

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE COMMITTEE
AND NOMINATING CONVENTION
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024
AT THE WATKINS GLEN HARBOR HOTEL
16 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET, WATKINS GLEN, NY 14891
AND ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP AND PORCUPINE APP**

MEMBERS PRESENT (34)

Mark N. Axinn (JD1)¹
David B. “Chance” Haywood (JD1)¹⁰
Paul M. Grindle (JD2)¹⁰
William Cody Anderson (JD3)¹
Justin N. Carman (JD3)¹⁰
Lora Newell (JD3)¹
Karen A. Keniry-Thompson (JD4)¹
Brian L. Wells (JD4)¹⁰
Daniel J. Castello (JD5)¹
James B. Fitch (JD5)^V
Erinn Rose Leatherman (JD5)¹
Amber L. Nunes (JD5)^V
Mark S. Braiman (JD6)¹
Craig L. Colwell (JD6)¹
Christopher M. Olenski (JD6)¹⁰
Steven G. Becker (JD7)¹
Justin Pelletier (JD7)¹⁰
Sean C. Phelan (JD7)¹⁰
James M. Ziobro (JD7)¹
Maura E. Botsford (JD8)¹
Andrew M. Kolstee (JD8)¹
Frances Law (JD8)¹
Leonard E. Morlock (JD8)¹
Michael R. Rebmann (JD8)¹
Jame J. VanDewalker (JD8)¹⁰
Duane J. Whitmer (JD8)¹
Juan R. Ayala (JD9)¹
Daniel P. Donnelly (JD9)¹
William K. Schmidt (JD9)¹
Jeffrey J. Denecke (JD10)¹⁰
Jonathan H. Gunther (JD10)¹⁰
Vincent O’Neill (JD10)^V
Irwin Mark Weinblatt (JD11)¹
Richard F. Purtell (ex-officio)¹

MEMBERS ABSENT (29)

Morry C. Davis (JD1)
Matthew I. Morgan (JD2)
Gary S. Popkin (JD2)
Jennifer L. O’Connor (JD3)
Amanda H. Ellithorpe (JD4)
Stephen C. Healey (JD4)
John A. Janes (JD4)
Zachary D. Remian (JD4)

Shawn C. DeGrand (JD5)
Matthew K. Guilianelli (JD5)
Adam M. Magoon (JD5)
Keith C. Redhead (JD5)
Michael Gately (JD6)
Samuel Hordesi (JD6)
David S. Penner (JD6)
Jeffrey C. Bradley (JD7)
Marc A. Smith (JD7)
Erin M. Becker (JD8)
Charles R. Roggen (JD8)
Robert J. Cocomello (JD9)
Robert J. Greibesland (JD9)
Christian J. Vondras (JD9)
George T. Ostrowski (JD10)
Christian L. Padgett (JD10)
Robert E. Schuon (JD10)
Blay Tarnoff (JD10)
Randyn Tarnoff (JD10)
John Clifton (JD11)
Francisco Olvera (JD11)

OBSERVERS (16)

Timothy “TJ” Ferreira, Porcupine Administrator^O
Prince Agarwal, Team Kennedy
Joseph Amoroso, Team Kennedy
Shane Barnes, Onondaga County
Suzanne M. Becker, Monroe County
Richard A. Cooper, Former LPNY Chair
Roger Cooper, National Convention Delegate
Nicole M. Colwell, Chemung County Secretary
John H. Curtis, Monroe Co. Youth Outreach Chair
Jonathan M. Lerche, Chemung County Vice-Chair
Charles A. Senrick, Fmr Rensselaer Co. Secretary
Larry Sharpe, Candidate for Presidential Stand-In
William Redpath, LNC Ballot Access Coordinator
Mark Rutherford, Candidate for LNC Chair
Diane Sare, Independent Candidate for U.S. Senate
Wendi E. Szabo, Niagara County

KEY

- (1) Present at first roll call at 1:30 p.m. on 3/16
- (2) Entered during the meeting.
- (O) Present online.
- (V) Filled vacancy during meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair. Secretary Mark Braiman conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

The Credentials and Nominations Report (**Exhibit 1**) indicated that there were thirty-four (31) of sixty (60) voting members of the State Committee present at the time of roll call. Three (3) vacancies were filled during the meeting, to give thirty-seven (34) members present out of sixty-three (63) members of the State Committee.

