

# Minutes, September 15, 2007

Executive Committee Meeting, Libertarian Party of California

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Clarion Hotel San Francisco Airport  
401 E. Millbrae Avenue  
Millbrae, California 94030-3189  
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## Call to Order

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- 10:33

### *Attending*

#### Officers

Kevin Chair Takenaga, Chair  
Richard Newell, Northern Vice Chair  
Zander Collier, Southern Vice Chair  
Don Cowles, Treasurer  
Beau Cain, Secretary

#### At-large Representatives

Matthew Barnes, San Bernardino County, arrived 11:11  
Ted Brown, Los Angeles County  
Bruce Dovner, Los Angeles County  
Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County  
Mark Johnson, San Francisco County  
Cam McConnell, Contra Costa County  
Mike McMahan, San Bernardino County, arrived 11:11  
Chuck Moulton, Santa Clara County  
Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County  
Jesse Thomas, San Diego County

#### Alternates

- Dan Minkoff, First Alternate, not present
- Mark Selzer, Second Alternate, not present

#### Staff

None

## LPC Members

- Brian Darby, Chair, Santa Clara County
- Brian Miller, Media Relations, Outright Libertarians
- Rob Power, Chair, Outright Libertarians
- Starchild, San Francisco County
- Quorum was established after roll call

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## Call for Comments

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- The question was raised from the gallery about how many votes are required for majority and super majority. Cain answered 8 for majority and 10 for super majority. Dovner suggested that with only 13 members present, only 7 would be required for majority, but Brown explained that majority and super majority are determined with respect to the entire body rather than just the attending members.
- At this point the proceedings changed to the approval of the agenda, and the call for comments was resumed after the adoption of the agenda.
- Brian Miller encouraged an amicable end to recent difficulties between certain Executive Committee members and the former office staff, and suggested the matter can be mollified with personal apologizes. Thomas asked for clarification, which Miler provided.
- Starchild asked how much money was spent for the meeting room today, and suggested that LPCA money can be better spent on “fighting for freedom” instead of being spent on meeting rooms. Chair Takenaga reported the room rent at \$259.80, and about \$140 for the beverage service. Collier volunteered to pay for the beverage service, and Moulton suggested each Executive Committee member pay \$20 to defray cost of today’s room
- Starchild lauded the quality of California Freedom under Thomas Sipos editorship.
- Starchild asked to be appointed to the Convention Committee, and Thomas asked him to contact him.
- Starchild also offered himself for the vacant Libertarian National Committee position.
- The agenda continued with Officers’ Reports.

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## Approval of Agenda

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- Newell moved to have Starchild seated with guests rather than at Executive Committee table, which Cain seconded. The motion carried with few objections. Chair Takenaga ruled a request for a roll call vote out of order since the voice vote was a clear majority.
- Moulton moved to add the item to the agenda to discuss putting Executive Committee members’ e-mail contact information on the LPCA website. Thomas seconded. Cain suggested adding the item to New Business. The motion passed without objection.
- Moulton asked how to propose that extra copies of agenda be distributed to the gallery. It was agreed without a vote, and Secretary Cain distributed two extra copies of the agenda to the guests in the gallery.
- Dovner moved to add three minutes to committee reports for the Membership Committee report, Newell seconded, Cain mentioned that there is time during the Committee Reports for the Membership Committee report, and the item was added by fiat.

- Holtz asked for five minutes in New Business to fill the 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate vacancy on the Libertarian National Committee, Moulton seconded. The item was added without objection.
- Brown asked for five minutes in New Business to discuss general campaign issues involving candidate recruitment for 2008 elections. Seconded by Collier, the motion was accepted without objection.
- The revised agenda was adopted without objection at 10:48.
- Newell raised a point of information and asked to call for comments next. Chair Takenaga suggested ten minutes for comments, which passed without objection.

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## Approval of Previous Minutes

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- Minutes were approved previously by e-mail.
- Collier moved to suspend the rules to modify the agenda by adding five minutes for Convention 2009, Moulton seconded, and the motion passed without objection.

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## Reports

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### *Officers' Reports*

#### Chair (Takenaga)

- Chair Takenaga's report described his travels to various libertarian enclaves around the state, particularly his visit to Placer County. He observed that there are apparently many opportunities to generate support in the California Gold Country. Additionally, Chair Takenaga cited a list of publicly elected officials throughout that area who are LP-friendly. In particular, he cited Dennis Schlumpf, who has remained active and influential locally for many years. Chair Takenaga noted that the people who move to the California Gold Country tend to be people who wish to live in areas that have fewer property and lifestyle restrictions.
- Regarding the recent turnover in the LPCA office, Chair Takenaga asked the Secretary and the Treasurer to cover duties, and that Secretary Cain is in the office full-time.
- Moulton asked if Chair Takenaga will discuss his long-term vision for the office. Chair Takenaga responded that he's trying to avoid rash decisions, but that a timeline will be developed that the Executive Committee can discuss.

*ACTION:* Chair Takenaga to develop a timeline that reflects his long-term vision for the office.

- Thomas asked how the Membership Committee is coming along, and committee chair Dovner responded that it's coming along well.
- Moulton asked what the Chair's plans are from this meeting until the next. Chair Takenaga reported that he's been talking with Nevada's state Party Chair Jim Duensing about a meeting on October 14 in Sparks/Reno, right after Conservative Leadership Conference Oct 11-13. Since Reno-Truckee are so close, Takenaga

suggested meeting to promote productive relationship between two areas. Also, LP Chair Bill Redpath will be there, so there will be a national presence at the meeting. As well, former San Bernardino County Chair Juanita Ramirez has moved to Reno, so we have inroads in the geographic area.

- Moulton asked how many hours daily the Chair spends on LPCA business, and if it's more or less than he wishes to spend, and if it's more, whether the Executive Committee can assist. Chair Takenaga described a self-imposed schedule wherein he spends much of his free time involved in Party business.
- Moulton asked what particularly volunteers could do to alleviate Chair Takenaga's workload, and Chair Takenaga suggested appointing a scheduler, which Samuels suggested would be "like an Executive Secretary". Chair Takenaga also suggested submitting reports early for the sake of publishing an agenda before the meeting.

### Northern Vice Chair (Newell)

- 11:13
- Newell began with a personal note, stating that he started a new job in product planning at Actel Corp, so he suffered some distraction from LPCA duties.
- Newell reported that despite the distractions, he visited counties, and accompanied Chair Takenaga on his visits to Nevada County/Placer County supporters, as well as to counties closer to Bay Area. There is potential to activate Yolo and Stanislaus Counties because there are LPCA members there interested in reactivating LP groups.
- T.J. Campbell is planning a student meeting to help coalesce the energy of various student groups, where there seems to be a high level of activity lately.
- Newell reported executing a contract for Candidate Support Committee website development for non-federal races, going full-force, and expects to see prototypes of graphic design this week, then a first draft of the complete site by Oct 1.
- Newell reported on the breakfast event in San Francisco with former Congressman Bob Barr, which was very successful in terms of understanding Mr. Barr's position and helping him understand LPCA's position. Newell reported that Barr asked what he might do for LPCA, to which Chair Takenaga replied that the LPCA could always use money. Barr donated \$500.
- Samuels asked if Barr had been asked to speak at next state convention, and Newell reported that he hadn't, but that he will speak at the Federalist Club in San Francisco at the end of October.
- Newell reported seeking an editor for the California Flyer e-mail newsletter.
- Newell reported that our Legislation Analysis Team was contacted regarding supporting AB 1430, and our vote of support led to the LPCA drafting a letter to Governor to sign the bill. Newell is still skeptical of bringing every bill to a vote of the LPCA Executive Committee, but would like to work toward a process of delegating that task to the Legislation Analysis Team.
- McMahan asked what's best way for volunteers to contact Newell to work on the California Flyer, who replied that telephone or e-mail is best.

- Thomas asked about the differences between CA Freedom and CA Flyer, and Newell explained that their purposes are difference. CA Flyer is largely for folks who opt into our discussion lists and become donors and members, but who don't necessarily subscribe to CA Freedom.

### Southern Vice Chair (Collier)

- Collier organized the Southern California Leadership Conference, and got Norm Westwell to speak at the event.
- Orange County is showing progress in building visibility for OCLPCandidates.
- Dovner mentioned that Collier spent time staffing booths at street fairs and such events.
- Barnes stated that he enjoyed Collier's presentation at OC's SoCal conference.
- Chair Takenaga asked Collier to elaborate about the OC County Fair. Collier reported that he'd arranged to have a booth, staffed all shifts, collected contact information for about 200 people, then did same at the Costa Mesa Street Fair, where he gathered another 100 contacts. Collier reported a sea change in understanding of such events, that staffing a booth is outreach supported by follow-through.

### Secretary (Cain)

- Cain reported performing standard duties of publishing minutes of June 6<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting.
- Because the Secretary is responsible for "the database", Cain reported relief at learning that LPCA's membership database is collected and maintained in DonorPerfect, and that he's teaching himself to run management and financial reports in DonorPerfect.
- Cain reported learning how to run county dues split reports, and reported expecting to be able to do this by the end of September.
- Cain also compiled and distributed the agenda for this September 15<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting, but there were many last-minute changes due to the sensitive nature of former Executive Director Angela Keaton's unexpected resignation.
- Barnes asked if county dues can expect to receive dues owed them, and Cain reported that he expects to correct data as far back as the beginning of 2007. Cain also asked the Executive Committee to not expect the reports to be perfect, but instead to be willing to work with him to correct whatever records didn't match.
- Dovner moved to allow Starchild to speak, and Moulton seconded, which passed without objection. Starchild stated that he didn't catch when the counties should expect to get all the money owed to them. Cain responded that he didn't say when the counties should expect to get the money owed to them, but instead had talked about when he expects to generate the reports.
- Starchild asked if the current version of the member data in DonorPerfect could be sent to the counties, to which Cain replied that that is part of the process on which he was working. Cain reported that he'd sent the respective county rosters

to the Northern and Southern Vice Chairs, and that with their approval he'd send them to the county officers next week, after Tuesday.

- Starchild mentioned that he and the San Francisco County database manager discussed setting up a regular exchange of data with the state Party, and that the member data should be flowing both ways between the state Party and the county Parties.
- Cain mentioned that some volunteers in the Party are working on an online application that will allow both push and pull technology for exchanging member information. Chair Takenaga called for everyone at the meeting to avoid pressuring the volunteers.
- The question was raised whether the former state Chair's plan to design the database to preclude counties from collecting dues at the county level, allowing them to collect dues and send their portion to the state rather than relying on the state to collect all dues and send the counties their portions. Cain admitted that he didn't know whether the database would be set up that way, but instead would be designed to fulfill the requirements approved by the Executive Committee.
- Moulton asked Cain to briefly explain the process of getting data from the counties into the state database. Cain responded that there is no process currently. Dovner commented that the process is strictly local and always has been. Moulton asked if it's possible to design the database so that it can receive data from the counties. Cain responded that he'd like it to be that way, but someone else is working on the actual input mechanism.

Treasurer (Cowles)

## FINANCIALS

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, I filed the necessary semi-annual report (Form 425) for the LPOC Candidate Support Committee with the State. I also on this date reminded Angela that it is time to run the financials for the party for the first half of the year.

