

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 1 of 6

Present: Jim Lark, Chair
Ken Bisson, Vice-Chair
Deryl Martin, Treasurer
Steve Givot, Secretary

Eli Israel (MA), At-Large Representative
Joe Dehn (CA), Region 2 Representative

Absent: Michael "MG" Gilson de Lemos (FL), Region 4 Representative

Staff: Steve Dasbach, National Director

Lark called the meeting to order at 8:33 PM EST.

Item: Approval of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as proposed.

Item: Approval of Minutes of September 11 Meeting

The minutes were adopted without objection.

Item: Chair's Statement

Lark congratulated the 44 Libertarians who appear – based on information obtained from the LP web site – to have been elected this month. He said that there are several races yet to be decided in Virginia which may add to that total.

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 2 of 6

Martin asked what the current total number of elected Libertarians is.

Dasbach said that he is not certain how many Libertarians serve in elected office because he is uncertain as to how many prior officeholders' terms had expired, how many had not run for reelection, or how many were defeated.

Lark thanked Givot, Martin, and Nelson for volunteering to review customer services provided by the national headquarters. He said that Nelson will be chairing this ad hoc committee. He said that they intend to perform their review immediately before the December 2001 LNC meeting.

Dehn asked about the scope of the review.

Givot said that it includes transactions involving members, candidates, and affiliates.

Lark concurred.

Item: National Director's Report

Dasbach said that there are no bills that are overdue.

Dasbach provided an overview of outstanding bills.

Dasbach said that the current amount of cash and CDs is about \$30,000 below accounts payable as compared with \$60,000 below accounts payable at the end of October.

Dasbach said that the party has not received any additional business reply envelopes since those already reported since the Brentwood mail facility was shut down. He said that the Brentwood facility has now been disinfected and is supposed to reopen on Monday. He said that the US Postal Service has found an additional one million pieces of mail which must be sent to Ohio to be irradiated.

Dasbach said that he is anticipating receiving a bill from Brickmill Studios for about \$45,000 relating to a recent direct mail piece.

Dasbach said that he does not expect that the last certificate of deposit will have to be

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 3 of 6

cashied to pay bills.

Israel asked for an estimate of the amount of money in the mail which has not been delivered.

Dasbach said that there has no delivery of business reply mail in 13 days other than a single, hand-processed batch delivered last week. He said that he would estimate that there is about \$65,000 in business reply envelopes which has been delayed.

Dehn asked whether Dasbach expects the response to the new fundraising letters to be affected by the fact that they have been so many email appeals.

Dasbach said that a significant portion of the recent response to email appeals has come from non-members.

Dasbach said that the past three email fundraising efforts have brought in about \$18,000, \$26,000, and \$10,000.

Lark offered to call to thank people making particularly generous donations.

Dasbach said that he had hoped to distribute the proposed budget prior to this meeting. He said that it will be distributed shortly after the meeting adjourns. He said that he intends to distribute a one-page summary broken into three main areas: basic operations, areas of development that are most variable, and projects for outreach. Dasbach said that the same line may appear in more than one place because things such as affiliate membership and support may have components which fall into more than one of these three categories.

Dasbach said that a page lays out more detail for the first two categories. He said that is has developed monthly budgets for 2002 – except for projects. He said that he is not far enough along in the process to allocate revenues and expenses for these items on a monthly basis.

Dasbach said that additional detail will be made available by request.

Lark asked Dasbach whether he would be providing an explicit statement concerning the prospective LNC goals he is using in preparing his budget proposal.

Dasbach said that he would be including such a statement.

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 4 of 6

Givot asked whether the staffing plan or missing metrics will be part of this distribution.

Dasbach said that those two items will be distributed next week.

Dasbach said that he has looked very hard at that portion of the budget involving basic operations. He said that while a few opportunities exist to increase revenue related to basic operations, he has not included any of this revenue in the proposed budget.

Israel said that – while we are not out of the woods financially yet – he believes that Dasbach has done a commendable job of managing the problems which have come up. He asked whether LPHQ has a disaster recovery plan.

Dasbach that the answer is yes and no. He said that the party's single most valuable assets are its database and accounting records. He said that these are backed up daily, stored offsite, and someone other than LPHQ staff is aware of where they are located. He said that increasing amounts of historical information is being stored online. He said that a formal written disaster recovery play does not currently exist.

Givot asked Dasbach if he had explored commercial backup sites.

Dasbach said that Dunbar has looked into these.

Dasbach said that what is missing from a full disaster recovery plan is a written description of the steps to take to recover from a disaster given that all of the critical data has been backed up and would be available.

Lark asked Dasbach if he anticipates any particular news releases based on current events.

Dasbach said that the president's ability to continue military operations under the War Powers Act expires in early December. He said that a release may be issued as this deadline approaches or expires.

Lark asked whether Dasbach has any plans relating to the LP's 30th anniversary.

Dasbach said that nothing is currently planned. He said that there is inadequate time to plan anything particular large or spectacular. He said that he questions the value of doing something less than large or spectacular.

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 5 of 6

Item: Remarks for the Good of the Party

Givot complimented staff on their handling of new releases since September 11. He said that – in his opinion – the staff has walked a very difficult line beginning with patriotic, libertarian messages shortly after the attacks and transitioning to issues relating to protection of liberties while defending our liberties as the public became more willing and able to receive such message. He said that he feels the staff's handling of this has been exceptional.

Lark said that it might interest the Committee to know that in Charlottesville, the Libertarian Party of Virginia candidate for Lt. Governor, Gary Reams, had received well over 6% of the vote; in one precinct, he received over 10% of the vote.

Lark said that he had attended a "beer dinner" at a local restaurant and was seated at the table with the master brewer whose beers were being served. He said that during the conversation before dinner, another person referred to himself as a Libertarian. He said that the master brewer, who knew nothing of Lark's Libertarian credentials, immediately noted that the day before (Election Day), the master brewer had just cast two votes for Libertarians, and that the master brewer was happy he was able to vote for someone whose views he shared.

Item: Setting of Next Meeting

Lark asked for input on when the committee should next meet. He also sought feedback on availability of committee members if a meeting prior to the December LNC meeting is called on short notice.

Committee members provided feedback.

Dehn suggested that a meeting might be held to discuss a possible resolution relating to the expiration of the president's powers under the War Powers Act.

The committee agreed to reserve November 27 for a possible meeting and to schedule a meeting for January 3 – both at 8:30 PM EST.

LNC Executive Committee Meeting

Teleconference

November 8, 2001

Page 6 of 6

The committee adjourned at 9:24 PM EST.