

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andrew M. Kolstee, Chair
Duane J. Whitmer, 1st Vice-Chair
Richard F. Purtell, 2nd Vice-Chair
Mark S. Braiman, Secretary
William Cody Anderson, Treasurer
Maura E. Botsford, Member-At-Large (JD8)
Justin N. Carman, Member-At-Large (JD3)
Keith C. Redhead, Member-At-Large (JD5)
William K. Schmidt, Member At-Large (JD9)
Karyn A. Keniry Thompson, Member-At-Large (JD4)

OBSERVERS

David B. "Chance" Haywood, State Committee Member, Judicial District 1
Paul M. Grindle, State Committee Member, Judicial District 2
Michael R. Rebmann, State Committee Member, Judicial District 4
Daniel J. Castello, State Committee Member, District 5
Christopher M. Olenski, State Committee Member, Judicial District 6
Robert E. Schuon, State Committee Member, Judicial District 10
Richard Bell, State Committee Member, Judicial District 13
Craig L. Colwell, Chemung County Vice Chair, Candidate for Chemung County Legislature District 12.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair. Secretary Mark Braiman conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

The Chair opened a period of public comment. Christopher Olenski reported on an October 12, 2022 meeting with New York State Senator Phil Boyle and Assemblyman John Salka. Approximately four members of LPNY State Committee attended, including Olenski, Braiman, and Kolstee; as well as Pat Ford and Angela McArdle from the National Libertarian Party; and Diane Sare's representative as well as Gloria Mattera from the Green Party. Mr. Olenski expressed optimism, based on this meeting, about future prospects of pursuing a bill in the Legislature during the remainder of this term, to improve ballot access for minor parties. Also during this October 12 meeting, Pat Ford suggested a press conference on Capitol steps and many others seemed interested. Staff member Isaac Smith from Assemblyman Salka's office is arranging a follow-up meeting for Monday October 24, 2022.

Karyn Thompson suggested Gary Donoyan be invited to the October 24 meeting, as he has extensive knowledge of the history of the court case(s) for ballot access.

Past Secretary Andrew Kolstee issued a report. Minutes of the following twenty meetings were amended without objection.

September 26, 2020 Meeting of the State Committee
September 27, 2020 Meeting of the State Committee
January 23, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
January 31, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
February 21, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
March 14, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
March 25, 2021 Meeting of the Executive Committee
April 11, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
April 13, 2021 Meeting of the Executive Committee
July 18, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
August 16, 2021 Meeting of the Executive Committee
September 12, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
November 7, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
December 5, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
December 20, 2021 Meeting of the State Committee
February 3, 2022 Meeting of the Executive Committee
January 9, 2022 Meeting of the State Committee
February 12, 2022 Meeting of the State Committee
February 19, 2022 Meeting of the State Committee
February 20, 2022 Meeting of the State Committee

The reading of the minutes of the July 20, 2022 Meeting of the Executive Committee was waived without objection; and the **minutes were approved** without objection.

Secretary Mark Braiman reported he is coordinating his training with Past Secretary Andrew Kolstee.

Treasurer William Cody Anderson issued a Treasurer's Report in writing (**Exhibit 1**) and the report was accepted without objection.

William Schmidt inquired if all Board of Election Filings due to date are complete. William Cody Anderson responded that a 30-day report for the Petition Committee is being worked on by Lora Newell, and should be completed by midweek.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **reimburse Duane Whitmer one hundred seventy-one dollars (\$171.00) for the Convention's text-message marketing campaign** passed without objection.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **reimburse Andrew Kolstee four hundred fifty-nine dollars and twenty-seven cents (\$459.27) for convention wristbands, nametags, and programs** passed without objection.

Justin Carman inquired if there likely remain any outstanding convention expenses. William Cody Anderson responded that there will be none from the convention venue, and that the only possibility of further expense might be other State Convention Planning Committee members requesting reimbursements, although no such requests are expected.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to authorize an expenditure of **eight hundred fifty-two dollars and forty-one cents (\$852.41) to James Ostrowski for legal expenses** passed without objection.

Candidate Support Committee Chair Paul Grindle issued a report. On October 7, 2022, the LPNY sent an email survey to the entire 10,000+ email list, asking for assistance for candidates. Only two people responded to assist Craig Colwell. One more person volunteered to assist Nick Grasso.