Ensuing emails (July 17 and 18) to different groups indicated Angela needed large blocks of time to reconcile every deposit made to the bank account to the numbers that were being generated via Donor Perfect. It was stated that without this reconciliation that; quarterlies cannot be completed, dues splits would not be issued, County reports could not be issued, migration of NOVA to Donor Perfect would not be completed, and fundraising assignments could not be issued.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, Kevin, who was in Los Angeles made an appointment with Angela at my office for 11:30am. What follows will be discussed in Executive Session.

I did not have access to Quickbooks, NOVA, or Donor Perfect. I did go into the office and was able to stop the busy signal emanating from any telephone calls into the office and was able to get the recording operating again. I accessed our email account and found that it hadn't been cleaned out or read of the approximate 300 messages since early June. I found several urgent emails from our printer in Georgia and took care of his problem and was able to delete over 200 non-essential messages. No checks had been issued since July 18<sup>th</sup> and several outstanding bills had to be paid via hand-written checks through August 24<sup>th</sup>. Finally, access to Quickbooks was obtained during the week of August 27<sup>th</sup>. The next week was spent reconciling QB with the bank statements.

I was able to run the financial statements, which are attached hereto. Please be advised that these are very preliminary as many of the proper allocations of the deposits have not been made (remember the reconciliation of mid-July). I anticipate this to be solved soon and will forward by email updated financials when this has been accomplished.

Respectfully submitted by

Don Cowles, Treasurer

4:40 PM  
09/13/07  
Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of June 30, 2007

	<u>Jun 30, 07</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
11100 - Cash	
11101 - Wells Fargo Checking -Main	62,867.37
<b>Total 11100 - Cash</b>	<u>62,867.37</u>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	62,867.37
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
13101 - Accounts Receivable	51,569.00
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>51,569.00</u>
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
13109 - Allowance for Bad Debts	-10,000.00
14000 - Investments	
14001 - E-Gold Account	1.00
<b>Total 14000 - Investments</b>	<u>1.00</u>
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<u>-9,999.00</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	104,437.37
<b>Other Assets</b>	
18000 - Other Assets	
18001 - Security Deposits	395.00
<b>Total 18000 - Other Assets</b>	<u>395.00</u>
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>395.00</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>104,832.37</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Credit Cards</b>	
21102 - WF Credit Card -2366	882.69
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<u>882.69</u>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
21000 - Current Liabilities	
21103 - Payroll Liabilities	2,419.03
21109 - Accrued Liabilities	7,400.00
<b>Total 21000 - Current Liabilities</b>	<u>9,819.03</u>
21600 - Deferred Membership Revenue	
21601 - Curr Year Annual Dues Renewal	14,984.79
21602 - Curr Year Annual Dues New	72.90
21607 - Life Members Renewal	5,000.00
<b>Total 21600 - Deferred Membership Revenue</b>	<u>20,057.69</u>
21900 - Loans Payable	
21901 - Loan Payable	3,000.00
<b>Total 21900 - Loans Payable</b>	<u>3,000.00</u>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>32,876.72</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>33,759.41</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	33,759.41

4:40 PM  
09/13/07  
Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of June 30, 2007

	<u>Jun 30, 07</u>
Equity	
31000 · Beginning Net Assets	79,523.38
Net Income	<u>-8,450.42</u>
Total Equity	<u>71,072.96</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>104,832.37</u></b>

4:38 PM  
09/13/07  
Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through June 2007

	Jan - Jun 07
<b>Income</b>	
<b>41000 · Memberships</b>	
41001 · Annual – Renewal	3,677.38
41002 · Annual – New	52.10
<b>Total 41000 · Memberships</b>	3,729.48
<b>42000 · Recurring Gifts</b>	
42001 · General	15,209.05
<b>Total 42000 · Recurring Gifts</b>	15,209.05
<b>44000 · Appeals</b>	
44001 · Direct Mail	50.00
<b>Total 44000 · Appeals</b>	50.00
<b>48000 · Other Revenue</b>	
48001 · Membership List Rental	5,000.00
48003 · Interest Income	377.92
48004 · Magazine Advertising	826.00
48006 · Other	37,142.37
<b>Total 48000 · Other Revenue</b>	43,346.29
<b>Total Income</b>	62,334.82
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
<b>51000 · Membership Recruitment</b>	
51054 · Outside Services	483.80
51058 · Postage	1,848.00
51066 · Printing	2,559.52
<b>Total 51000 · Membership Recruitment</b>	4,891.32
<b>53100 · Direct Mail</b>	
53154 · Outside Services	125.00
53158 · Postage	115.50
53166 · Printing	533.70
<b>Total 53100 · Direct Mail</b>	774.20
<b>53300 · Personal Solicitations</b>	
53320 · Commissions	100.00
53362 · Premiums	30.00
<b>Total 53300 · Personal Solicitations</b>	130.00
<b>58000 · Other Fundraising Costs</b>	
58020 · Commissions	143.15
58046 · Miscellaneous	121.78
58054 · Outside Services	125.00
<b>Total 58000 · Other Fundraising Costs</b>	389.93
<b>Total COGS</b>	6,185.45
<b>Gross Profit</b>	56,149.37
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>60000 · County Party Distributions</b>	
60001 · County Dues Sharing	995.00
60000 · County Party Distributions - Other	6,600.00
<b>Total 60000 · County Party Distributions</b>	7,595.00
<b>61000 · Administrative</b>	
61200 · Convention	
61246 · Miscellaneous	1,302.37
61256 · Printing	179.32
<b>Total 61200 · Convention</b>	1,481.69
61300 · Executive Committee	
61342 · Meetings	1,099.85
<b>Total 61300 · Executive Committee</b>	1,099.85

4:38 PM  
 09/13/07  
 Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through June 2007

	Jan - Jun 07
<b>61000 - LPC Headquarters</b>	
61011 - Compensation	19,018.55
61012 - Payroll Taxes	1,067.44
61014 - Rent	2,955.00
61018 - Bank and Credit Card Fees	945.46
61022 - Data Processing	3,690.16
61028 - Equipment	59.00
61034 - Interest Expense	100.00
61042 - Meetings	372.15
61046 - Miscellaneous	653.08
61050 - Office Supplies	75.82
61064 - Outside Services	6,115.78
61068 - Postage	2,805.48
61086 - Printing	472.24
61082 - Telephone	1,235.91
61090 - Utilities	419.40
<b>Total 61000 - LPC Headquarters</b>	<b>39,965.60</b>
<b>Total 61000 - Administrative</b>	<b>42,567.14</b>
<b>62000 - Campaigns &amp; Elections</b>	
62100 - Candidate Recruitment	
62146 - Miscellaneous	268.43
62164 - Outside Services	6,464.40
<b>Total 62100 - Candidate Recruitment</b>	<b>6,730.83</b>
<b>Total 62000 - Campaigns &amp; Elections</b>	<b>6,730.83</b>
<b>65000 - Media Relations</b>	
65064 - Outside Services	290.00
<b>Total 65000 - Media Relations</b>	<b>290.00</b>
<b>66000 - Member Communications</b>	
66100 - Magazine	
66146 - Miscellaneous	84.50
66164 - Outside Services	3,843.90
66168 - Postage	904.99
66166 - Printing	2,308.43
<b>Total 66100 - Magazine</b>	<b>7,141.82</b>
66200 - Website	
66264 - Outside Services	200.00
<b>Total 66200 - Website</b>	<b>200.00</b>
<b>Total 66000 - Member Communications</b>	<b>7,341.82</b>
<b>67000 - Outreach</b>	
67046 - Miscellaneous	75.00
<b>Total 67000 - Outreach</b>	<b>75.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>64,599.79</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-8,460.42</b>

4:41 PM  
08/13/07

**LPOC**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**January through June 2007**

	<u>Jan - Jun 07</u>
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Net Income	-8,450.42
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to net cash provided by operations:	
21101 · Accounts Payable	-5,551.00
21102 · WF Credit Card -2365	665.95
21000 · Current Liabilities:21103 · Payroll Liabilities	275.71
21000 · Current Liabilities:21109 · Accrued Liabilities	7,400.00
21600 · Deferred Membership Revenue:21601 · Curr Y...	14,984.79
21600 · Deferred Membership Revenue:21602 · Curr Y...	72.90
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>9,397.93</u>
Net cash increase for period	9,397.93
Cash at beginning of period	<u>53,489.44</u>
Cash at end of period	<u>62,887.37</u>

4:43 PM

09/13/07

Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**January 1 through September 13, 2007**

	Jan 1 - Sep 13, 07
<b>Income</b>	
41000 · Memberships	
41001 · Annual – Renewal	3,677.38
41002 · Annual – New	52.10
<b>Total 41000 · Memberships</b>	<b>3,729.48</b>
42000 · Recurring Gifts	
42001 · General	19,033.05
<b>Total 42000 · Recurring Gifts</b>	<b>19,033.05</b>
44000 · Appeals	
44001 · Direct Mail	50.00
<b>Total 44000 · Appeals</b>	<b>50.00</b>
48000 · Other Revenue	
48001 · Membership List Rental	5,000.00
48003 · Interest Income	385.72
48004 · Magazine Advertising	826.00
48009 · Other	44,140.48
<b>Total 48000 · Other Revenue</b>	<b>50,352.21</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>73,184.74</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
51000 · Membership Recruitment	
51054 · Outside Services	483.80
51058 · Postage	1,848.00
51066 · Printing	2,558.52
<b>Total 51000 · Membership Recruitment</b>	<b>4,891.32</b>
53100 · Direct Mail	
53154 · Outside Services	125.00
53168 · Postage	115.50
53166 · Printing	533.70
<b>Total 53100 · Direct Mail</b>	<b>774.20</b>
53300 · Personal Solicitations	
53320 · Commissions	100.00
53362 · Premiums	30.00
<b>Total 53300 · Personal Solicitations</b>	<b>130.00</b>
58000 · Other Fundraising Costs	
58020 · Commissions	143.15
58046 · Miscellaneous	121.78
58054 · Outside Services	125.00
<b>Total 58000 · Other Fundraising Costs</b>	<b>389.93</b>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>6,185.45</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>66,979.29</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
60000 · County Party Distributions	
60001 · County Dues Sharing	995.00
60002 · County Party Startup	145.00
60000 · County Party Distributions - Other	6,795.00
<b>Total 60000 · County Party Distributions</b>	<b>7,935.00</b>
61000 · Administrative	
61200 · Convention	
61242 · Meetings	2,325.00
61248 · Miscellaneous	1,302.37
61268 · Printing	179.32
<b>Total 61200 · Convention</b>	<b>3,806.69</b>