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

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of two (2) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 5.

Daniel Castello nominated James Fitch and he accepted the nomination.

Secretary Mark Braiman reported that Amber Nunes had been nominated in advance.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of three (3) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 7. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance. Chair Andrew Kolstee, hearing no nominations from the floor, postponed filling these vacancies until the next meeting of the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for the filling of two (2) State Committee vacancies from Judicial District 10. Secretary Mark Braiman reported that no one had been nominated in advance.

Mark Axinn nominated Vincent O'Neil and he accepted the nomination.

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

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

James Fitch spoke on his candidacy.

Amber Nunes spoke on her candidacy.

Vincent O’Neill spoke on his candidacy.

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

The first round of voting for voting for State Committee Representative from Judicial District 5 was conducted using Election Runner, since Porcupine ballots were not operational. The results were as follows:

Candidate (vote for 2)	Votes	Percentage
Amber Nunes	23	74.19%
James Fitch	22	70.97%
None of the Above (NOTA)	5	16.13%
Total Votes	50	100.00%
Total Voters	31	

James Fitch and Amber Nunes were elected to fill vacancies in Judicial District 6 on the State Committee.

The slate of Electors for President and Vice President (Exhibit 4) was adopted without objection.

Chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. His report focused on the requirements of the bylaws of the National Libertarian Party, which makes stand-in candidates for President ineligible to run for the nomination at the Libertarian National Convention, which will not occur until May 24, 2024 near the end of the New York petitioning period.

The first round of voting for State Committee Representative from Judicial District 10 was conducted using Election Runner, since Porcupine ballots were not operational. The results were as follows:

Candidate (vote for 1)	Votes	Percentage
Vincent O’Neill	22	70.96%
None of the Above (NOTA)	7	22.58%
“Where is the abstain vote” (write-in)	1	3.23%
“Bottom text” (write-in)	1	3.23%
Total Votes	31	100.00%
Total Voters	31	

Vincent O’Neil was elected to fill a vacancy in Judicial District 10 on the State Committee.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for nominations for the stand-in candidate for President of the United States.

Mark Axinn nominated Richard Purtell, who was present in person and accepted.

Paul Grindle nominated Larry Sharpe, who was present in person and accepted.

Larry Sharpe spoke on his candidacy.

Richard Purtell spoke on his candidacy.

The Chair asked for anyone interested in speaking for None of the Above (NOTA). Christopher Olenski volunteered. Michael Rebmann objected.

Motion by Brian Wells to **allow Christopher Olenski to speak for None of the Above (NOTA)** was seconded by William Cody Anderson and passed by voice vote.

Christopher Olenski spoke on behalf of None of the Above (NOTA).

The meeting stood in recess from 3:01 p.m. to 3:19 p.m.

The first round of voting for stand-in candidate for President of the United States was conducted using Election Runner, since Porcupine ballots were not operational. The results were as follows:

Candidate (vote for 1)	Votes	Percentage
Larry Sharpe	18	54.55%
Richard Purtell	8	24.24%
None of the Above (NOTA)	4	12.12%
“Present” (write-in)	1	3.03%
“Lpny is fake and gay” (write-in)	1	3.03%
“Lpny secretary” (write-in)	1	3.03%
Total Votes	33	100.00%
Total Voters	33	

Larry Sharpe was elected as the stand-in candidate for President of the United States.

Chair Andrew Kolstee called for nominations for the stand-in candidate for Vice-President of the United States.

Michael Rebmann nominated Spike Cohen.

Duane Whitmer nominated Christopher Olenski, who was present in person and accepted.

