



LNC MINUTES

HYATT REGENCY – COLUMBUS, OH

JUNE 29, 2014

CURRENT STATUS: **AUTO-APPROVED JULY 27, 2014**

VERSION LAST UPDATED:

JULY 20, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sarwark called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m. Eastern, shortly following the adjournment of the Libertarian Party National Convention.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Attending the meeting were:

Officers: Nick Sarwark (Chair), Arvin Vohra (Vice-Chair), Alicia Mattson (Secretary), Tim Hagan (Treasurer)

At-Large Representatives: Sam Goldstein, Gary Johnson, Evan McMahon, Bill Redpath

Regional Representatives: Norm Olsen (Region 1), Vicki Kirkland (Region 2), Marc Feldman (Region 3), Dan Wiener (Region 4), Jim Lark (Region 5), Jay Estrada (Region 7), Rich Tomasso (Region 8)

Regional Alternates: Ron Windeler (Region 1), Ed Marsh (Region 2), Brett Bittner (Region 3), Scott Lieberman (Region 4), Scott Spencer (Region 5), Daniel Hayes (Region 7), Joshua Katz (Region 8)

Guy McLendon (At-Large), Rob Oates (Region 6), and Sean O'Toole (Region 6 alternate) had to depart before the LNC meeting.

Staff present included Operations Director Robert Kraus.

The gallery contained several attendees in addition to those listed above.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Without objection, Mr. Sarwark proposed an agenda (with a time limit of 5 minutes per item) in lieu of using the Policy Manual template. Mr. Redpath moved to adopt Mr. Sarwark's proposal as the agenda. Following amendment without objection, the agenda was:

Kentucky Ballot Access (Sarwark)
Oregon Resolution (Sarwark)
Populate the Executive Committee (Sarwark)
Populate the Advertising & Publications Review Committee (Sarwark)
Information Technology Committee (Sarwark)
LNC-Discuss Email List (Sarwark)
International Association of Libertarian Parties (Neale)
Convention Management Committee Report (Neale)
Motion Directing Convention Management Committee to Report (Neale)
Tellers' Report Regarding the Approval Voting Process (Tomasso)
Appointment of Assistant Treasurer (Hagan)
Adjournment at 5:15pm Eastern.

The agenda as amended was adopted without objection.

NEXT LNC SESSION

Mr. Redpath moved to suspend the rules for 5 minutes to discuss plans for the next LNC session; there was no objection to the motion. Mr. Redpath presented some suggestions for how many LNC sessions to have this year and which topics must be addressed. Without objection it was agreed to take up this subject by email instead.

KENTUCKY BALLOT ACCESS

Ken Moellman (Chair of the Libertarian Party of Kentucky) reported that their pledge drive to fund a ballot access petition for a Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate to run against Mitch McConnell in Kentucky is \$4,600 short of the goal. They are only collecting pledges at this time, and will not spend any funds until the goal is met in pledges. They need \$15,000 to pay for petitioning, and they have received \$10,000 in pledges so far. The filing deadline is August 12, 2014. They have petitioners available to collect the signatures once the funds are secured. They need to turn in 5,000 valid signatures and intend to turn in at least 7,500 raw signatures. They have collected about 1,000 signatures so far. This petition drive will only gain ballot access for this one candidate for this one race. Only presidential candidates can earn party ballot status in Kentucky.

Mr. Vohra moved that we increase the ballot access budget item by up to \$7,000 for Kentucky. Following debate, Mr. Redpath moved a substitute motion to encumber up to \$7,000 from the ballot access budget item for the petition drive for the U.S. Senate candidate in Kentucky in 2014. Following debate, the motion to substitute was adopted without objection, making the Redpath motion the main motion. Following debate, the main motion was adopted without objection.

OREGON RESOLUTION

Mr. Sarwark asked Mr. Vohra to take over as chair of the meeting. Mr. Sarwark moved to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party state that “delegates to a Regular Convention shall be selected by a method adopted by each affiliate party” (Article 11, 3 (b)), and

Whereas, the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party state that “each state-level affiliate party shall, in accordance with its own Bylaws and these Bylaws, determine who shall be its delegates to all Regular Conventions.” (Article 6, 3), and

Whereas, the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party state that “the autonomy of the affiliate and sub-affiliate parties shall not be abridged by the National Committee or any other committee of the Party...” (Article 6, 5), and

Whereas the Chair of the National Convention incorrectly ruled that it was in order for the convention to vote to seat three delegates in the Oregon delegation over the objection of the affiliate party chair, and

Whereas the motion made did not challenge the report of the Credentials Committee as to who was the affiliate party chair, and

Whereas the convention delegates subsequently voted to seat those delegates over the objection of the delegate chair,

Be it resolved that the Libertarian National Committee apologizes to the Libertarian Party of Oregon for the erroneous ruling of the National Convention Chair.