4:43 PM  
09/13/07  
Accrual Basis

**LPOC**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January 1 through September 13, 2007

	Jan 1 - Sep 13, 07
61300 · Executive Committee	
61342 · Meetings	1,099.85
<b>Total 61300 · Executive Committee</b>	<b>1,099.85</b>
61600 · LPC Headquarters	
61611 · Compensation	28,038.64
61612 · Payroll Taxes	1,067.44
61614 · Rent	4,220.00
61618 · Bank and Credit Card Fees	1,409.32
61622 · Data Processing	4,545.16
61628 · Equipment	59.00
61634 · Interest Expense	100.00
61642 · Meetings	372.15
61646 · Miscellaneous	669.58
61660 · Office Supplies	166.12
61664 · Outside Services	6,115.78
61668 · Postage	2,949.21
61669 · Printing	472.24
61670 · Professional Services	2,756.57
61674 · Repairs & Maintenance	119.08
61682 · Telephone	1,561.45
61686 · Travel & Lodging	2,700.00
61690 · Utilities	449.35
<b>Total 61600 · LPC Headquarters</b>	<b>57,771.09</b>
<b>Total 61000 · Administrative</b>	<b>62,877.63</b>
62000 · Campaigns & Elections	
62100 · Candidate Recruitment	
62146 · Miscellaneous	266.43
62154 · Outside Services	13,287.55
<b>Total 62100 · Candidate Recruitment</b>	<b>13,553.98</b>
<b>Total 62000 · Campaigns &amp; Elections</b>	<b>13,553.98</b>
65000 · Media Relations	
65064 · Outside Services	710.00
<b>Total 65000 · Media Relations</b>	<b>710.00</b>
66000 · Member Communications	
66100 · Magazine	
66146 · Miscellaneous	84.50
66164 · Outside Services	5,693.90
66168 · Postage	1,473.74
66169 · Printing	4,654.49
<b>Total 66100 · Magazine</b>	<b>11,906.63</b>
66200 · Website	
66254 · Outside Services	349.95
66200 · Website - Other	49.95
<b>Total 66200 · Website</b>	<b>399.90</b>
<b>Total 66000 · Member Communications</b>	<b>12,306.53</b>
67000 · Outreach	
67046 · Miscellaneous	75.00
67064 · Outside Services	75.00
<b>Total 67000 · Outreach</b>	<b>150.00</b>
68000 · Party Development	259.80
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>97,582.94</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-39,813.66</b>

4:42 PM  
09/13/07

**LPOC**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**January 1 through September 13, 2007**

	Jan 1 - Sep 13, 07
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Net Income	-30,613.65
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to net cash provided by operations:	
21101 - Accounts Payable	-5,551.00
21102 - WF Credit Card -2366	-245.86
21000 - Current Liabilities:21103 - Payroll Liabilities	-1,256.90
21000 - Current Liabilities:21109 - Accrued Liabilities	7,400.00
21600 - Deferred Membership Revenue:21601 - Curr Y...	14,884.79
21600 - Deferred Membership Revenue:21602 - Curr Y...	72.80
<b>Net cash provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>-15,212.72</b>
Net cash increase for period	-15,212.72
Cash at beginning of period	53,469.44
Cash at end of period	<b>38,256.72</b>

**INCOME STATEMENT**

**INCOME**

Dues	500	25	12,500
Subscription Fees	400	30	12,000
Monthly Donations	1,400	12	16,800
Other Mail List Rental, etc			5,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>			<b>46,300</b>

**VARIABLE EXPENSE**

Dues Split with Counties	60%	7,500
<b>TOTAL VARIABLE</b>		<b>7,500</b>
<b>GROSS REVENUE</b>		<b>38,800</b>

**EXPENSES**

California Freedom				
Editing	350	12	4,200	
Layout	750	12	9,000	
Printing	810	12	9,720	
Postage	270	12	3,240	26,160
Donor Perfect	285	12	+1,610	5,030
LPC Office				
Rent/Facilities	475	12	5,700	
Credit Card Misc	1,200	12	14,400	
Tel/Internet	235	12	2,820	
Payroll	4,250	6	25,500	
Payroll	3,440	6	20,640	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>			<b>100,250</b>	
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>			<b>(61,450)</b>	

- Cowles reported that he filed the Candidate Support papers with the State, which has to be done every six months.
- Cowles described needing to reconcile LPCA's bank deposits with DonorPerfect's records. Our donation records must match the bank's records so that we can be assured of allocating the correct funds to the counties, as well as to other purposes. Further, Starr had stated that the county dues splits cannot be disbursed until the reconciliation was completed.
- To complicate matters, Starr and Keaton had not migrated LPCA's recurring credit card transactions from NOVA to DonorPerfect. NOVA is the online service that LPCA uses to authorize and settle all credit card charges and automatic bank drafts. The results of these recurring transactions are manually input into DonorPerfect.
- The recurring transactions were supposed to be moved from NOVA to DonorPerfect in May, but even as late as July it had not yet been done. Cowles and Cain lost three weeks of time in August when Earthlink failed to provide DSL service, and that technical complication further delayed the reconciliation between the bank's records and DonorPerfect's records. Cowles was hand-writing checks to pay vendors during that time.
- When LPCA did get access to QuickBooks, it was through an online service provider, which proved to be very complicated and time consuming.
- On August 27, Cowles reconciled the bank statements and QuickBooks. DonorPerfect wasn't yet reconciled, but Cowles had enough information to run the Party's financials.
- Cowles projects that LPCA will lose \$61K 2007.
- LPCA is burning about \$4 - \$5K monthly, and so fundraising is critical for the Party's survival.
- Recurring donations of \$1 are costing us more in processing fees that the donation provides LPCA. Cowles wants to ask these donors to pledge \$10 a month instead of \$1 a month.
- Donors who are giving \$30 monthly might be persuaded to join the California Coffee Club and donate \$42 monthly instead.
- Cowles has put together notes for five members of the Executive Committee who are not yet California Coffee Club members, providing them stationery and a form letter and contact information for donor who might be persuaded
- McConnell noted that we're spending 2.5 X our revenue, and asked if this has always been the case? Cowles replied that he thinks it has, and that the Party has always relied on an outside process like Operation Breakthrough to cover the deficit. McConnell asked if Operation Breakthrough been successful enough to cover this deficit, and Cowles stated that he thinks that it was, having generated an extra \$50K a year.
- Brown pointed out we had more members previously, ergo we had more revenue. Cowles agreed, noting that LPCA no longer receives funds through UMP.
- Cowles noted that LPCA got only a 2% return on the membership renewal mailing that was done earlier (March).

- Dovner observed that only the first Operation Breakthrough made money, but the second one might not have. UMP spared us the expense of soliciting renewals. Did the 2% make or lose money? Cowles guessed probably not, and opined that in the future we'll need to solicit Life Members of the national Party, who have already paid \$2K, but whose donation has already been spent. We'll need to ask if they can support LPCA's local efforts
- Collier wishes to be added to list of names of people to contact, and wants 10 names a month. He was applauded for his dedication to expanding membership and fundraising.
- Chair Takenaga reported that Moulton had also increased his California Coffee Club contribution to two cups a month.
- Moulton observed that on the Income Statement, California Freedom cost us about \$26K annually, and that subscriptions are about \$12K and dues are about \$12K, which doesn't cover the cost of California Freedom. Should California Freedom pay for itself or is it a worthwhile loss leader? Cowles pointed out that the figures may not be accurate, but that there will be more reliable figures in about four weeks. Cowles expressed frustration at being in the same reporting situation as we were four months ago, but that Operation Breakthrough apparently overwhelmed the office staff in June.
- Moulton asked if we are trying to cut costs or to raise income, and Cowles replied that we're going to have to cut costs, because if we don't we'll be out of money by the end of the year. Moulton asked if Cowles has goals for either or both? Collier suggested that it's not the Treasurer's job to set such goals, but instead to reconcile the books. Moulton moved to suspend the rules to add an agenda item for budget/fundraising at the end of new business. Collier seconded. Johnson moved to amend for 20 a minute time limit, and Moulton seconded. Chair Takenaga called for discussion on the 20 minutes time limit. Barnes spoke against, because travel needs precluded his staying later than scheduled. The secondary motion failed due to insufficient support. The main motion passed without objection to add an agenda items about budget/fundraising.
- At noon, Chair Takenaga called for a recess for one hour, which passed with one objection.
- The meeting was reconvened at 13:25, with Southern Vice Chair Collier in charge of the meeting.

## *Representatives' Reports*

### Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County

My main activity has been to arrange a Libertarian Mini-Con in Monterey for Oct. 13. See flyer below.

Is Freedom Dead in America? Monterey Mini-Con, Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007

Have the Constitution and the Bill of Rights been gutted? Has government revoked the safeguards against illegal imprisonment (writ of habeas corpus and

due process), warrantless spying, denial of council, torture to extract confessions and secret prisons? And what about the unconstitutional war in Iraq that is draining the taxpayer's wallet?

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2007 Travelodge Hotel (Buzzards Restaurant Conf. Room)  
2030 North Fremont Blvd., Monterey 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM -- With BBQ dinner in Carmel Valley 6:00 PM

### *Speakers*

- Prof. David R. Henderson, research fellow with the Hoover Institute, author of *The Joy of Freedom*, senior economist with President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers from 1982 to 1984, and editor of *The Fortune Encyclopedia of Economics*. He writes frequently for the *Wall Street Journal* and teaches at the Naval Postgraduate School. Currently, he co-chairs Monterey County Libertarians for Peace. Title: "The Economics of War."
- Anthony Gregory, a research analyst at The Independent Institute, graduated from UC Berkeley in 2003. He is a policy advisor to the Future of Freedom Foundation, a guest editor for Strike the Root website and a columnist for LewRockwell.com. Title: Prospects for Peace and Liberty"
- Mark Carbonaro, a longtime radio broadcaster in the Monterey Bay Area, has worked for the past six years as a talk show host and program director for station KION 1460-AM in Salinas. Mark's morning program "Wake Up Monterey" is one of the few Libertarian-oriented programs in California, and he enjoys challenging both Democrats and Republicans with the "Freedom Philosophy". Title: "Talk Radio and the Fairness Doctrine."
- Eric Garris has been a political activist for more than 38 years. He is currently the webmaster for Antiwar.com and LewRockwell.com. Active in the Peace and Freedom Party in the 1970s, Garris was inspired by Dr. Murray Rothbard and helped found the "Radical Libertarian Caucus."

Sponsors: Libertarians for Peace (Monterey County), Sam Adams Forum, Libertarian Party of California, Libertarian Party of Monterey County, FreedomWatch. Info: [Lawsamz@hotmail.com](mailto:Lawsamz@hotmail.com) or [www.Freedom1776.com](http://www.Freedom1776.com) or 831-238-5058 (cell)

Price: \$15 for speeches and BBQ dinner. Make checks out to: Libertarians for Peace, P.O. Box 22231, Carmel, CA 93922.

Respectfully submitted September 11, 2007

Lawrence Samuels

### Mark Selzer, Second Alternate, Report on *The Libertarian Alternative*

I am again shooting the Libertarian Alternative. Recently I shot shows with Angela Keaton, Ted Brown and Dan Fernandes on "How Global Warming is Being Used To Grow Government", "The Economic Benefit of Immigration" as well as various shows on the obscenity of the Iraq war and other shows illustrating various Libertarian Positions with the above guests.

These are distributed now in 2 NEW states due to requests from Libertarians who have moved to other states and educational channel programmers requesting my show because they found it on Google video.

