

**Minutes of the April 4th, 2019 Meeting of the County Committee
Of the Libertarian Party of Chautauqua County
held at the See-Zurh House, 14 Main Street, Bemus Point, New York**

Members in attendance

Andrew Kolstee, Chair, Treasurer, State Committee Representative
Len Morlock, Vice Chair
Gerrit Cain, Secretary
Pete Hedlund, Member
Bob Peterson, Member
Jeff Mason, Member
Hank Johnson, Member

Observers

Pat Peterson
Raven Mason Thompson, Candidate for Jamestown City Council Ward 2
Dan Heitzenrater, Candidate for Ellicott Town Council Ward 4
Dave Wilfong, Candidate for Mayor of Jamestown
Chris Schaeffer, Candidate for District 3 County Legislature
Rudy Mueller, Candidate for Town of Busti Supervisor
Kevin O'Connell, Candidate for District 6 County Legislature

Chair Andrew Kolstee called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Speaking of Candidates Seeking Endorsement:

Raven Mason Thompson (R): Running for Jamestown City Council Ward 2.
Will face Tony Dolce in June primary. Motivated by family tragedy, too many sirens, lack of opportunity for some residents. Choice and truth obstructed by laws. Against City Annex of Falconer Substation property. City Council needs to do more than just vote. Zoning infringement on individual rights. Goals: Better neighbors, respect rights of individuals and municipalities. Safety and Education. Focus on homes and families before downtown development.
Problems of Local Government: Intimidating, lacks transparency and accountability. Need to encourage more participation.

Dan Heitzenrater (R): Running for Ellicott Town Council (incumbent)
Interest in LP. Overlap of R and L values.
Played a role in reducing a proposed increase of town tax from \$0.20/k to \$0.05/k
Goal: Stay engaged with residents and other area leaders. Keep town on an efficient track.
Problems of Local Government: Members should look at local government as service versus a job. Too many "rubber stamps". Good people who are critical thinkers need to run for office and put the time in.

Dave Wilfong (R): Running for Mayor of Jamestown
Will face Andrew Liuzzo in June Primary. Currently serving as District 11 County Legislature
City is operating with a deficit and leans too hard on receipt of state funds.
Has worked as bipartisan at County Legislature
County has lowered taxes the last 5 years but overall increases are due to town budgets.
Discussion of cracking down on drug dealers in the city.
Some current council members lack leadership qualities and communication skills.
More involvement of council members in community relations.

Chris Schaffer (D): Running for District 3 County Legislature
Currently serving as Board Member for Town of Pomfret
Decided to step up and get involved in local government instead of complaining
Led town Zoning Law Reform. State designation as "clean community". Kept taxes under cap. Town Board a mix of political parties. Voted for 1984 LP presidential candidate. Like the LP.
Problem of Local Government: Meetings are transparent but residents aren't engaged. Possibly intimidated by too many layers of government overall. Push harder for consolidation.

Rudy Mueller (D): Running for Busti Town Supervisor
Currently serving as Town Board Member. Former County Legislature
Voted to cut health insurance for County Legislatures.
Tried to prevent redistricting of county.
Voted against tax cap.
Would repeal pay increase for supervisor if elected.
Problems of Local Government: Transparency issues. Infighting between town and village. Need more consolidation of facilities and services. Herbicide conflict-> town steamrolled village.

Kevin O'Connell (D): Running for District 6 County Legislature (incumbent)
Used the term "part-time politician". Encourages bi-partisan spirit at both town and county level.
All government needs to work toward shrinking the overall footprint of government through downsizing and consolidation.
Problems of Local Government: A big county in which the information flow at the county legislature level is good but breaks down at the town level. Lack of interest in local government. Negative overall perception of government.

Chair's Report: Andrew Kolstee

- Convention on the 14th of April. Election of officers. Larry Sharpe as Guest Speaker. Discussion of agenda.
- Progress of candidate vetting

Secretary's Report: Gerrit Cain

- March meeting minutes distributed.
- Tabled to give members an opportunity to review the minutes

Treasurer's Report: Andrew Kolstee

- The total balance of all accounts is \$233.29.
- Invitation to convention and membership dues sent out
- Motion to allocate \$75.00 for PO Box Renewal and accept the Treasurer's report by Mr. Morlock was seconded by Mr. Peterson and carried by unanimous consent.

State Committee Representative Report: Andrew Kolstee

- Discussion of the future of the state party.
- County Party to transition to an Interim County Organization. Discussion of requirements
- County Bylaws will be amended into rules to comply with State requirements for formation of ICO
- Discussion of the candidate list on the NYLP website. Whether or not to include cross-endorsed candidates and general layout. Will be discussed at the State Convention.
- Andrew running for Secretary of the State Organization

New Business

Voting process for cross-endorsements discussed.

Mr. Kolstee and Mr. Cain to compile notes for a consolidated candidate information list.

Motion by Mr. Cain to adjourn was seconded by Mr. Peterson.

Adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Gerrit Cain, Secretary