or County Liaison from among the LPNY Member(s) in that county. ~~Both positions may be held by the same person.~~

11.2.1. **PROVISIONAL COUNTY ORGANIZATION.** A Provisional County Organization is an intermediary stage for counties that are meeting no less than twice per quarter. Such organizations do not need to formally adopt rules. The Acting County Chair shall serve as the presiding officer of the Provisional County Organization and shall only be appointed or removed by the State Committee.

~~11.2.1. **ACTING COUNTY CHAIR.** The Acting Chair of an unorganized county is responsible for holding a meeting or event no less than twice per quarter and promoting them for the purpose of ultimately organizing a County Affiliate and building a Libertarian Party presence in the county.~~

Motion by Pietro Geraci to **amend Proposal B as follows with inserted text as indicated in purple** was seconded by Mark Braiman, debated, and passed without objection.

11.2.1. **PROVISIONAL COUNTY ORGANIZATION.** A Provisional County Organization is an intermediary stage for counties that are meeting no less than twice per quarter. Such organizations do not need to formally adopt rules **and do not have the privileges of a full County Organization.** The Acting County Chair shall serve as the presiding officer of the Provisional County Organization and shall only be appointed or removed by the State Committee. **The Provisional County Organization shall be recognized for a period of six (6) months, subject to renewal of recognition every six (6) months.**

The original motion to **recommend Proposal B as follows to the State Committee for adoption as an amendment to the Rules of the Libertarian Party as amended** passed by without objection.

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11.2.2. **COUNTY LIAISON.** The County Liaison of an unorganized county is responsible for serving as the liaison of the unorganized county to the State Committee.

11.2.3. **TERMS.** Acting County Chairs and County Liaisons shall serve until the end of the succeeding calendar quarter, subject to renewal or removal by the State Committee. Each renewal shall expire at the end of the succeeding calendar quarter.

Motion by Mark Braiman to **recommend Proposal C as follows to the State Committee for adoption as an amendment to the Rules of the Libertarian Party** was seconded by Pietro Geraci and passed without objection.

13.4. **MANNER OF SELECTION OF AT-LARGE DELEGATES.** All At-Large Delegates and At-Large Alternate Delegates shall be selected by the State Committee in accordance with the rubric provided in the Policy Manual in which a line of succession is established for ranking Delegates and Alternate Delegates. At-Large Delegates shall be selected in the order in accordance with the rubric until all the At-Large Delegate seats are filled. At-Large Alternate Delegates shall be selected in the order in accordance with the rubric until all the At-Large Alternate Delegate seats are filled.

13.4.1. **TIES.** Ties shall be broken by a vote of the State Committee.

13.4.2. **VACANCIES.** Vacancies of At-Large Delegate positions shall be filled by selecting the next individual in the line of succession. Filling of vacancies shall be filled by the Chair and ratified by the State Committee. If the vacancy occurs within fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the National Convention, the ratification requirement shall not apply.

13.4.3. **RATIFICATION OF LIST.** The list of Delegates and Alternate Delegates shall be ratified by the State Committee.

13.4.4. **APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE**

**DELEGATES.** Additional At-Large Alternate Delegates may be added after the appointment of At-Large Delegates and At-Large Alternate Delegates and shall be added to the end of the list in chronological order of their ~~selection~~ request to be ~~as~~ an additional Alternate Delegate.

Christopher Olenski had a concern regarding ties that occur after the last Executive Committee meeting and before the National Convention.

Mark Braiman introduced Proposal A as follows and Andrew Kolstee read the proposal, which was followed by discussion.

6.2. **MEMBERS.** Members of the State Committee must be LPNY Members and elected in accordance with these Rules. If at any time the LPNY is unable to elect a new State Committee under the auspices of the New York State Board of Elections, the ~~composition and election to, and representative on, members-of~~ the State Committee shall be ~~elected~~ in accordance with Article 6.45. Members of the State Committee shall also include any LPNY Member who fills a vacancy in the State Committee or is elected to the Executive Committee.

6.5. **ELECTION THROUGH THE LPNY.** If at any time after 2025 the LPNY is not eligible to elect a new State Committee at a primary election under Election Law, Articles 6.2 through Article 6.4 shall be inapplicable, and instead the following sections with corresponding titles shall apply. ~~the State Committee shall be elected by the County Affiliates.~~

6.5.1. **COMPOSITION.** The unit of representation for the State Committee shall be the entirety of New York State.

6.5.1.1. **REPRESENTATION.** The number of elected seats on the State Committee shall be ten (10), to be voted on between June 1 and 15 of any even-numbered year.