The show is still being shown in New York, and in most places in California. I am working on expanding my show into more counties in and into more states and possibly doing a version of my show in Spanish. I recently shot some shows at the ISIL Conference in Williamsburg and am planning to shoot some shows with Norm Westwell soon.

The shows are continually watched on Google video and I often receive e-mails from new fans of Libertarianism from those shows available online. I am currently looking for someone to work on the website for the show and place more shows onto YouTube and Google Video. If any of you know of anyone please let me know.

The shows are now sold through [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org) through [lp.stuff.org](http://lp.stuff.org), which handles the pamphlets and other things sold by the National Party.

Respectfully submitted September 6, 2007,

Mark Selzer

- Chair Takenaga spoke with Selzer a week ago, trying to get the billing process working for Libertarian Alternative.

#### Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County

- Acquired the Labels and Lists statewide voter tables, found 1.3M email addresses (incl. 3600 RegLibs)
- Outlined draft requirements for use of registered voters' email addresses by LPCA and its candidates
- Circulated a list of open seats in Santa Clara County, calling for candidates
- Offered county officers the RegLib contact info for any jurisdiction for which they want to recruit candidates
- Sent contact info of Sacramento County RegLibs to Art Tuma
- Sent contact info of 55th Assembly RegLibs to Herb Peters
- Created a table of 78K CA RegLibs for candidate recruitment coordinator Ted Brown
- Acquired a copy of the Phillies/Scott CD-ROM of resources for LP candidates
- Collected a toolbox of activist/candidate resources at <http://marketliberal.org/tools>
- Created a mirror in <http://marketliberal.org/LPCA> of Dan Wiener's archive of LPCA Convention and Executive Committee minutes (which go back as far as 1974)
- Acquired the archives of longtime LPCA activist Ernst Gherman, including audio tapes of the 1977 LPCA Convention
- Wrote an article for California Freedom analyzing data about whether an antiwar stance grows LP vote totals

- Attended a Los Altos Hills City Council meeting and opposed a proposal to further restrict property development rights
- Submitted an article to California Freedom about my 6-year-old opposing the LAH rule against lemonade stands
- Attended a Ron Paul Meetup in Los Altos and subsequent rally in Mountain View
- Joined the 18 largest California Ron Paul Meetup groups and have been archiving all email addresses of anyone posting to them
- Analyzed recent and current LPCA budgets, yielding 13 questions for the Audit Committee
- Investigated a donor complaint about Operation Breakthrough
- Investigated LPCA primary ballot requirements for George Phillies
- Considering expanding Ron Paul Meetup monitoring to major metropolitan communities outside California
- Cowles asked Holtz to publish article in CA F explaining how to obtain uncontested open seats in each county. Holtz agreed.
- Acknowledged what Chris Schmidt of San Mateo County has done as Ballot Argument and County Registrar watchdog.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County

## *Committee Reports*

### Media Relation Committee

Dan Minkoff, Chair, Media Relations Subcommittee

#### Accomplishments

- The LPC has now issued 121 editions of the Libertarian Perspectives, and continues to get regular media coverage for virtually every column. The LP has received coverage in the Los Angeles Business Journal, East Bay Business Times, Santa Monica Daily Press, The (Vacaville) Reporter, Contra Costa Times, The Sacramento Union, and Orange County Register, among other outlets.
- Issued one news release with a statement from the party chair about the inability of the California legislature to meet its Constitutional responsibility to pass a budget by June 30.

#### Plans

- I will continue to work the media database to add broadcast and Internet media to our Constant Contact distribution list.
- I intend to work closely with the Legislative Team to develop and distribute news releases.
- Recruit additional Libertarian Perspective writers.

- Recruit a backup/secondary media subcommittee member to assist with news releases and media outreach.

#### Recommendations

- I welcome news articles that illustrate government growth, taxpayer abuse, arrogant politicians, etc., and would present an opportunity to issue a news release/statement from the chair promoting libertarianism as a solution to society's political, social and economic problems.
- I should be notified as soon as possible if/when Libertarians announce their candidacy for a significant office so that we can announce it statewide.
- I should be notified if/when a Libertarian office holder proposes and/or succeeds in passing libertarian-oriented legislation so that it can be announced statewide.
- Executive Committee members should forward to the media chair candidates to contribute to the Libertarian Perspective.
- Cowles reported that Dan sent \$420 to Constant Contact on our behalf, it's been reimbursed, but it demonstrates his dedication to our purposes.
- Chair Takenaga pointed out that our news releases are being better disseminated due to Minkoff's efforts.

### LPCA 2008 Convention Planning Committee Report

Jesse Thomas, Committee Chair

The Planning Committee had its first meeting, and all positions local to San Diego are filled. This was a very successful and energetic meeting. These are the following positions that are filled:

- **Facilities:** food, on-site equipment, decorations: **James**
- **Program/Speakers:** exploring possible presenters and off-site activities: **Paul-Michael**
- **Presidential Candidates:** explore interest and availability: **Chris**
- **Publicity: Outreach/External Publicity:** press releases, marketing: **Pavel**
- **Publicity: Internal Publicity:** conference programme and other hand-out materials; artwork: **Anthony**
- **Treasurer:** budgeting of expenses and ticket prices; possible handling of a bank account (to be determined); all financial matters: **Jerry**
- **Secretary:** take and distribute minutes of committee meetings; other correspondence: **Donna**
- **Lodging/Local Transportation:** explore and arrange packages at nearby hotels; explore transportation between the airport and conference center and hotels: **Donna and James** (assisted by **David**)
- **On-site Assistance, Speaker Transportation:** **David**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the same location.

Respectfully submitted Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Jesse Thomas, Convention Committee Chair

- McConnell asked if Thomas has started scheduling speakers and events yet? Thomas replied that he sent a preliminary schedule out, but that it probably would not be accurate and would change. McConnell asked to keep that schedule in the forefront as the prime planning and controlling tool. Thomas reported that projections are based on 120 people, and the expenses work out to about \$7 for Friday and \$15 for all day Saturday.
- McConnell asked if Thomas had developed a timeline with milestones, and Thomas replied that he hadn't yet. McConnell encouraged him to do so, and Collier responded that that was a good topic for a Convention Committee meeting.
- Thomas asked if anyone knew of a volunteer to prepare the convention website. Cain suggested sending an appeal to the Executive Committee listserv to remind us of this need.
- McConnell reminded all that the model this year is that the committee is a function of the Party rather than as a private contractor, and so the Executive Committee will be particularly interested in financial reporting to ensure that the convention winds up in the black..
- Dovner asked if there is a domain name for convention website, and Thomas reported that he'd tested LPCConvention2008, which is available.

## Audit Committee Report

Jerry Dixon, Committee Chair

Allen Rice has resigned from the audit committee due to his frustration in lack of communication and cooperation from Mark Johnson.

The last communication that I received from Mark Johnson was on June 26, and I see no evidence that he is doing anything regarding the audit committee business.

I have spent hours trying to obtain an audit proposal from a professional auditor. I have found only one who would even consider it, and communication with him has been a struggle as well. His name is Marc C. Phelps, a CPA in El Segundo. I am trying to get a proposal from him before I go back to the drawing board searching for another auditor.

After discussion with Kevin, the intended plan now is that the audit will be for the 2007 calendar year, which could start as early as this December, but chances are will not start until next May or June.

According to CPA independence ethics, a member of the audit committee or of the executive committee cannot perform the audit. An uninvolved Libertarian Party member may perform the audit, and we hope to find one to do so at a considerably discounted rate. We will not know what the normal audit cost is until we receive a quote from an independent auditor.

Normally, the role of an Audit Committee is to:

1. Select an auditor
2. Assist the auditor
3. Be the intermediary between the auditor and the client (the LPC)
4. Review the audit with the auditor, gaining full understanding
5. Present the audit to the executive committee and answer questions

As far as I am personally concerned, this is the plan of the audit committee, of which I am chair, and I would not be interested in participating in a lesser audit plan.

Mark Johnson somewhat disagrees, preferring a much lower level audit, perhaps performed by non-auditors who are not even accountants and will work for free. I feel that such an audit report would be worth little more than we paid for it.

As soon as possible, an audit proposal will be presented to Kevin and the budget committee so that the audit fee can be added to the 2008 budget.

Respectfully submitted September 13, 2007

Jerry Dixon

#### Comments

- Cowles agreed that it's a waste of money to pay as much as \$5K for an audit of as little money as we have. Holtz agreed, and Moulton opined that we should not worry about 2006, but the by-laws state the need to report to the convention delegates in order to let them decide whether they wish to re-elect any of us.
- Holtz raised a point of information, and asked if it was true that every previous audit involved hiring an outside auditor. Brown explained that no, the past audits were usually former LPCA Treasurers who donated their service.
- Moulton stated that the key element is that the audit be independent, regardless of whether it was conducted by a paid investigator.
- Johnson opined that the ideal situation vs. reality is that we don't have the money to spend on an audit with an outside firm. We must trust the Treasurer to publish the state of our finances.
- Chair Takenaga reported that he gave Dixon access to our online account, but that Dixon hasn't used it.
- Newell asked that, if Dixon thinks an independent audit is necessary, and if the Executive Committee thinks otherwise, will we need to replace Dixon as the Audit Committee Chair. Cowles responded that according to the last paragraph of the report, yes.
- McConnell observed that his understanding is that the Treasurer keeps the books and the reports to the Executive Committee, and that the sole purpose of an audit is to determine if the Treasurer's report reflects reality, and so it should be sufficient for the Audit Committee to sit with the Treasurer and examine the books.
- Cowles interjected that he plans to bring QuickBooks to his accountant to ensure that LPCA's accounts are correctly set up.

- Barnes asked if there is a feeling to instruct the Audit Committee to proceed without a paid CPA. McConnell stated that he'd be amenable, and Holtz added that Cain had already done much of the audit work with the Special report, and that if we apply this kind of internal investigation, we can produce trustworthy financial reports, and it shouldn't involve checking the Treasurer's math or paying thousands of dollars for an outside agent.
- Moulton observed that an audit should be independent, it shouldn't be someone on the Board.
- Holtz asked if anyone has access to recent past audit report so we can design our own efforts. Chair Takenaga responded that the latest audit report is in the 2004-2005 convention minutes.
- Johnson observed that the potential \$66K negative cash flow and the uncertainty of our current books makes it s a waste of time to discuss audit.
- Holtz suggested crafting a motion to instruct the Audit Committee to bring clarity to the unverified financial information. Newell suggested avoiding the second half of Holtz's suggestion to avoid appearing to uncover impropriety.
- Moulton stated that a purpose of an audit is to inspire donor confidence.
- Chair Takenaga called for a motion.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to budget funds to the Audit Committee of \$50 to conduct the audit, which Moulton seconded.

*MOTION:* Thomas moved to nullify the Audit Committee, consider it as incomplete and not put it to use. The motion died without a second.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to allow Starchild to address the group.

*VOTE:* The motion to allow Starchild to address the group passed with one objection.