Jeffrey Denecke nominated Duane Whitmer, who was present in person and declined.

The time of **adjournment was extended to 3:45 p.m.** without objection.

Duane Whitmer, 1st Vice-Chair of the Libertarian Party of New York, spoke.

The meeting stood in recess until 3:50 p.m.

The time of **adjournment was extended to 4:15 p.m.** without objection.

Spike Cohen declined the nomination.

Daniel Donnelly nominated Richard Purtell, who was present and accepted.

Motion by Christopher Olenski to **reconsider the election of the stand-in candidate for President of the United States** was seconded by Justin Carman and failed by voice vote.

Duane Whitmer nominated Andrew Hollister, who was not present in person and not entered into nomination.

Richard Purtell spoke on his candidacy.

Christopher Olenski spoke on his candidacy.

Mark Axinn spoke on behalf of None of the Above (NOTA).

The time of **adjournment was extended to 4:30 p.m.** without objection.

The meeting stood in recess from 4:03 p.m. to 4:19 p.m.

The first round of voting for stand-in candidate for Vice-President of the United States was conducted using Election Runner, since Porcupine ballots were not operational. The results were as follows:

Candidate (vote for 1)	Votes	Percentage
Richard Purtell	19	52.86%
Christopher Olenski	14	38.89%
“Present” (write-in)	1	2.78%
“Enjoy the clown show!” (write-in)	1	2.78%
None of the Above (NOTA)	1	2.78%
Total Votes	36	100.00%
Total Voters	36	

Richard Purtell was elected as the stand-in candidate for Vice-President of the United States.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **allow Diane Sare to speak** was seconded by Duane Whitmer passed by voice vote.

Diane Sare spoke.

The nomination of a United States Senate candidate was removed from the agenda without objection.

Motion by Karyn Keniry-Thompson to **adjourn** was seconded by Lora Newell without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Mark Stephen Braiman,
Secretary.

Exhibit 1

CREDENTIALS REPORT

ROLL CALLS. Column #1 taken at 1:01 p.m. on March 16, 2024. P=Present; V=a vacancy (V) filled at start of meeting on March 16

JD	State Committee Member	1	JD	State Committee Member	1	JD	State Committee Member	1
EO	Richard F. Purtell	P	5	Keith C. Redhead		8	Duane J. Whitmer	P
1	Mark N. Axinn	P	6	Mark S. Braiman	P	9	Juan R. Ayala	P
1	Morry C. Davis		6	Craig Colwell	P	9	Robert J. Cocomello	
1	David B. "Chance" Haywood	P	6	Samuel J. Hordeski		9	Daniel P. Donnelly	P
2	Paul M. Grindle	P	6	Christopher M. Olenski	P	9	Robert J. Greibesland	
2	Matthew I. Morgan		6	David S. Penner		9	William K. Schmidt	P
2	Gary S. Popkin		6	Michael Gately		9	Christian J. Vondras	
3	William Cody Anderson	P	7	Steven G. Becker	P	10	Jeffrey J. Denecke	P
3	Justin N. Carman	P	7	Jeffrey C. Bradley		10	Jonathan H. Gunther	P
3	Lora Newell	P	7	Justin Pelletier	P	10	George T. Ostrowski	
3	Jennifer L. O'Connor		7	Sean C. Phelan	P	10	Robert E. Schuon	
4	Amanda H. Ellithorpe		7	Marc A. Smith		10	Blay Tarnoff	
4	Stephen C. Healey		7	James M. Ziobro	P	10	Randyn Tarnoff	
4	John A. Janes		7	VACANT		10	Christian Padgett	
4	Karyn A. Keniry-Thompson	P	7	VACANT		10	Vincent O'Neill	V
4	Zachary D. Remian		7	VACANT		11	John Clifton	
4	Brian L. Wells	P	8	Erin M. Becker		11	Francisco Olvera	
5	Daniel J. Castello	P	8	Maura E. Botsford	P	11	Irwin Mark Weinblatt	P
5	Shawn C. DeGrand		8	Andrew M. Kolstee	P	12	VACANT	
5	James Fitch	V	8	Francis Law	P	12	VACANT	
5	Matthew K. Guilianelli		8	Leonard E. Morlock	P	13	VACANT	
5	Erinn Rose Leatherman	P	8	Michael R. Rebmann	P	13	VACANT	
5	Adam M. Magoon		8	Charles R. Roggen			# Present at roll call.	31
5	Amber Nunes	V	8	Jame J. VanDewalker	P		# after vacancy filling	34
							(out of 60 initial State Committee members, and 63 after vacancies filled)	