Ms. Mattson raised a point of order that she did not believe it was in order to make this motion, based on RONR (11th ed.) p. 483, which states:

“In any event, no action of the board can alter or conflict with any decision made by the assembly of the society, and any such action of the board is null and void (see p. 577, ll. 23–33).”

In response to a request for information by Mr. Redpath about Ms. Mattson’s opinion of the contents of the resolution, Ms. Mattson expressed fundamental disagreement with the resolution’s assertion that the convention chair’s ruling was incorrect, given the dispute about who the affiliate is.

Mr. Sarwark stated that if the LNC adopts the resolution as proposed, Wes Wagner has indicated his organization would not take action to jeopardize the Libertarian Party’s ballot access in Oregon; if the LNC failed to do so, Mr. Sarwark was uncertain whether they would proceed with that threat. In response to a question from Dr. Lark, Mr. Sarwark said Mr. Wagner would be willing to delay their decision until their meeting on the third weekend in August.

Following debate, Mr. Vohra ruled that the motion was in order. Ms. Mattson appealed the ruling of the chair.

Roll-call voting on the motion to sustain the ruling of the chair was as follows:

Voting “aye”: Feldman, Hagan, Olsen, Sarwark, Tomasso, Vohra, Wiener

Voting “nay”: Goldstein, Johnson, Kirkland, Lark, Mattson, McMahon

Abstaining: Estrada, Redpath

The ruling of the chair was upheld by a vote of 7-6.

Following discussion, Mr. Goldstein moved to postpone consideration of this item to an email ballot to be concluded no later than August 1, 2014. Roll-call voting on the motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Estrada, Goldstein, Hagan, Johnson, Kirkland, Lark, Mattson, McMahon, Redpath, Tomasso, Wiener

Voting "nay": Feldman, Olsen, Sarwark

Abstaining: Vohra

The motion to postpone was adopted by a vote of 11-3. Mr. Sarwark resumed chairing the meeting.

POPULATE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Policy Manual Section 1.03.1 specifies that the Executive Committee is composed of the four LNC officers plus any number of other LNC members to be selected by the LNC.

Nominations were opened for the non-officer positions:

Mr. Vohra nominated Mr. Redpath.
Mr. Olsen nominated Mr. McLendon.
Mr. Redpath nominated Dr. Lark.
Ms. Kirkland nominated Mr. Wiener.
Mr. Johnson nominated himself.
Mr. Vohra nominated Mr. Estrada.
Ms. Mattson nominated Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. Sarwark stated his preference to have Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Estrada, and Mr. Redpath in the non-officer Executive Committee positions.

Nominations were closed without objection.

Mr. Vohra made a motion to appoint Mr. Goldstein, Mr. Estrada, and Mr. Redpath to the non-officer Executive Committee positions. The motion failed by a vote of 6-7.

Mr. Sarwark proposed that the LNC elect the positions by a ballot vote in which each member would vote for at most three candidates. The motion was approved without objection.

Without objection, while the LNC alternates tallied the ballots, the LNC proceeded with the next agenda item.

POPULATE THE APRC

Policy Manual Section 1.03.1 specifies that the Advertising & Publications Review Committee (APRC) is composed of no more than five LNC members, to be selected by the LNC.

Nominations were opened for the APRC positions.

Mr. Vohra nominated Mr. Wiener.
Mr. Estrada nominated Mr. Johnson.
Mr. Vohra nominated himself.

Mr. Estrada nominated himself.

Mr. Hagan moved to amend Policy Manual Section 1.03.1 so that the members of the APRC could be either LNC members or alternates. The motion was adopted without objection.

Mr. Katz nominated himself.

Mr. Goldstein moved to close nominations; the nominations were closed without objection. The 5 nominees (Estrada, Johnson, Katz, Vohra, Wiener) were elected to the APRC by acclamation.

In accordance with Policy Manual Section 1.03.4, which allows the LNC Chair to appoint interim chairs of non-standing committees, Mr. Sarwark appointed Mr. Johnson as interim chair of the APRC.

IT COMMITTEE

Mr. Goldstein moved to amend Section 1.03.1 of the Policy Manual as follows:

Committee Name	Size	Member Selection	Chair
Information Technology Committee	Three or more <u>Two</u> LNC Members or Alternates, plus up to 2 <u>5</u> non-LNC members who are recommended by the IT Committee	LNC Chair	Committee Selected

The motion was adopted without objection.