- Starchild stated that as a delegate to numerous conventions, he found audits have never been particularly helpful to evaluate work Executive Committee is doing, but instead pointed to Cain's special report as being more helpful in making such determinations, Holtz agreed, and suggested that the job of the audit would eventually be to stand on Cain's report and answer his thirteen questions that Holtz sent to the Executive Committee on July 17<sup>th</sup> regarding 2006 Actuals and 2007 Budget, and maybe agreeing online about what questions the Audit Committee should extend the information in Cain's report.
- Johnson raised a point of order that there is a motion on the floor and the discussion has not been germane to the motion. The point was well taken, and Chair Takenaga asked Cain to repeat the motion. Cain repeated Barnes' motion to budget \$50 to the Audit Committee.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved to amend after \$50 with "...for incidental expenses and instruct the Audit Committee to obtain the services of a volunteer auditor with reasonable qualifications to report on the suitability of the Treasurer's report." Moulton seconded.

- Chair Takenaga stated that Dixon will probably disagree and resign. McConnell said this will leave Chair Takenaga responsible for appointing a replacement. Chair Takenaga reminded that since the Audit Committee is appointed by the Executive Committee, that committee chooses their own Chair.
- Barnes raised a point of info asking if there is anybody beside Dixon and Mark on the Audit Committee, which Mark confirmed there is not.
- McMahon raised a point of information, asking if Dixon resigns, can Johnson offer a recommendation for replacement, which Chair Takenaga affirmed.
- Newell asked if we can also replace Allen Rice right now, and Collier added that we should be able to add any number of people at this time.

*MOTION:* Newell called the question to amend the main motion.

*VOTE:* The motion to amend the main motion to budget \$50 for the Audit Committee passed without objection.

- Barnes asked if there is anybody who feels \$50 is appropriate, but McConnell added that he saw no reason to choose any other number.

*VOTE:* The motion to budget \$50 for incidental expenses and instruct the Audit Committee to obtain the services of a volunteer auditor with reasonable qualifications to report on the suitability of the Treasurer's report passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Cowles to add a budget item of \$50 for the Audit Committee to obtain the services of a volunteer auditor with reasonable qualifications to report on the suitability of the Treasurer's report.

*MOTION:* Newell moved to suspend the rules to replace Rice, which Moulton seconded.

- Barnes asked if anybody had anyone in mind for the position, but no one did.

*VOTE:* The motion to suspend the rules to replace Rice on the Audit Committee passed with two objections.

- Johnson asked, as the sole member of the Audit Committee, that the Executive Committee not assign anyone else to the committee who does not specifically want to be on the Audit Committee.
- Moulton again stressed that a key point is that this audit should be independent, and asked if a member of the gallery would be willing to be considered. There were no takers.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to open discussion to the gallery, which Dovner seconded

*VOTE:* The motion to open discussion to the gallery passed with no objection.

- Brian Darby stated that the main purpose of an audit isn't to determine what bad things happened in the past, but to ensure that bad things won't happen in

the future, and to describe the processes and controls that ensure that, which is what inspires confidence in the Treasurer's report.

**MOTION:** Dovner moved to appoint Darby to the Audit Committee to replace Allen Rice, which Moulton seconded.

- McConnell asked Darby if he would accept the nomination, and Darby accepted.

**MOTION:** Collier moved to close nominations, which Barnes seconded.

- McMahon suggested that we should probably just appoint Darby to the Audit Committee.

**VOTE:** The motion to appoint Brian Darby to the Audit Committee to replace Allen Rice passed without objection.

### Secretary's Special Report on the State of the LPCA Office

This report describes the situation I found when I began working in the LPCA office in Panorama City on August 5, 2007, and some executive actions I took to cut costs immediately, and some questions about the value of maintaining the current office situation.

#### Background

Former Executive Director Angela Keaton's departure from office, along with Office Manager Ali Martin's sudden resignation, left the LPCA without an employee to cover staff duties in our office. Chair Kevin Chair Takenaga asked me to spend some time in Los Angeles to cover those duties, and also to assess the operation and recommend courses of action.

I arrived at the office Sunday morning, August 5th, at around 10:30. Treasurer Don Cowles was there, and he gave me a set of keys for the office, and a brief tour of the facility. The office is located inside a two-story atrium office complex close to the intersection of Van Nuys Blvd. and Roscoe Blvd. in Panorama City.

#### The Facility

The office is approximately 10' x 23', divided into a 10' x 13' front room and a 10' x 10' back room. Each room is dominated by a large corner-style desk and various file cabinets and utility shelves, with the back room containing a 4-piece office suite (corner desk, 2-drawer rolling file cabinet, printer cabinet, and a 5-shelf book case). There are four steel filing cabinets, a steel two-door supply cabinet, three large heavy-duty utility shelves, a small 1-person student desk, 3 rolling, swiveling office chairs, three stacking, cushioned office chairs, and assorted smaller utilitarian furnishings.

Although the space is nicely designed, and enjoys the surprising luxury of having two large picture windows as its front wall overlooking the atrium (which hosts a

large, shady magnolia tree), and although it offers unimaginably generous off-street parking, its value to the LPCA is questionable.

In effect, the space is excessively nice storage for unnecessary physical assets and some important archives. Inexpensive though this office is, its essential function can be replaced by a 10' x 10' storage room, if all the communication services were moved online.

### The Services

During my first week in the office (August 5<sup>th</sup> – 12th), I experienced very little traffic through the office, both in terms of foot-traffic, telephone calls, and mail. The only faxes I received were advertisements from travel agents and investment brokers, which I terminated.

I questioned the need to have two telephones in the front office and one in the back office, but didn't do anything about it until the telephone bill arrived. I discerned that there we were paying for the following:

- 818-782-8400 main number
- 818-756-1397 first rollover line
- 818-756-1398 second rollover line
- 818-782-8488 fax line
- Centrex, a collection of services that included voice mail, call forwarding, and the two rollover lines

Essentially, LPCA was paying more than \$100 a month for basic business telephony services, not including our toll-free line and per-call charges and other charges.

As well, LPCA was paying about \$16 a month for an online messaging service called uReach.com. Although it's a good service and a competitive alternative to AT&T's costly Centrex suite of services, it unnecessarily duplicated the Centrex services that we were already paying for.

Additionally, our DSL service was through Earthlink, and cost \$49.95 a month. Further, on Monday, August 6th, the service stopped working, and Earthlink eventually proved to be completely unhelpful in resolving the problem.

Finally, the office was paying at least \$16 monthly for delivery of three 3-gallon water jugs for the cooling dispenser in the back office.

### First Round of Cost Cuts

I made the following executive decisions for the respective cost savings:

- Terminated the two rollover lines (\$44 monthly, base)
- Replaced Centrex with AT&T's call waiting, call forwarding, and voice mail (\$22 monthly, base)
- Terminated uReach (\$16 monthly)
- Replaced Earthlink with Sonic.net (\$20 monthly)
- Terminated water delivery service (\$16 monthly)

These terminations had no adverse effect on office operations, with the exception of terminating Earthlink, which despite being paid for the month of August, was very uncooperative in helping resolve the mystery of why our dedicated DSL data line wouldn't work. That's a separate report for another time.

Bottom line, my first month in the office I made changes that save LPCA a base of \$118 monthly. Because AT&T's costs have other charges associated with the two rollover lines and Centrex, that figure would fluctuates upward on a month-by-month usage basis.

#### Further Questionable Expenses

##### *Pitney-Bowes Lease*

The next questionable ongoing expense is the 39-month lease on a Pitney-Bowes automated postage printing meter. The lease costs approximately \$140 per quarter (about \$46.66 monthly, excluding postage). I've attempted to terminate the lease, but instead Pitney-Bowes lowered the cost to \$101 quarterly (\$33.66 monthly, excluding postage).

We're now obligated to pay approximately \$808 for the remaining two years of the lease. That's more than \$400 a year in service fees for an automated postage meter.

Compounding the questionable judgment of entering into this lease is the discovery of a bag of postage stamps in the office, as follows:

19 unopened rolls of 100 37¢ stamps = \$703.00 in postage stamps

If we can get another business to assume the lease on the Pitney Bowes meter, we'll save at least \$400 in service charges for each of the next two years.

##### *Office Space*

Because of the paucity of foot-traffic in the office, I question the value of maintaining a physical address for our operations. During my first month here, Treasurer Don Cowles has visited about twice a week to pick up bills and review operation problems with me, the U.S.P.S. delivery person visits once a day, the property owner has visited twice (once to change the locks at my request), Angela Keaton and Aaron Starr together visited only once on my first day here and have not returned, a rep from Sundance Press made one sales call, two workmen from AT&T made inspection and repair visits, the water delivery service person came once to retrieve the water cooler after I terminated that service, Chair Kevin Chair Takenaga visited once to prepare for the current Executive Committee meeting, and Los Angeles County Representative Bruce Dovner visited once to gather information for his Membership Committee report.

San Bernardino County Representative Michael McMahon has graciously offered to volunteer to work in the office, but I've found no tasks for him to undertake, even on a one-time-only basis.

Since I terminated the sales faxes from six travel agents and two investment agents, the only faxes I've received have been two from Pitney-Bowes and one from Sonic.net, plus Treasurer Don Cowles' report for this agenda.

Telephone calls rarely total more than a dozen a day, even on those days when I receive multiple calls from Chair Takenaga.

Incoming mail hasn't yet exceeded two-dozen meaningful items in any week that I've been here.

### Conclusion

The LPCA office is a more costly operation than its benefits warrant. Essentially, it has cost the LPCA about \$40,000 annually for our former Executive Directors' remuneration, plus a base of approximately \$5,100 annually for such expenses as rent, four telephone lines plus a toll-free number, Internet access, Web-enabled voice mail and call forwarding, a highly-automated, remotely rechargeable postage meter, and a drinking water delivery service.

I question the need for these expenses, although not the need for some of these types of services. I'm aware of other vendors who can facilitate any effort that supports communication and record-keeping among LPCA's elected officers, its volunteers, and between them and our supporters and the general public. As well, Treasurer Don Cowles and I are researching services that can efficiently and cost-effectively manage the Party's bookkeeping, accounting, membership record management, fund raising campaigns, and special events planning and execution.

### Some Recommendations

I believe the LPCA should examine the potential value of replacing its current physical office operation with some well-established and forward-looking service options.

- Storage room for archives
- U.S. Post Office mail box
- NetPost Corporate Debit Account for large mailings
- Any of several VoIP-related telephone services
- Web-enabled fax service
- QuickBooks installed version, with maybe three licenses (Treasurer, Secretary, Audit Committee)

Conceivably, the only equipment the LPCA needs to keep will be the shelves for storing the archives, one complete computer set-up (CPU, keyboard, mouse, monitor, DSL modem, laser scanner-printer, color inkjet scanner-printer, high-capacity external storage, power backup, and all associated cables). Additional equipment for the most parsimonious of services will be a reliable paper shredder and the occasional purchase of storage boxes for our archives.

Supplies to support these services and equipment include printer and copier paper, inkjet cartridges (at about \$15 apiece), an occasional laser toner cartridge

purchased at a 50% discount, occasional upgrades for essential software, and electricity to run the equipment.