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **authorize an expenditure of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the campaign of Craig Colwell for Chemung County Legislature and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the campaign of Nick Grasso for Chemung County Legislature, for targeted paper mailers to individual voters** was seconded by William Cody Anderson, and passed by voice vote.

William Cody Anderson stated that his understanding of state campaign finance law is that there is a limit to our donations for this kind of campaign to \$0.05 per active voter. Chemung County has notified candidates that this limits donations to \$1000 for these candidates.

Richard Purtell pointed out that itemization of expenditures is required by state campaign finance law if they exceed \$1000 total per candidate. He further emphasized that with this mailer campaign, the \$1000 total will almost certainly be exceeded, so it is important that the candidates started their itemized accounting from the beginning of their campaigns.

Craig Colwell spoke to affirm that he has already been itemizing, even though he has not spent over \$1000 yet. He knows he will exceed this limit if he does a mailer. He doesn't know what Nick Grasso is doing, but believes he has a Treasurer, and believes the Treasurer is already itemizing too.

Paul Grindle stated that he is interested in obtaining names on list of State Committee members who can participate in phone calling.

William Cody Anderson asked for Paul Grindle to provide the names and email addresses of the full Candidate Support Committee. Paul Grindle promised to provide them after he reached his computer.

Mark Braiman asks for number of candidates on ballot for each of the races we are contributing to. Paul Grindle responded that there are three in Craig Colwell's race: a Democrat (the incumbent), a Republican (not running much of a campaign) and Craig Colwell running on the Libertarian and Conservative Lines. For Nick's race, who was a former member of the Democratic Party.

Motion by Mark Braiman to **adopt the Organizational Structure (Exhibit B)**.
was seconded by William Cody Anderson, and passed by voice vote.

William Cody Anderson noted that he endorses the structure, but has concerns about finding people to fill all the positions in the structure.

Duane Whitmer was appointed Communications Director without objection.

Justin Carman was appointed Information Technology (IT) Director without objection.

Keith Redhead was appointed Personnel Director without objection.

Andrew Kolstee was appointed Field Development Director (reorganization of Local Affiliate Committee, replacing Rob Arrigo) without objection.

Richard Purtell was appointed Legislative Affairs Director without objection.

Paul Grindle was appointed Chair of the Candidate Support Committee under the Political Division until November 30, 2022 was passed without objection.

Andrew Kolstee was appointed Chair of the Rules Committee. Paul Grindle had declined to be appointed for another term, and several other members of that Committee have also resigned.

William Cody Anderson expressed concern about the extent of Rules that have originated in the past from the Rules Committee. Andrew Kolstee acknowledged this concern.

John Exner was appointed County Contact of Cayuga County for a three-month term set to expire on January 16, 2023, without objection.

NEW BUSINESS.

Andrew Kolstee brought up a possible legal matter regarding LPNY participation in a lawsuit. If and when we receive further correspondence and documentation, we may need another meeting (possibly in Executive Session).

Motion by Cody Anderson to **adjourn** was seconded by Duane J. Whitmer and passed without objection.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Mark Stephen Braiman,
Secretary.

Exhibit 1

LPNY Treasurer's Report October 16, 2022

Housekeeping Committee account balance as of 10.16.22: \$3,044.26
CC General account balance as of 10.16.22: \$20,018.45
LPNY 2022 Petitioning Committee account balance as of 10.16.22: \$9,336.45

Income for September:

Pledge income: \$1,270.13
One-time donations: \$119.00
Convention income: \$4,720.18

Total Income for September: \$6,109.31

Fundraising results year to date: \$58,192.34

Expenses for September:

Grasshopper: \$33.58
Constant Contact: \$200.07
Convention payment to Sheraton Niagara Falls: \$7,182.76

Total Expenses for September: \$7,416.41

Preliminary Convention Report:

August Convention Income: \$5,880.00
September convention income: \$4,720.18
Convention expenses paid to venue: \$7,932.76
Convention expenses incurred by D Whitmer: \$171.00
Convention expenses incurred by A Kolstee: \$459.27
Total Convention expenses: \$8563.03
Convention net income to date: \$2,037.15

Respectfully submitted,

W. Cody Anderson
Treasurer

Exhibit 2 (Page 1 of 3)

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE ADOPTED OCTOBER 16, 2022

1. **GENERAL.** This document shall outline the organizational and committee structure of the Libertarian Party of New York. This document may be amended at any time by a majority vote of the State Committee.

2. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of the organizational structure and this document is to organize the Libertarian Party of New York into eight divisions based on categories that group and define the responsibilities of every division, committee, and appointed position in order to effectively carry out projects and tasks for the party.

3. **STRUCTURE.** The organizational structure consists of a Division, which is a category consisting of a set of defined responsibilities to carry out different tasks for the Libertarian Party of New York. Each Division is headed by a Division Director, who shall work with each other to carry out different aspects of party projects. Each division may have a single general committee, multiple committees, or a combination thereof.

4. **DIVISIONAL DIRECTORS.**

4.1. **APPOINTMENT.** Division Directors shall be appointed by the Chair or the State Committee and confirmed by the State Committee, following a call for applications. A Deputy Director may be appointed by the Director and confirmed by the State Committee to assist in the Director's duties.

4.2. **DUTIES.** Division Directors lead their division, carry out, and/or delegate tasks for which their division is responsible, and report their activities to the State Committee. They shall submit a proposed budget to the Finance Division and are responsible for overseeing the approved budget for their Division.

4.3. **POWERS.** Division Directors shall have the power to create and make appointments to division positions, create new committees within their division, and appoint members to committees within their division.

4.4. **DISMISSAL.** Division Directors may be dismissed by a majority vote of the State Committee.

4.5. **VACANCIES.** In the event that the Division Director position becomes vacant and a Deputy Director has been appointed, the Deputy Director shall assume the role of Acting Division Director

Exhibit 2 (Page 2 of 3)

until a new Division Director is appointed. The State Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in division committees when the Division Director position is vacant.

5. DIVISIONS AND COMMITTEES

5.1. **STAND-ALONE COMMITTEES.** The Rules Committee and Platform Committee shall be stand-alone committees.

5.2. DIVISIONS.

5.2.1. **ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION.** The Administrative Division shall be led by the State Chair and be responsible for overseeing inter-division communication, legal matters, and strategic planning.

5.2.2. **COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION.** The Communications Division shall be led by the Communications Director. The Division is responsible for overseeing public relations, social media, content creation, and messaging. The Division shall consist of a Communications Committee chaired by the Communications Director, and a Social Media Committee.

5.2.3. **POLITICAL DIVISION.** The Political Division shall be led by the Political Director. The Division shall be responsible for candidate acquisition, candidate support, and elected Libertarian Support. The Division shall consist of three committees: Candidate Acquisition Committee, Candidate Support Committee, and Elected Libertarian Support Committee.

5.2.4. **FINANCE DIVISION.** The Finance Division shall be led by the Finance Director. The Division shall be responsible for obtaining and managing finances, including donor relationships, sponsorships, vendor relationships, merchandising, and financial management. The Division shall consist of two committees: Fundraising Committee and Treasury Committee. The Treasury Committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer, who shall appoint members to the committee as needed to assist the Treasurer in carrying out the duties of the office.

5.2.5. **IT DIVISION.** The IT Division shall be led by the IT Director. The Division shall be responsible for administering the website, database management, and assisting other divisions with IT-related tasks as necessary. The Division shall consist of an IT Committee chaired by the IT Director.

5.2.6. **PERSONNEL DIVISION.** The Personnel Division shall be led by the Personnel Director. The Division shall be responsible for volunteer coordination and organizing trainings. The Division shall consist of a Personnel Committee chaired by the Personnel Director.

Exhibit 2 (Page 3 of 3)

5.2.7. FIELD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION. The Field Development Division shall be led by the Field Development Director. The Division shall be responsible for developing County Affiliates and College Campus Affiliates. The Division shall consist of a Field Development Committee chaired by the Field Development Division.

5.2.8. LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DIVISION. The Legislative Affairs Division shall be led by the Legislative Affairs Director. The Division is responsible for developing policy, monitoring legislation, and building strategies to advance the party's message in the legislative process. The Division shall consist of a Legislative Affairs Committee chaired by the Legislative Affairs Director. The Division may be further divided into subcommittees based on the category of issues.

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Public Comment Period

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Past Secretary's Report (Andrew Kolstee)

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