

Chautauqua County Libertarian Party Chair's Report – February 3, 2022 – Page 1

STATE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** An Executive Committee meeting was held on Monday, January 10, 2022. The venue for the February 2022 convention was selected: Holiday Inn Express on Wolf Road in Albany. Additionally, County Contacts were appointed for Lewis and Oneida Counties. Rich Purtell was also appointed Chair of the Statewide Candidates Exploratory Committee. The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 8:30 p.m.

2. **STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** A State Committee meeting was held on Sunday, January 9, 2022. All remaining vacancies were filled (JD1 and JD10) and the Elections Oversight Committee was elected. Additionally, Paul Grindle has taken over chair of the Candidate Support Committee from Duane Whitmer. The next State Committee meeting is scheduled for the weekend of February 19-20, 2022 in Albany.

3. **2022 STATEWIDE CANDIDATES NOMINATING CONVENTION.** Set for the weekend of February 19-20, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Express in Albany County. Cost is \$30 for in-person attendees and free for remote attendees. There will be a fundraiser, but the details are pending.

4. **2022 STATE CONVENTION.** Set for September 2022 in Erie County, New York.

5. **BALLOT ACCESS.** There are no updates on the lawsuit, but there is a bill introduced in the Assembly by John Salka to lower the thresholds back to pre-COVID levels.

BUSINESS

1. **ELECTION DISTRICT DELEGATES.** We currently have 7 election district delegates. We have a total of 198 positions to be filled and we need at least 50 members by 2022 to form a constituted county committee under Election Law.

2. **ENROLLMENTS.** As of January 3, 2022, we have 275 active enrolled Libertarians. This is an increase from 269 on August 5, 2021 and the same as our total on February 25, 2021.

3. **FACEBOOK.** Meetings through March 3, 2022 are set up on Facebook.

4. **WEBSITE.** Meetings are up on the website through June 2, 2022. The candidate questionnaire still needs to be fixed on the mobile version.

5. **2022 ANNUAL LETTER.** Editing has begun for the 2022 Chautauqua Libertarian newsletter. We are going to need content and plan out our events for this year to put them in the newsletter. I would like to send out the newsletter by February or March 2022.

6. **2022 FUNDRAISING EMAIL.** We will need to send out an email for fundraising for 2022. We can take last year's email and adjust it accordingly.

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ELECTIONS/CAMPAIGNS

1. **STATE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.** Our Judicial District has 9 seats for the 2022-2024 State Committee. Petitioning for this will begin on March 1, 2022 and filing dates are April 4-7, 2022. We will need a minimum of 139 signatures to get on the ballot for Judicial District 8.

2. **2022 STATEWIDE CANDIDATES.** For Governor, Larry Sharpe is the only candidate exploring a run. For Comptroller, Bill Schmidt has shown interest if no one else is interested. For U.S. Senate, Diane Sare is a declared independent candidate, who may seek the Libertarian Party nomination, although there has been pushback against her candidacy. A 2022 Statewide Candidates Exploratory Committee has been created to find candidates for these other positions. At the present time, based on the status of our lawsuit, we will need to collect over 45,000 signatures starting on April 19, 2022, to be filed on May 24-31, 2022 to get our candidates on the ballot.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. **LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.** This document will continue to be refined as new issues surface and more information is available.

2. **GENERAL ACTIVISM.** Ideas we have discussed: creek cleanup, working with other organizations, working with NY Volunteers, etc.

3. **WNYLC.** We held one meeting but have not followed up on this since then.

4. **2022 PLANS.** We need to complete our plan for 2022, which we began at a Zoom meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2022. One of the ideas discussed was regarding ballot initiatives that voters will be able to vote for or against the sale of cannabis if their local government officials chose to opt out.

5. **LEGISLATIVE SURVEY.** This was successfully done in Suffolk County, and something we may want to explore doing. We would need the list of questions, first.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **1st SOCIAL EVENT (March 2022).** We talked about having quarterly social events. We need to determine a date/time/place for the first one.

2. **FUNDRAISER (March/April 2022).** We have discussed doing a chicken BBQ fundraiser in the spring. We will need a location once I can talk to the owners of the chicken BBQ that the Erie County Libertarian Party used.

3. **COUNTY FAIR (July/August 2022).** No details available yet.

Andrew Martin Kolstee
Chair, Chautauqua County Libertarian Party