

**Minutes of the July 2, 2017 Meeting of the State Committee
of the Libertarian Party of New York
held by WebEx and telephone conference call**

Members in attendance

Mark Glogowski, Chair, Administrative Director
Jim Rosenbeck, Vice-Chair, 2018 National Platform Committee Representative
Brian Waddell, Vice-Chair, Political Director
Blay Tarnoff, Secretary
Michael Dowden, Treasurer
Michael McDermott, At Large, 2014 Candidate for Governor
Mark Potwora, At Large, 2018 National Credentials Committee Representative
Aaron Commey, At Large
Shawn Hannon, At Large, Outreach Director
Tony D’Orazio, At Large
Gary Popkin, Brooklyn
Thomas Timmons, Capital District
Andrew Kolstee, Chautauqua County, Communications Director
Kevin Cruver, Erie County
David Olsen, Genesee County
Jan-Erik Janson, Hudson Valley
Tim Eyer, Livingston County
Sean Phelan, Monroe County
Chris Garvey, Nassau County
Milva Dordal, Onondaga County
Jim Harris, Suffolk County
Aram Fuchs, Westchester County

Members not in attendance

Christopher Hollinger, Manhattan
Gregg Fort, Otsego County, Finance Director
Chris Padilla, Queens County
Hesham El-Meligy, Staten Island
Rich Purtell, Tioga County
Ryan Roberts, Warren County

Observers

M Carling, Parliamentarian
Brandon Lyon, Fulton County TCC
Daniel Giles, Jefferson County TCC
Kevin Wilson, Monroe County Chair
Nate Dinet, Onondaga member
John Exner, Candidate for Auburn City Council, Cayuga County
Morris Jeffries, prospective candidate
Anthony Fethers, prospective candidate

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Glogowski at 20:00. **Blay Tarnoff issued notice that he will move at the next meeting to rescind the motion passed at the meeting of May 7, 2017 to “constitute the positions and committees as named, tasked, limited and empowered in the Divisional Structure document”, and to keep all currently populated committees intact as constituted per that motion or otherwise.**

Chair Mark Glogowski issued a Chair’s Report.

Secretary Blay Tarnoff made a point of order that **the motion made at the meeting of May 7, 2017 to adopt a budget covering May through November 2017 constituted a motion to amend or rescind the motion passed at the meeting of March 5, 2017 to adopt a budget for all of 2017, and did not obtain the requisite majority.** The Chair ruled the point not well taken, as the second motion was not a motion to amend or rescind the first, as the two budgets served different purposes. The Secretary appealed from the ruling of the Chair, which was debated and not sustained.

Secretary Blay Tarnoff issued a Secretary's report. The minutes of the State Committee meeting of May 7, 2017 were approved without reading, save an amendment by the Secretary to reflect the previous point of order, upon prior publication to the State Committee email list. The minutes of the State Committee meeting of June 4, 2017 were approved without reading upon prior publication to the State Committee email list.

Motion by the Secretary that **it shall be the official finding of the LPNY that a County Organization may reduce the number of counties in its covered region at the discretion of the State Committee and to include the Secretary's reasoning in the record (Exhibit 1)** was debated and passed.

The Secretary announced his determination that **the Monroe County Organization had legally reduced its region from Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, and Wayne Counties to Monroe County alone.** The Secretary announced his determination that **the Westchester County Organization was officially chartered as of June 4, 2017, having met the contingency imposed by this body at the meeting of February 12, 2017.**

Motion by the Secretary to **rescind the standing rule adopted at the meeting of December 4, 2016 that "The Chair shall have the authority to appoint special committees with no power, to report on matters to be determined by him."** passed by two-thirds without debate.

Treasurer Michael Dowden issued a Treasurer's Report in writing. Motion to **reimburse Mark Glogowski \$120.17 for mailing, travel and other expenses incurred in June** was debated and passed by counted vote.

Outreach Director Nate Dinot issued a report. Motion to **accept the resignation of Nate Dinot and appoint Shaw Hannon Director of the Outreach Division** passed as amended without debate. Motion to **appoint Nate Dinot chair of the Youth Outreach committee** passed without debate.

Chapter Development Committee chair Jim Rosenbeck issued a report. Motion that **Temporary County Chair appointments and renewals of appointments made without expiration dates shall expire at the end of the first State Committee meeting that takes place at least five and a half months hence and all Temporary County Chair appointments made prior to this meeting shall expire at the end of the first meeting that takes place after December 31, 2017, unless renewed** passed by unanimous consent. Motion to **appoint Dan Giles Temporary County Chair of Jefferson County** passed without debate after presentation.

The special committee to vet candidates in the northern part of the state constituted at the last meeting issued its report. Motion to **endorse John Exner as the Libertarian Party nominee for Auburn City Council, Cayuga County** passed without debate after presentation.

Motion by Blay Tarnoff to **include comments in the record regarding the motion passed at the meeting of May 7, 2017 to constitute the positions and committees as named, tasked, limited and empowered in the Divisional Structure document (Exhibit 2)** was debated and passed.