Respectfully submitted September 13, 2007

Beau Cain, Secretary

#### Comments

- Cain summarized his report by asking the Executive Committee to consider not what to do with the office, but rather to consider what operational support the Party needs, and then decide whether an office will support it.
- Samuels suggested that if someone donated an office we might get more volunteers and other traffic. Cain appreciated the possibility, but suggested that this was like putting the cart before the horse by trying to determine what to do with office space, rather than to determine what we need to do, and then deciding whether we needed office space to do it.
- Barnes stated that he would like the office to be more centrally located in the Los Angeles metropolis.
- Dovner remembered that years ago under the Hinkle administration we got the office because it would make us look like a bigger organization and give us credibility with the media. Dovner argued at that time that credibility should come first. How often has the press or anyone visited? The party used to have office in L.A. County, which actually did work there, but we've probably not produced anything using volunteers at current office.
- Dovner also recalled that former Executive Director used the office to produce many press releases, and that we did get some media exposure from them, but that LPCA is getting better media attention from *The Libertarian Perspective*.
- Holtz agreed with Cain's observation, need to see what needs are and then determine what to do about them. Holtz suggested closing the office and moving its operations to wherever Cain lives and works.
- Moulton stated that he has observed how state parties conduct business. States do things wildly differently. Some states have an office with no employees, some have an employee with no office, and other arrangements. What would be best for California would be employee without office.
- McConnell pointed that the elephant in the room is the Treasurer's report showing an impending \$60K deficit. Step one should be to cut the office and Executive Director expenses, then reassess LPCA's needs. If the LPCA can overcome its deficit with increased revenues, that would be great, otherwise we need to live with the current situation.
- Barnes asked Beau what his feelings are about getting rid of the office and the salary of the Executive Director. Cain responded that he's changing careers into Association Management, and approached the situation in the LPCA office with the thought that it might be a good career move. However, it's clear to Cain that the LPCA can't afford the expense. Nevertheless, it's vitally important for the LPCA that the processes in the office are documented so that others can perform them without his involvement. Cain further stated that LPCA should curtail the Executive Director's salary, but needs someone to

perform office duties. After apologizing for saying what he was going to say because he wasn't involved with the Party when the decision was made, Cain characterized the decision to open the office as spending money on image, something that the LPCA can't afford.

- Moulton stated that having an office and having employees are entirely separable. The Executive Director should fundraise their own salary and then some. If we have an employee, that employee needs to fundraise their own salary. The office needs to make a transition, but we still need an employee raising funds for the party.
- Chair Takenaga stated that if we closed down the office tomorrow, there would be huge transition costs. Instead, Chair Takenaga wants to attempt at least a couple of membership renewal mailings to see if there's a potential for the office to be a good base of operations for fundraising.
- Brown observed that we do need someone to handle administrative functions, but a person who fund raises isn't likely to be good admin, and vice-versa.
- Cain spoke to Moulton's idea needing to make a transition, suggesting that the office could be safely closed in about two months, moving all services except archiving our existing documents. Cain mentioned the extraordinary waste of expensive stationery the Party would suffer by relocating, and recommended using a service such as NetPost to handle LPCA's written correspondence needs.
- Dovner noted that in the conclusion on page 21, LPCA expenses outweigh benefits. If we need to keep office open temporarily, we can better afford that than the Executive Director's salary.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking if we offer a bounty structure for the Executive Director's membership-raising efforts. Cowles stated that Executive Director Keaton got 10% of what she raised.
- Newell stated that he wasn't worried about old addresses on LPCA stationery because USPS will forward our mail. For a membership renewal mailing, we don't need an Executive Director, but we clearly need an Office Manager to do membership mailings and such.
- Chair Takenaga announced that he had already instructed Cain to have a volunteer membership renewal mailing at the office on October 6.
- Dovner commented on the presence of over \$700 worth of 37-cent stamps and suggested that Cain should buy a lot of make-up stamps to use them. Cain responded that he didn't want to buy all that many make-up stamps right away because the price of stamps could go up again before we could use all the make-up stamps. However, Cain already planned to use the stamps for the membership renewal mailings.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved to accept Cain's report, which McMahon seconded.

- Johnson raised a point of order asking if the motion was valid, to which Chair Takenaga replied that the report is already accepted. Dovner raised a point of information, asking what does that mean, "...to accept a report"? Collier ruled the motion out of order as unnecessary.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to instruct Cain to develop a plan to close the office and determine LPCA's staffing needs, which Barnes seconded.

- Takenaga spoke against the motion because he and Cain were already engaged in an experiment to see if membership renewal mailings will prove the value of keeping the office open. Holtz withdrew his motion happily, but there was dispute as to whether the motion could be recalled once it's on the floor. Johnson noted that a motion is no longer the property of the maker, but the property of the floor, but Holtz said that the maker and the seconder together could withdraw the motion.

*MOTION:* Barnes called the question.

*VOTE:* The motion to instruct Cain to develop a plan to close the office and determine LPCA's staffing needs passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Cain to develop a plan to close the office and determine LPCA's staffing needs.

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## Old Business

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- Collier returned the gavel to Chair Takenaga.

*MOTION:* Dovner moved to add three minutes to the Membership Committee report, which Newell seconded, and the time was added by fiat.

- Dovner provided copies of his Membership Committee Report
- Dovner summarized a list of issues that the Membership Committee is working with, such as basic infrastructure, do we have the capability to do a membership renewal mailing, how often should we renew memberships, yearly, quarterly, monthly, how often should dues be distributed to counties, how much should counties keep in their bank accounts, can we do online membership signup, can we offer database access to counties? Dovner observed that Cain demonstrated that LPCA can do many different kinds of reports and mailings using DonorPerfect.
- Additionally, Dovner reported that Cain told him that LPCA bought the module to create and support an online point-of-sale form, but that it would take time to develop and test and implement. Bill Todd of Orange County is also working on an online membership access application.
- Dovner reported that LPCA can't afford to pay for California Freedom with the present dues structure. He said that because of the production costs of California Freedom, he would propose raising dues.

*MOTION:* Cowles moved to extend time for the Membership Committee report, which Cain amended for 10 minutes, and which McConnell seconded.

*MOTION:* The motion to extend time for the Membership Committee report by 10 minutes passed without objection.

- Collier asked if there is a problem with new members signing up online because there's no signature for the pledge. Dovner reported that all it needs is a checkbox.

- Collier said that he heard that getting a member's first year membership easily, but it's the second year renewal that's harder to get than first year, and asked Cain can DonorPerfect can get info about them, to which Cain replied yes.
- Cowles reported that he and Keaton had lunch with LPCA's website manager Robert Obreczarek, and showed him the ACLU donor pages. Chair Takenaga informed everyone that Obreczarek is a volunteer who's been doing another project and hasn't had a lot of time to devote developing the LPCA website.
- Cowles observed that rolling membership had not been implemented because it was too onerous on the clerical staff and was unworkable. Dovner stated that he believed that we have the ability to query the membership database and issue renewal notices, adding that he hasn't known any previous Executive Director or administrator who knows how to use the database software as well as Cain.
- Samuels asked if we get online membership transaction, will it combine with pledges or will it be only for one-time payments? Dovner was almost sure that it could be done. Cain asked to speak to that matter, stating that although he hadn't attempted to implement an online point-of-sale page yet, he believed that LPCA would be able to offer donors many kinds of choices to donate.
- Moulton suggested that PayPal can set up online payment quickly, so why not set up a PayPal form for online payments?
- Collier asked if the Membership Committee discussed having a monthly fee for membership instead of just an annual membership fee. Dovner responded that no, the committee hadn't. If we're going to maintain credit card information, we'd need to encrypt the information. Barnes observed that our credit card authorization and settlement service should do that for us.
- Chair Takenaga asked the Membership Committee to leave this to his discretion as we stabilize the office's processes.
- Dovner asked the Executive Committee to avoid making motions about how this should be done. Barnes spoke to that matter by saying that the Executive Committee has in the past only wanted it done, and wasn't attempting to say how it should happen.

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## **New Business**

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### *Election 2008*

Chair Takenaga described the following items.

- Develop the Party Statement for the Sample Ballot as part of our status as an official political party in the State of California. We're allowed to put in up to 200 words in the sample ballot statement for next year's election.
- Deadline for submission of the Party Ballot Statement was yesterday, but the kind folks in the Secretary of State's office allowed us to file on Monday. We are expected to submit a list of presidential candidates the LP wishes to nominate for next year's race. Takeanaga has the list of candidates that the LP will endorse, and opened the floor as to what to do about it.
- The list of Presidential Candidates for the Primary Ballot

Jon Banks, GA, newly announced, has not filed

John Finan, NY, has not filed

Barry Hess, AZ, has not filed

Dave Hollist, CA

Daniel Imperato, FL

Bob Jackson, MI

Mike Jingoian, OR

Steve Kubby, CA

Alden Link, NY

Robert Milnes, NJ, has not filed

George Phillies, MA

Wayne Allyn Root, NV, has not filed

Christine Smith, CO

Discussion:

- Moulton asked Chair Takenaga if by sending this list of names we are warranting anything to the State. Chair Takenaga replied that we're only giving them our input. The Secretary of State reviews FEC filings, and then publishes their refined list. Moulton then suggested submitting entire list.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to accept Moulton's suggestion to submit the list to the Secretary of State as written, which Brown seconded.

- McConnell asked when the list had to be submitted to the Secretary of State, and Chair Takenaga repeated that the deadline is Monday.
- Moulton raised a point of information, asking if the Secretary of State can remove names of those who haven't filed with FEC, for instance Banks and Hess. Cain responded that he didn't know what the Secretary of State's criteria is for publishing the list.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved the previous question.

- Moulton raised a point of information, asking if the Secretary of State can remove people from the list or remove candidates who have not yet filed with the FEC, to which Brown replied "No, but they can add some people we don't even know about."
- Moulton suggested that we should be aware of the candidates who have not filed with the FEC. Moulton then named five candidates who had not yet filed with the FEC: Banks, Finan, Hess, Milnes, Root.
- Barnes raised a point of information asking how that affects us. Moulton replied that he doesn't know if it does, but questions whether we wish to submit only those candidates who've filed with the FEC, or if we wish to submit the whole list. Moulton suggested sending the whole list.
- McConnell observed that candidates are ultimately responsible for filing if they choose to run.

*MOTION:* McConnell iterated moving the previous question, and Chair Takenaga acknowledged that the previous question was moved.

- Barnes addressed the chairman asking the Secretary if Moulton's comments about the candidates had been recorded. With the Chair's permission, Cain responded that he would get the completed list from Moulton. Barnes then asked also whether his question regarding how the status of the candidates' FEC filings would affect us was recorded, and Cain responded that it would be in the minutes.

*VOTE:* The motion to submit the entire list shown above to the Secretary of State passed without objection.