Mr. Goldstein moved to amend Section 2.02.9 of the Policy Manual as follows:

The IT Committee shall

- Work with staff and state chairs to identify the ~~current~~ Information Technology ~~use at HQ~~ needs of the LP;
- Discuss with staff and state chairs the anticipated IT needs and how to meet those needs;
- Survey the list of possible vendors and solutions to those needs, and reduce the list to a small number;
- By the LNC meeting following the convention, the committee will rRecommend to the LNC an implementation of the IT tools that will best satisfy those needs ~~only where satisfying those needs with a preferred vendor and solution can not be accomplished within the existing budgetary authority of staff~~ within the budgetary constraints of the Party;
- Monitor progress in the transition and implementation to that solution as it pertains to HQ;
- Monitor progress in the transition and implementation to that solution as it pertains to relations with the various affiliates;
- Propose standards for transfer of data between HQ and the affiliates; and
- ~~Report to the LNC on the current state of HQ Information Technology and plans for improvement.~~ Nothing in this policy should be construed as requiring staff to consult with this Committee for routine changes or any changes that are not expected to have an effect on the way HQ deals with any affiliate. Any change to the Information Technology at HQ that will affect the way finances are handled or the way FEC reports are generated must be approved by the Treasurer.

The motion was adopted without objection.

Nominations were opened for the LNC member positions on the Information Technology (IT) Committee.

Mr. Feldman nominated Mr. Goldstein.

Mr. Tomasso nominated himself.

Nominations were closed without objection, and both nominees were appointed without objection.

RESULTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION

Ms. Mattson reported the results of the ballot vote to elect the non-officer positions on the Executive Committee as follows:

Sam Goldstein – 8

Jay Estrada – 5

Bill Redpath – 11

Jim Lark – 9

Dan Wiener – 5

Gary Johnson – 5

Guy McLendon - 2

With 15 ballots cast, 8 votes were needed for election. Mr. Redpath, Dr. Lark, and Mr. Goldstein were elected.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIBERTARIAN PARTIES

The Libertarian Party national convention delegates had adopted the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the assembled delegates of the 2014 Libertarian National Convention hereby call for the creation of an International Association of Libertarian Parties;

And whereas, our outgoing chair, Geoffrey Neale, has pursued this effort, we recommend that he be appointed by the LNC as a representative to begin discussions with our counterparts in other countries.

Geoff Neale addressed the LNC to say he was willing to serve in this capacity. Mr. Redpath moved to postpone this item to be handled by an email ballot. The motion was adopted without objection.

CONVENTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Geoff Neale reported that it is much too early to be able to produce even a draft income statement for the convention, but he expressed a belief that the final numbers will show it to be “in the black”.

MOTION DIRECTING CONVENTION MANAGEMENT

COMMITTEE TO REPORT

The previous LNC on June 26, 2014 had adopted a motion directing the Convention Management Committee (CMC) to provide certain relevant financial and other numbers regarding the national convention by a certain date. Mr. Neale noted that with the change of the LNC membership, the term of the Convention Management Committee members had ended, the committee was currently unpopulated, and he objected to being directed by the LNC to report. However, he and Nancy Neale would be happy to provide that information if the LNC would merely ask them to do so.

Mr. Sarwark moved to rescind the motion adopted on June 26, 2014 directing the CMC to provide certain relevant financial and other numbers regarding the national convention by a certain date. The motion was adopted without objection.

TELLERS' REPORT REGARDING THE APPROVAL VOTING PROCESS

Since this national convention was the first time that approval voting was used for the At-Large and Judicial Committee elections, Mr. Tomasso inquired whether the convention secretary and the election tellers would be willing to provide the LNC with a written report about their experience with the process. David Blau and Stewart Flood were present and agreed to do so.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TREASURER

Mr. Redpath volunteered to serve in the Assistant Treasurer position mandated by Article 10.6 of the Bylaws. He was appointed without objection.

LNC-DISCUSS EMAIL LIST

As Secretary Mattson needed to depart, the LNC realized it had inadvertently skipped the agenda item regarding the LNC-Discuss email list and without objection agreed to take up that item. Mr. Johnson volunteered to take over as Secretary Pro Tem for the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Sarwark asked if there would be any objection to voting by email ballot on the question of the transparency policy for the LNC-Discuss email list. There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Goldstein moved to adjourn. The motion was approved without objection. The session ended at 5:15 p.m. Eastern.