Motion by Mike Dowden that **the fundraising and communications committees are hereby authorized to conduct a program of fundraising communications, both electronic and postal, and the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) is hereby authorized for this purpose** was debated and passed.

IT Committee chair Mike Dowden issued a report. Strategic Planning Committee chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. Communications Committee chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report.

Per standing rule, the next meeting will be held by teleconference on Sunday August 6, 2017 at 8 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 22:22.

Blay Tarnoff, Secretary
July 9, 2017

Exhibit 1

The Greater Rochester chapter, which was chartered covering Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, and Wayne Counties, has amended its bylaws, reducing its covered region from those four counties to Monroe County alone, and changed its name to the Monroe County Libertarian Party.

The LPNY Bylaws do not directly address the situation where a chapter purports to reduce its covered region; the only section of the Bylaws that seems to be touched by this situation is Article III.B.2.f., which deals with the secession of counties from a multi-county chapter. This section of the Bylaws requires that the bylaws of the County Organization contain a “provision for division of treasury and other pooled resources (if there are any) in the event of a county's secession from a County Organization of more than one county to form a County Organization from a smaller included geographical unit.”

Because a reduction in a chapter's covered region could, theoretically, be used to avoid a proper division of treasury, I find that the reduction in region requires the approval of the State Committee. Also, since the coverage of counties by chapters is granted by the State Committee, I find that it logically falls to the State Committee to amend its decision. Moreover, unlike the decision to charter, which the Bylaws require the State Committee to approve if certain conditions are met, as the Bylaws do not address this situation and therefore do not limit the discretion of the State Committee, I find that it is at the discretion of the State Committee whether to allow the reduction in coverage.

Both the original (4-county) and amended (single county) bylaws contain the same division clause: “Common funds shall be divided in proportion to members in good standing continuously for at least two years prior to secession.” I spoke to current Monroe Chair Kevin Wilson, who has informed me that not a single individual who has been a member in good standing of the organization for the past two years resides in any of the three counties being disclaimed. It is therefore my determination that the chapter would owe no debt to any chapter that might form in any of those counties. Nevertheless, the chapter has added the following language to its bylaws: “Upon the formation of a chapter in Wayne County, Orleans County, or Ontario County the MCLP chapter may contribute to the new chapter's treasury an amount of one hundred dollars (\$100).”

I therefore find that the reduction in the covered region of the Monroe chapter comports with the rules and bylaws of the LPNY and that the chapter now covers only Monroe County as of June 1, 2017, the date of its having amended its bylaws. Furthermore, I ask unanimous consent that it shall be the official finding of the LPNY that a County Organization may reduce the number of counties in its covered region at the discretion of the State Committee and to include these remarks in the record.

Blay Tarnoff, Secretary

Exhibit 2

I object to a vote on the Divisional Structure having been taken without notice. I object to this document having been rushed through without due consideration or having been read or understood by nearly anyone, if anyone, on the State Committee. I object to this committee having gone back on its agreement made at the January meeting not to grant final approval of this document unless all the positions described in the document had been filled by the annual convention, which was not done and is still not done. I object to this structure having been approved in its current half-baked form, which happened because few if any of the members of the State Committee who voted for it bothered to read it carefully and understand it, if they read it at all. And, I object to its stifling bureaucracy, which is unnecessary for an organization of our size, rendering us less agile for no reason.

Frankly, I am appalled at the actions taken by this committee at the meeting of May 7, a meeting that should have been cancelled as it took place barely a week after the annual convention, a meeting that has always been cancelled in the past. Nevertheless, this committee rushed through this major undertaking at that meeting, with no real consideration and no substantial debate, as if there were some dire emergency that it needed to be passed right away.

The Divisional Structure document, as written, does not achieve its intent. The intent is to create a hierarchical structure but, as worded, it does not do that. For the record, I agree that the hierarchical structure apparently intended by the document is a good idea. But, it must be implemented properly and thoughtfully. In the state it's in, it will work fine as long as we are all kumbaya. But, if there were a disagreement, the lack of clarity would lead to prolonged fights. This is most likely to happen if we were to enter a period of growth, when a cracked foundation will result in a lot of disagreement, infighting and structural repairs just at the time when we should be capitalizing on the opportunity. Better to address the leaky roof now, before it starts raining.

At this point, it has been two months since this structure was approved. Before the May 7 meeting, we had 7 standing committees. By adopting the divisional structure document, we instantly tripled that number, to 21. However, all but 9 of them are completely unpopulated. And, of the 9 that are populated, 7 are, basically, the same committees we had before. Only the Administrative and Outreach Committees are new. And, the State Committee has created three new committees completely outside the divisional structure

I hereby give notice that, at the next meeting, I will move to rescind the motion made at the meeting of May 7, 2017 to constitute the positions and committees as named, tasked, limited and empowered in the Divisional Structure document, pending serious consideration and proper vetting of the Divisional Structure document, but will also move to keep all currently populated committees intact as constituted. Thus, nothing actually done to this point will change. Once the document has been properly vetted and repaired, it can be implemented at that time.

Blay Tarnoff, Secretary, LPNY