## *Candidate Recruitment*

Time: 15:15

Ted Brown, Chair, Candidate Recruitment Committee

- The Presidential Primary is February 5, 2008, and the primary for other offices is June 3, 2008.
- The deadline to take out papers is December 7, 2007, and March 9 2008 will be the ultimate deadline for everything.
- People need to be registered Libertarians in order to run, and so people cannot register Republican for a couple of weeks to vote for Ron Paul [in the Republican Party primary] and then register back. One needs to be registered Libertarian for a year before filing, unless they were registered "No Party", in which case they need to register Libertarian by December 28, 2007 and not change.
- Collier asked if someone is going to sign a petition in lieu of filing fee they also have to be registered. Brown replied yes, they have to be registered Libertarian to sign our petitions, but given that the presidential primary is in February, and the other filing ultimate deadline is later, someone could theoretically re-register the day after voting for Ron Paul in the Republican Primary and still be able to sign our candidates' petitions, however they'd never tell us, and so it will be necessary for us to ask them specifically in order to avoid invalidations.
- Answering the question if one needs to register the day before they sign a petition, Brown answered no, the registration form can be attached to the petition, but they have to sign up as a Libertarian so they won't be keyed in by the Elections Department mistakenly as a Republican.
- Moulton asked if people who vote for Ron Paul in the Republican Primary can be our candidates, to which Brown replied "No." Moulton pointed out that some states are doing something about this, such as Texas, whose Chair sent a letter to all Party members encouraging members not to vote in the Republican primary. Moulton doesn't recommend anything that drastic, but instead suggest sending letters to our candidates who ran in the previous two elections to inform them of this fact. He volunteered to provide a copy of the Texas letter to Brown if Brown wished to send a similar letter to recent California's candidates.
- Brown stated that he will call people who will run, and will get a list of our newest members from Cain, plus Kevin will check about getting the latest list of

members from the national LP. Holtz has list of the list of registered Libertarians, and Brown has crossed-checked them to make sure that they're eligible to run. He's also compiled a history of members who've said they don't want to run or might run in the future.

**ACTION:** Brown to get list of people who will run from Cain, plus the latest list of members of the LP.

- Holtz suggested, regarding registering at the time that one gets a signature, the smart thing to do is to get the signature and then ask them if they're a registered Libertarian, stating that the signature doesn't count unless they're a registered Libertarian, whereupon one can encourage them to register. However, these limitations are all printed and available with the petitions, so potential signers will be forewarned.
- Brown reported getting some guidance from Chair Takenaga about recruiting younger candidates. He hopes to do that, and hopes that we have younger candidates to choose from. We've got more older and retired members who have time to collect signatures, but younger members tend to be involved in getting their careers started or getting their families started. College students tend to be preoccupied with their studies.
- Brown does want to promote candidacy and asks if the e-mail list with six thousand e-mail addresses is available. Newell replied that it can be available, and we can decide if that's how we wish to use the list.
- McConnell asked about someone who signs petition in January, then re-registers Republican. Brown reported that the person would have to re-register Libertarian again. The voter can fill out two registration forms, the one registering them as Republican dated before the Republican primary, and the one registering them as Libertarian dated February 6. McConnell then questioned if they signed the petition thinking that they registered Libertarian, and then subsequently registered Republican, they invalidate their Libertarian Party registration.
- Collier cited the continuing good work that Brown does in identifying candidates, which won a round of applause from the Executive Committee. Collier then asked if there has been any consideration for recruiting not just candidates but managers and such. Brown said that now and again someone asks to do so. He acknowledged that this is a weak point the Party's efforts to get people onto the ballot.
- Moulton asked if Brown is willing to ask recruits to help with a Libertarian's campaign for office if the recruit isn't willing to run for office, to which Brown replied yes, and also stated that he's found activists through canvassing, citing Casey Aplanalp in Butte County, Bonnie Flickinger, a Councilwoman in Riverside County, and David McCann on the Water Board in Sacramento County. Barnes mentioned the possibility for "upselling" volunteers once they're enlisted to help.
- Chair Takenaga asked that we not call interested volunteers and then leave them without follow-up. Brown noted that reliable follow-up usually works, but that in the past some counties were uninterested in assisting local candidates for public

office. Chair Takenaga offered the opinion that the current county officers will be interested.

- Collier asked if Brown is recruiting for all partisan offices, to which Brown said yes, Congressional races and State Assembly, 153 possible offices.
- Moulton asked if Brown is recruiting for local offices, to which Brown replied no, but that he will do that later as individuals notify him of their interest.
- Collier asked if Brown would categorize his effort as the Candidate Recruitment Committee, to which Brown replied that one could call it that except that there's really no committee, adding that he can use all the help he can get.

### ***Report by Matthew Barnes regarding Canvassing Elected Officials***

Barnes distributed printed copies of his two-page report.

The elected officials liaison was created to contact the elected officials in California, to learn how we can help each other. Barnes has called about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the list that Chair Takenaga gave him, which was compiled from Operation Breakthrough data. Some people on the list included names such as George W. Bush in Ventura County, and so the list wasn't 100% productive. Barnes is still designing the approach. Three phases: what candidates would like to get from us, what we'd like to get from them, to network the candidates with each other and then with supporters in the Party, and then to foster a sense of community among these elected officials and candidates for public office.

Most elected officials are older and retired, but there are some notable exceptions, such as Frank Manske. Despite a range of personalities, most expressed an interest in developing a supportive network. Barnes is open to ideas about what else he might attempt.

- Dovner noted that the ideas expressed in the last paragraph of the report, providing connections for candidates, is good idea.
- Dovner suggested that we might consider hiring consultants to help these candidates approach their efforts to attain higher office. Barnes asked for any information that anyone has about that. He also noted that most of the candidates aren't readily aware of what the Party can do for them, that they are very much self-motivated people who have done a lot of their campaign work themselves.
- Chair Takenaga commended Barnes for his excellent progress on this project, which prompted applause from the assembly.

### ***Resolution: September 15 Peace Agenda***

Lawrence Samuels, Chair, Monterey County Libertarian Party

Sept. 15, 2007

Peace Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED that in an effort to become more publicly involved in the movement to end the war in Iraq, the Libertarian Party of California lends its official support and cooperation to facilitate the statewide peace protest scheduled for Oct. 27, 2007, which is being spearheaded by ANSWER Coalition.

Sponsored by Lawrence Samuels

NOTE: The A.N.S.W.E.R. Coalition (Act Now to Stop War & End Racism) formed on September 14, 2001. It is a coalition of hundreds of organizations and prominent individuals and scores of organizing centers in cities and towns across the country. Its national steering committee represents major national organizations that have campaigned against U.S. intervention in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia, and organizations that have campaigned for civil rights and for social and economic justice for working and poor people inside the United States.

ANSWER Coalition is a leftwing organization, but the LP has worked with such groups before, such as the ACLU on human and civil rights abuses.

### Comments:

- Brown asked if ANSWER will be interested in having a speaker from our organization, to which Samuels replied that there may be several opportunities, and would ask.
- Dovner asked if the LPCA itself should become a member of ANSWER, to which Samuels responded that he doesn't know, and asked what the Executive Committee would decide. Dovner expressed the opinion that ANSWER may not be a desirable organization for a formal coalition with LPCA.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to allow Starchild to address the group.

*VOTE:* The motion to allow Starchild to address the group passed without objection.

- Starchild offered a point of info that LPSF voted to be part of the protest, noting that they were promised to be listed on the protest's website, and conjecturing that the state Party may be listed on ANSWER website if we support the protest. ANSWER may be one of larger coalition producing this action.
- Barnes raised a point of information asking what kind of "fleas" are we looking at in the ANSWER coalition. Someone mentioned that they included the Workers' World Party, Dovner described them as "hard left," not "soft left." Barnes expressed his personal distress at wanting the LPCA to support a protest for peace, but wanted also to avoid associating the LPCA with a Communist recruitment organization. Samuels suggested re-writing the resolution to support only the event, not ANSWER. Starchild added that they're likely going to keep the rally focused on the war rather than publicly espousing political philosophy.
- Samuels suggested revising the proposal to remove the word "spearhead" and make a full stop after "2007".

*MOTION:* Samuels moved to adopt the resolution as amended, removing the word "spearhead" and imposing a full stop after "2007," which Brown seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to adopt the resolution as amended passed with one objection and three abstentions.

## *Executive Committee E-mail Addresses on the Party Website*

*MOTION:* Moulton moved to add the e-mail addresses of all Executive Committee members on the Party's website, which Brown seconded.

- Moulton's argument was that people should be able to e-mail the members of the Executive Committee, in a way that prevents spambots from harvesting them.

*MOTION:* Moulton moved for division of the motion, one for e-mail addresses, and one for telephone numbers, which Brown seconded.

- Johnson spoke against the motion because there are already facilities on the website for contact, and so he don't see the need to add actual e-mail address.
- McConnell asked if the motion was for putting official ca.lp.org addresses, to which Moulton replied yes.
- Barnes asked Moulton what he saw as the advantages of putting e-mail addresses on the Party website. Moulton replied that visitors could send e-mails to more than one address at once rather than having to create separate messages to each Executive Committee member's address.
- Holtz opined that adding Executive Committee e-mail addresses to the Party website would be helpful and make Executive Committee members more responsive to members and the public.
- Newell noted that he didn't mind having his e-mail address on the Party website, but asked if it made sense for this group to force that on anyone who does object. Several suggested to make this optional.

*MOTION:* Johnson moved to amend the motion to say "all members who chose to do so".

*VOTE:* Brown moved to extend 5 minutes, Thomas seconded, and the motion to extend 5 minutes passed with one objection.

- McMahon offered an amendment to lump the Executive Committee members' contact information together, but Johnson didn't accept it, stating that it wasn't germane to the discussion.
- Moulton suggested that if one wishes to serve on this Executive Committee, one should be contactable by e-mail and phone, but that he was not going to vote against the motion because it will make the main motion easier to pass.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to hear Starchild, which Barnes seconded

*MOTION:* The motion to allow Starchild to address the group passed without objection.

- Starchild agreed with Moulton, noting that the previous Chair expected the Executive Committee to fundraise, but added that using Web forms isn't a good way to encourage communication from members.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved to call the previous question on the amendment.

*VOTE:* The motion to call the previous question on the amendment passed without objection.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to extend 5 minutes, which Samuels seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to extend passed without objection.

*MOTION:* Collier moved to amend by adding “and/or phone number” after the word “e-mail”. Brown seconded. The motion now read, “Moulton moved to put e-mail addresses and/or phone numbers of all Executive Committee members who choose to do so on the website.”

*MOTION:* McConnell moved the previous question. Chair Takenaga ask Cain to re-read the motion, and Cain asked Collier to repeat his amendment.

*VOTE:* The motion to amend passed without objection.

*MOTION:* McConnell called the previous question, but Barnes moved to amend the main motion. Barnes asked to change the motion to “Moulton moved to put e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and/or other contact information of all Executive Committee members who choose to do so on the website.”

*VOTE:* The motion called for division, resulting in 7 for and 4 against.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved the previous question on the main motion.

*MOTION:* Johnson moved to extend 2 minutes, seconded by Barnes.

*VOTE:* The motion to extend failed.

*VOTE:* The main motion passed with two objections and one abstention.

- Johnson complained that it is irresponsible to take twenty minutes to pass a motion that is completely not binding. If anyone wishes to add their e-mail address to the website, they can just contact the website manager as ask him to do it.
- Holtz refuted Johnson’s claim, noting that he’d asked the website manager to add his contact information to the Party’s website one or two meetings ago, but that it hasn’t happened yet.
- Chair Takenaga offered that the Party’s website manager is a volunteer who has limited time to maintain the site, and so someone with an interest should volunteer to assist him.
- Moulton volunteered to compile the Executive Committee members’ contact information for the Party’s website manager.

