

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Members

- Caryn Ann Harlos (Chair)
- Joe Dehn (Secretary)
- Ed Fochler
- James Gholston
- Andrew Kolstee

Status of search for potential additions to committee: The committee has been reviewing and narrowing down applications and reaching out for additional information from selected applicants.

Committee Overview

Section 2.02 SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

11) Historical Preservation Committee

The HPC shall be responsible for directing the preservation and publication of Party historical documents and the administration of LPedia.org. A report of its decisions and activities shall be delivered at each LNC meeting.

The scope of the initial organizing work will last well into several years (the estimate is at least additional five years depending on member involvement), and LPedia will need to be maintained for the time of its existence.

Reports, Meetings, and Communications

The Committee is committed to transparency and conducts open meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month via Zoom. Committee discussion is also conducted via email with a read-only subscription option available to all Party members by sending a message to lphpc-request@lists.dehnbase.net with “subscribe” in the subject line. The minutes and other records from its proceedings are preserved on LPedia (links noted below for member review):

***Meetings conducted since the last report:*¹**

- September 19, 2018² http://lpedia.org/w/images/5/53/Minutes_2018-09-19_HPC.pdf
- October 17, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/6/60/Minutes_2018-10-17_HPC.pdf
- November 7, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/d/de/Minutes_2018-11-07_HPC.pdf
- November 21, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/e/e2/Minutes_2018-11-21_HPC.pdf
- December 5, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/8/88/Minutes_2018-12-05_HPC.pdf
- January 16, 2019 http://lpedia.org/w/images/0/05/Minutes_2019-01-16_HPC.pdf
- February 6, 2019 http://lpedia.org/w/images/5/5e/Minutes_2019-02-06_HPC.pdf
- February 20, 2019³
- March 6, 2019⁴

¹ As per the requirements of the Policy Manual Section 2.02.1, the above-linked minutes contain the dates and attendance rosters for each of the Committee's meetings since the previous regular LNC Meeting.

² This meeting took place prior to Committee's last report, but the minutes were not finalized at that time.

³ These minutes are not yet finalized but will appear at LPedia when finalized.

⁴ This meeting has not yet taken place but the minutes will appear at LPedia when finalized.

Prior Committee Report:

- April 15, 2017 http://lpedia.org/w/images/4/48/Report_2017-04-15_LPHPC.pdf
- August 17, 2017 http://lpedia.org/w/images/a/aa/Report_2017-08-17_LPHPC.pdf
- December 9, 2017 http://lpedia.org/w/images/0/0d/Report_2017-12-09_LPHPC.pdf
- April 21, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/c/cb/Report_2018-04-21_HPC.pdf
- September 29, 2018 http://lpedia.org/w/images/e/e8/Report_2018-09-29_HPC.pdf

Motions Considered

Several other motions for expenditures were considered at the February 2019 meetings but those minutes are not yet available. The motions concerned bankers' boxes and display cases for LPHQ.

REGULAR DEDICATED NON-COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Sarah Ellsworth (CO) has needed to take some time off for family over donating hundreds of volunteer hours assisting me at the Parker storage facility. Another CO volunteer is sought to cover her absence and then to assist both of us when she returns.

Eric Mulder (CO) is a prolific and dedicated editor. There are multiple regular volunteers that tend to specialize either in their state or in broader subject matters such as election statistics.

STATUS OF DOCUMENT PRESERVATION

Storage Unit

This work is going as planned—it is time-consuming and tedious but absolutely necessary. I go down nearly every Saturday (winter snow season does get in the way) and work through the records in a methodological “funnel” plan. I am more than happy to give details to anyone who wishes.

Initial plans have been made to expand the shelving at the unit in order to maximize the storage space, but we are not at that point.

Digitization

Documents and Papers:

All of the issues of LPNews are now up and digitized and another large batch is being prepared comprising fund-raising letters, tri-folds, and misc. national publications such as Libertarian Volunteer.

Audio/Video/Electronic Data Materials:

We received previously unknown boxes and boxes of Clark video material that will be digitized in the future, with some of the items being in the rarer formats for which there is only one current vendor who does that work. We need volunteers to work on other collections such as audio and VHS.