6.5.1.2. The State Committee shall include an unlimited number of additional members according to the following:

6.5.1.2(a) Any member of the LPNY shall become a voting member of the State Committee as of the next Organization Meeting, who in that same year personally and properly witnessed at least three hundred (300) valid signatures on the LPNY's officially-endorsed Independent Nominating petition, and furnished them to the LPNY Chair's designated Petition Collector in time for submission to the Board of Elections. The petition need not actually be submitted in order for the signatures to be counted as valid. However, no signature that has been declared invalid by the New York State Board of Elections prior to June 30 of the same year shall be credited, nor any signatures collected by any kind of "designated proxy," whether paid or unpaid.

6.5.1.2.(b) Anyone not already on the State Committee, but who is elected as member of the Executive Committee of the LPNY at the Organization Meeting in September of an even-numbered year, or as a replacement on the Executive Committee following the occurrence of a vacancy, shall immediately also become a voting member of the State Committee.

6.5.1.3. No vacancy shall be considered to have occurred on the State Committee, unless the combined number of its members from 6.3.2 and 6.3.3a and 6.3.3b drops below ten (10), at which time the remaining members of the State Committee shall fill such vacancy or vacancies from the entire statewide membership of the LPNY according to 6.7.1, but only until the total membership of the State Committee reaches ten (10).

**6.5.1. ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.** An Elections Oversight Committee shall be constituted to oversee the election of a State Committee in accordance with this section.

6.5.1.1. **SELECTION.** The Elections Oversight Committee shall be elected at a meeting of the full State Committee and shall consist of the Chair of the State Committee and one (1) representative from each of thirteen (13) Judicial Districts. A quorum for a meeting of the Elections Oversight Committee shall be fifty percent (50%). The election shall be conducted in the same manner for Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee as provided in these Rules.

6.5.1.2. **TERM.** Members of the Elections Oversight Committee shall serve until the conclusion of the next Organization Meeting.

**6.5.2. ELECTION.**

6.5.2.1. **CANDIDATE REGISTRATION.** Any LPNY Member is eligible to be a candidate for the State Committee. Each candidate must register their candidacy with the Elections Oversight Committee, which shall review each candidate's eligibility and provide the final list of candidates to the Executive Committee ~~County Affiliates within the respective Judicial District~~. The deadline for registration shall be April 30 in the year of the election of the State Committee.

~~6.5.2.2. **ELECTION BY COUNTY AFFILIATES.** Each County Affiliate shall vote from among those in the candidates list provided by the Elections Oversight Committee.~~

6.5.2.2. **ELECTION BY LPNY STATEWIDE MEMBERSHIP.** Each LPNY Member who has previously submitted a valid e-mail address to the Secretary for voting purposes shall be entitled to vote. The Secretary shall provide the most current list of email addresses to the Elections Oversight Committee on June 1, and each member shall then be entitled to vote for up to twenty (20) from among those in the candidates list provided

by the Elections Oversight Committee, or for NOTA. A vote cast for NOTA shall not be permitted if even one of the candidates is selected on the ballot.

~~6.5.2.3. NUMBER OF VOTES. Each County Affiliate shall have a number of votes equal to the number of representatives in their Judicial District and shall not vote for a candidate more than once in each round.~~

~~6.5.2.4.3. THRESHOLD REQUIRED TO BE ELECTED. The Elections Oversight Committee shall prepare an electronic vote by secret ballot using a preferential voting system. A candidate must have a majority number of votes from all LPNY members casting ballots the County Affiliates within the Judicial District in order to be elected, except that County Affiliates that fail to submit their votes to the Elections Oversight Committee before their first meeting after the deadline shall not be counted.~~

~~6.5.2.5. ADDITIONAL ROUNDS OF VOTING. If the County Affiliates within a Judicial District do not fill all the available positions in their Judicial District, additional rounds of voting occur among the County Affiliates within the Judicial District.~~

~~6.5.2.6.4. VOTING DEADLINE. The deadline for voting for State Committee Members Judicial District representatives shall be July 31 June 30 in the year of the election of the State Committee.~~

~~6.5.2.7. RESULTS. The minutes of the meeting of the County Affiliate in which the election(s) occur must be provided to the Elections Oversight Committee, which shall be used to~~ certify the election results, as well as the names of all LPNY members who have secured a position on the State Committee, by means of submission and witnessing of an adequate number of petition signatures according to 6.3.3(a). The certification must be completed before August 31 in the year of the election of the State Committee.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 30, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:23 p.m. without objection.

Andrew Martin Kolstee,  
Chair