### *Vacancies on Libertarian National Committee*

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to add 5 minutes in New Business to fill vacancies on Libertarian National Committee seat, which Moulton seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion to add 5 minutes in New Business to fill vacancies passed without objection.

- Moulton explained that California, Oregon, Idaho, and Hawaii were in the LNC region and the agreement allows California to unilaterally fill or remove positions. Richard Burke resigned from the 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate position, leaving Aaron Starr and M Carling, with Scott Lieberman as 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate. Aaron is also the LNC Treasurer, giving him two positions, but only one vote, which is that of Treasurer. So we can do any of a few things, such as fill Aaron's representative vacancy, or move Scott Lieberman into the 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate position and elect another 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking who on LNC voted to end UMP. Moulton said that is was all on his website if anyone wished to check it.
- McConnell asked if we can remove Starr as representative with no harm to him, advance Scott to be the representative, and then fill both the 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate and 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate positions. Moulton replied yes, we can, or do any of several other rearrangements. Chair Takenaga referred to by-laws provision that says a 2/3rds majority of the eligible positions are required for the following, and the following list includes LNC representatives.

**MOTION:** Brown moved to replace Starr with Scott Lieberman as National Committee Representative, which Holtz seconded. Chair Takenaga noted that this will take 10 favorable votes to pass.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to divide the question.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to extend 10 minutes, which Holtz seconded

**VOTE:** The motion to extend 10 minutes failed.

**VOTE:** The motion to divide the question carried.

**VOTE:** The motion to remove Starr as LNC Regional Representative carried without objection.

**VOTE:** The motion to appoint Scott Lieberman as National Committee Representative failed.

**MOTION:** Moulton moved to extend 5 minutes, which carried.

- Moulton had dinner with Lieberman, who is comfortable with any position we appoint.
- Samuels observed that Lieberman is one who helped gut the Platform in Portland.
- Holtz stated that he got an e-mail from Lieberman that he has information on how to convince people to be anti-interventionist and so he can make that case better.
- Brown observed that the position to which we might elevate Lieberman is administrative rather than ideological. He doubts that Lieberman would have much additional clout if elevate to the representative.
- Moulton suggested that we should vote and move on.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to allow Starchild 30 seconds, which Dovner seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to allow Starchild to speak for 30 seconds carried.

- Starchild supported what Lawrence said, opining that people who hire staff and make decisions about what gets into LP news, either directly or indirectly, and get quoted and choose who gets to serve are influential.
- Holtz reported that Lieberman wrote in an e-mail that his message might contain the germ about how to convince both the internal peaceniks and conservatives that basic non-interventionism combined with overwhelming retaliatory military force is the best way to go, so he sounds at least middle-of-the-road. Thomas observed that the statement is contradictory.

*MOTION:* Moulton noted that Scott doesn't care what position he's in, and we have other positions to fill, so he called the question.

*VOTE:* The motion to call the question passed without objection.

*VOTE:* The motion to appoint Scott Lieberman as National Committee Representative failed due to obvious majority abstention.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to table discussion to e-mail, which McMahon seconded.

- Brown raised a point of information, asking if anyone has an interest in the tabled discussion.
- McConnell asked for clarification, asking if this situation leaves us with a vacancy for Representative, and Lieberman seated as 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate, which was answered affirmatively.
- Dovner raised a point of information, asking if this situation means that Scott Lieberman is effectively our representative until we fill the position.

*VOTE:* The motion to table the election of Representative and Alternates passed.

*ACTION:* All to discuss the selection of LP Representatives and Alternates.

### *Convention 2009*

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to table the discussion of Convention 2009, which Collier seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to table the discussion of Convention 2009 passed without objection.

### *Discussion of Expenses and Fundraising.*

- Moulton began the discussion by reminding the attendees that this room costs \$269, and that if each Executive Committee member paid \$20, we would cover the cost of the room. The Executive Committee members donated appropriately.
- Moulton continued by noting that some on the Executive Committee stepped up to become Coffee Club donors, and that membership dues should pay for the newsletter,

and pledges should pay for fixed costs, and project-based fund raising should pay for everything else. If we're experiencing shortfalls for operational revenues, we'd need to target monthly pledges as much as possible. He ended by encouraging everyone to join the California Coffee Club to the greatest extent that they could.

- Newell added that the next level of activism is at the county chairs, who he would like to see become members of the Coffee Club.
- Moulton mentioned that this was put on the agenda before Cain's report revealed much of the existing ongoing expenses. Much of our budgetary concerns have been addressed.
- Holtz referred to McConnell's observation that staff costs are above \$40K annually, and office costs are around \$5K annually, and although there has been some revelation that office costs could be reduced, he is eager to see newly projected staff costs.
- McMahan suggested that we may want to consider removing printed copies of California Freedom until we're out of the hole. Dovner noted that members have already paid for it, they're expecting it, and we're going to have to deliver it, Newell contradicted to a degree what McMahan suggested, stating instead that printing costs are less than the rest of the costs: Cowles quoted from the financials that printing California Freedom costs \$800 a month to print and \$300 a month to mail.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking how many copies of California Freedom are mailed monthly. Cain searched his files and reported that we mailed 1135 copies this month. Barnes observed that we're mailing more newsletters than we have active members and Life Members, and that perhaps we need to reduce the mailing list to only those people who are qualified to receive the newsletter.
- Moulton noted that other states produce their newsletter with volunteers, and that if California can do so, we'd save a lot of money.
- McMahan agreed with Bruce's point about our obligation to deliver newsletters, but he's only received one issue in three years.
- Dovner mentioned Cain's awareness of sloppy data in the LPCA database, which makes it necessary to change the data to remove non-members from mailing list.

*MOTION:* Johnson moved, because of the financial solvency of the LPC, to put a moratorium on producing California Freedom for the next four months. Instead proceed and distribute the California eFlyer. The motion died for lack of second.

- Cain said he imagines a process he can apply to cleaning up the newsletter mailing list, although it would be effort-intensive.
- Holtz noted that LPCA spends about \$9K annually for the layout for California Freedom, and asks what we spend on layout for California eFlyer.
- McConnell opined that the complexity of the matter mean that we're probably not going to be able to resolve it today, but when membership ended in 2006, perhaps that was when the problem began.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking Cain what it will take to pare the newsletter mailing list. Cain replied that it will take examining the 1,135 records to which the newsletter currently is being mailed.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved for Cain to alter the newsletter mailing list to more accurately reflect the records of who our members actually are. McMahon seconded.

- Barnes moved to direct Secretary Cain to reduce the newsletter mailing list to only active members and Life Members.
- Holtz expressed admiration and support for Cain's efforts and offered to contribute help as Cain needs.
- McConnell asked to hear a very clear statement from Beau whether this motion will cause him a lot of difficulty. Cain replied that he was going to do it anyway.

*MOTION:* McConnell moved the previous question.

*VOTE:* The motion to call the previous question passed with one objection.

- At this point, Representative Thomas left the meeting to catch his shuttle to the airport.

*VOTE:* The motion to charge Cain with altering the newsletter mailing list to more accurately reflect our actual membership passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Cain to revise the newsletter mailing list to more accurately reflect LPCA's actual active membership and Life Members.

*MOTION:* Newell moved to suspend the rules to allow Brian Miller to address the group regarding AB 43 pending in legislation and a generous donation he's willing to make in relation to it.

*VOTE:* The motion to allow Miller to speak about AB 1430 passed without objection.

- Miller asked that LPCA take a position in favor of AB 43, and direct the chair to write an open letter to Governor to support AB 43.
- Miller stated that if the LPCA supports this action, he will donate \$500.

*MOTION:* Newell moved that the LPCA support AB 43, seconded by Holtz.

*MOTION:* Dovner moved to amend the motion to send an official letter to the Governor for support of AB 43, said letter to be open to public, which was seconded by Samuels

*VOTE:* The motion to amend passed without objection.

- Chair Takenaga asked Cain to re-read the motion as amended.

*MOTION:* Newell moved that the LPCA will take a position in favor of AB 43 and will direct the Chair to write an open letter to the Governor in support of that bill.

*VOTE:* The motion to support AB 43 passed without objection.

- ACTION:* Chair Chair Takenaga to write a letter to the Governor stating LPCA's support for the Marriage Equality Bill AB 43, and encouraging him to sign the bill into law.
- McConnell suggested the letter to Governor should state that we ask him to sign AB 43.
- MOTION:* Barnes moved to suspend the rules to discuss for five minutes offering a bounty for members who bring in funds, which was seconded by Holtz.
- VOTE:* The motion to suspend the rules to discuss offering a bounty for members who bring in funds failed.
- McConnell moved to adjourn, except that the group had not yet chosen a date for the next meeting.
- MOTION:* Brown moved to meet Saturday, December 15 in L.A., and invited everyone to a party at his house afterward, which McConnell seconded.
- Chair Takenaga asked if we can we have a day and a half meeting to include a budget discussion. Johnson recommended holding the meeting right after New Year.
- MOTION:* Barnes moved to amend to first Saturday in 2008, January 5<sup>th</sup>, which McMahan seconded.
- Collier argued against meeting early in January because of the great amount of business that the Executive Committee needed to address before the New Year.
  - Representative Brown left the meeting to catch his flight home.
- VOTE:* The motion to amend to meet the first Saturday in 2008 passed.
- MOTION:* Newell move to change date to December 1, which was overruled.
- MOTION:* Barnes moved to suspend rules to discuss the dates for the next meeting.
- MOTION:* Johnson moved to table setting date to e-mail discussion, which Dovner seconded.
- VOTE:* The motion to table the discussion of the next meeting date passed without objection.
- ACTION:* All to discuss setting the date for the next Executive Committee meeting through e-mail.
- MOTION:* McConnell moved to adjourn, which McMahan seconded.
- VOTE:* The motion to adjourn passed without objection.

Respectfully submitted November 25, 2007,

Beau Cain, Secretary  
Libertarian Party of California

## Action Items

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### *Secretary (Cain)*

- Prepare Summary Minutes for Executive Committee review and for County Officers by Saturday, September 22, 2007, and for publication by October 15, 2007.
- Cain to develop a plan to close the office and determine LPCA's staffing needs.
- Remove non-members from the newsletter mailing list.

### *All*

- Review, revise, and approve minutes.
- All to discuss the selection of LP Representatives and Alternates.
- Discuss through e-mail the date for the next Executive Committee meeting.

### *Chair (Takenaga)*

- Chair Takenaga to develop a timeline that reflects his long-term vision for the office.
- Chair Takenaga to write a letter to the Governor stating LPCA's support for the Marriage Equality Bill AB 43, and encouraging him to sign the bill into law.

### *Northern Vice Chair (Newell)*

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### *Southern Vice Chair (Collier)*

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### *Treasurer (Cowles)*

- Cowles to add a budget item of \$50 for the Audit Committee to obtain the services of a volunteer auditor with reasonable qualifications to report on the suitability of the Treasurer's report.

### *Brown*

- Brown to get list of people who will run from Cain, plus the latest list of members of the LP.