Nominations Received in advance: Amber Nunes, for State Committee Representative from JD5.

Exhibit 2

**LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
AGENDA OF THE STATE COMMITTEE OF SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024**

1:00 P.M. Call to Order (Andrew Kolstee, Chair)

1:00 P.M. Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum (Mark Braiman, Secretary)

1:05 P.M. Adoption of Agenda

1:10 P.M. Filling of Vacancies on the State Committee

Judicial District 5 (1 vacancy)
Judicial District 7 (3 vacancies)
Judicial District 10 (1 vacancy)
Judicial District 12 (2 vacancies)
Judicial District 13 (2 vacancies)

1:20 P.M. Treasurer's Report (Cody Anderson)

1:30 P.M. Chair's Report (Andrew Kolstee)

1:55 P.M. Adoption of Slate of Presidential and Vice Presidential Electors

[See here](#) for the Slate of Electors

2:00 P.M. Nominations of Candidates

Stand-In Candidate for President of the United States
Stand-In Candidate for Vice President of the United States
Candidate for United States Senator from New York

3:30 P.M. Adjournment

Exhibit 3 (page 1 of 2)

LPNY Treasurer's Report March 16, 2024

Housekeeping Committee account balance as of March 22, 2024: **\$1941.22**
(+\$124.71 since January 22)

Constituted Committee account balance as of January 22, 2024: **\$35,502.29**
(+\$9465.54 since January 22)

Deposits to Housekeeping account since January 22:

3/6 – Transfer in from CC - \$2000.00

Disbursements from Housekeeping account since January 22:

2/2 – Humanitru - \$32.67

2/13 – Grasshopper - \$33.95

2/14 – KinaneCo – 189.00

2/14 – Constant Contact - \$148.77

2/15 – Canva - \$300.00

2/20 – Zoom - \$549.90

3/1 – Humanitru - \$34.06

3/7 – Twitter – \$90.72

3/11 – Becker Gallagher Legal Publishing - \$392.92

3/13 – Grasshopper - \$33.95

3/14 – Constant Contact - \$148.77

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$1954.71

Deposits to CC account since January 22:

Net Donations - \$11759.60

TOTAL DEPOSITS: \$11759.60

Exhibit 3 (page 2 of 2)

Disbursements from CC account since January 22:

2/5 – BlueSwipe - \$28.00

2/5 – BlueSwipe - \$105.86

3/5 – BlueSwipe - \$28.00

3/5 – BlueSwipe – \$92.22

3/6 – Transfer to Housekeeping - \$2000.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS: \$2294.10

Respectfully submitted,

W. Cody Anderson
Treasurer

Exhibit 4

**LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
SLATE OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS**

W. Cody Anderson
Mark N. Axinn
Juan Ayala
Steven G. Becker
Mark S. Braiman
Daniel Castello
Justin Carman
John Clifton
Craig Colwell
Richard Cooper
Daniel Donnelly
Jonathan Gunther
Karyn Keniry-Thompson
Andrew M. Kolstee
Matthew Morgan
Lora L. Newell
Jennifer O'Connor
Christopher Olenki
William McMillen
Leonard Morlock
Gary S. Popkin
Michael Rebmann
Keith Redhead
Catrina Rocco
William Schmidt
Robert Schuon
Blay Tarnoff
Irwin Mark Weinblatt