YouTube Channel:

This has worked out very well and the option of mirroring to Bit.tube will be implemented in the future for protection and redundancy.

Misc.:

I have obtained high-quality sheet-fed and large-format flatbed scanners to use (used items retired from an office environment). These were not charged to the committee but are personal purchases that will be made available for the committee's use.

Update on Acquisitions and Parallel State Party Preservation Efforts

State Party Coordinated Preservation Efforts/Committees:

- Alabama
 - The secretary has been in touch with me to coordinate their project and items are being uploaded to LPedia.
- California
 - A historical committee has been formed by Joe Dehn to work on a substantial preservation project.
- Colorado
 - This is one of the first states to systemically organize since my involvement and all of their decades of old newsletters are on LPedia.
- Illinois
 - An organized effort was undertaken and their records were donated to XXXX. They were assured that access would be easy and open for future research and duplication if needed.
- New York
 - A historical committee is being led by Andrew Kolstee to organize their substantial records.

Individual Preservation Efforts or Donations of Items:

Individuals regularly get in touch with me regarding their personal collections. We are very focused on what we will take and offer advice on items we generally do not. If the items will be thrown away if we do not intervene, we offer to find a home for them in an academic archive if possible. Our prior is the national party records, and we encourage and train state parties to use LPedia as their permanent archive but to organize local volunteers to do the digitization work.

Several people, including former chair Paul Grant have sent over their incredible personal collections and items have been selected for display at the national headquarters. A member from Nevada has transferred a box to Emily Goldstein (AZ) who is preparing to ship to me.

STATUS OF LPEDIA

General Statistics⁵

- 2,911 Articles
- 28 Active Editors
- 3,111 Document/Image Uploads

Daily unique visitors remain about 100 with bumps when particular pieces are featured on Facebook or I appear at various speaking engagements. We are presently working hard to provide a framework for having usable and helpful data as we head into the crucial 2020 election season.

Featured Articles

At least once a month (preferably twice) detailed and image-rich articles are featured on the front page to freshen up content and highlight various affiliates, events, people, and document. Nearly any article can qualify

⁵ **Last report statistics:**

*2,720 Articles

*18 Active Editors

*2489 Document/Image Uploads

if they meet the standards of high quality content. Types of content are alternated in order to not emphasize one interest over any other and provide variety.

Massive Category Clean-Up

During the Wild West years of LPedia, the categories decided to embrace anarchism and have resisted my top-down insistence on a logical organization but my determined authoritarianism has prevailed, and the resource is rapidly becoming more useable rather than having arcane categories for any possible combination of desired tags such as “pink-haired Libertarians in Colorado with a beagle.” I have the initial structure laid out using OmniOutliner with the master file available for download.

DOCUMENT/RECORD MAINTENANCE

Data Back-Ups

Regular back-ups are done professionally and consistently. In order to be consistent with newer wiki standards, the database is being moved to use the “wiki/” file structure. This can be quite technical, and I will be happy to provide details to any interested person. All of the uploaded documents are also kept offline on hard drives and regularly copied to drives stored at a safety deposit box. Any member who provides me hard drives may have a copy of all of these records. We would like to see them widely distributed so that there is never a single source/point of failure.

Nolan Archive

These materials are presently stored in the Utah home of Dr. Buchman who has expressed interest in writing a biography of David with the encouragement of his widow, Elizabeth. Elizabeth signed a written copyright waiver for these materials to be published with or without attribution to LPedia and for commercial or non-commercial use.

ACCOUNTING FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019

Total Expenses Booked: \$200.00

Total Revenue: \$800.00

Total Budget: \$2,500.00

We were going to be fully funded by monthly donations from a generous yearly max donor who has since cancelled for reasons unrelated to this work. I have spoken to this donor and am willing to speak with any LNC member privately as to their reasons for withdrawing support at this time from the national party, though I expect they will again, at least to fund projects that they can support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caryn Ann Harlos, Committee Chair