

MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL STATE
CONVENTION OF THE FREE LIBERTARIAN
PARTY HELD AT THE WILLIAMS CLUB ON
MARCH 30, 31 AND APRIL 1, 1973, NEW
YORK CITY

MARCH 30:

The Convention was called to order by Jerry Klasman, State Chairperson, at 8:05 PM.

Chuck DeRosa, Acting Secretary and Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, delivered the Report of that Committee (see exhibit #1), and moved its adoption.

Andrea Millen moved the following amendment to the report:

"Amend to seat as delegates all FLP members in good standing, contingent upon the passage of the appropriate By-Laws amendment at the next session of the Convention."

On a standing vote, the amendment passed: Ayes-21, Noes-13.

On a standing vote, the report of the Credentials Committee as amended passed: Ayes-30, Noes-0.

J. Neil Schulman moved the adoption of a rule that all abstentions be counted and noted in the record.

On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-21, Noes-10.

Martin E. Nixon, Chairperson of the Rules Committee, delivered the report of that Committee (see exhibit #2), and moved its adoption.

On a voice vote, the motion passed: 1 abstention, all others 'aye'.

The Chair moved the adoption of the proposed Agenda (see Exhibit #3).

J. Neil Schulman moved an amendment to put the proposed By-Laws amendment regarding seating of delegates as the last item of the business of By-Laws amendments.

On a voice vote, the motion passed: 1 No, all others aye, 0 abstentions.

On a voice vote, the Agenda as amended was approved: 1 abstention, all others 'aye'.

The Chair called for nominations for Convention Chairperson. Howie Rich nominated Sharon Presley. The nomination was seconded by Samuel E. Konkin, III. Both made short remarks about Sharon's involvement with the libertarian movement. There were no other nominations. And Sharon was elected unanimously on a voice vote (no 'nays', no abstentions).

Sharon took the Chair and made a short address on why the FLP must remain open to all libertarians viewpoints - invoking as an example, the state convention of one of the Libertarian Parties in the southwest.

Gary Greenberg moved to postpone the Treasurer's Report and make it the first order of business on Saturday morning.

On a voice vote, the motion passed: SEK III abstained, Noes-0, all others 'aye'.

The Chair introduced Harry Browne, who spoke on the subject of Freedom in Our Lifetime.

The Chair introduced Murray Rothbard, who spoke on The Need for a Libertarian Movement and Party.

At the conclusion of Murray's remarks, Jerry Klasman moved a recess until Saturday morning. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (no 'nays', no abstentions).

The Convention recessed at 10:30 PM.

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MARCH 31:

The Chair called the session to order at 11:25 AM.

Howie Rich moved to postpone the Treasurer's Report until the arrival of the Treasurer.

On a voice vote, the motion passed: Gary Greenberg-no, 0-abstentions, all others 'aye'.

At that moment, Ray Goldfield arrived and delivered the Treasurer's Report. Jerry Klasman moved that the Report be adopted. (see Exhibit #4)

On a voice vote, the motion passed: J. Neil Schulman abstained, 0-noes, all others 'aye'.

Samuel E. Konkin then made the opening remarks of the Report of the By-Laws Committee. (see Exhibit #5)

Gary Greenberg moved to amend PBA 6 by substituting "3/4's" for "unanimous". The motion was ruled out of order by the Chair. Greenberg then appealed the ruling of the Chair. The Chair was overruled on a standing vote: Ayes-10 (to sustain the Chair), Noes-14, abstentions-5.

Howard Katz moved that all amendments to PBA's be distributed in writing to the Convention. The motion was ruled out of order by the Chair. Katz appealed the ruling. On a standing vote, the Chair was sustained: Ayes-24, Noes-3, Abstentions-2.

Katz raised the question of a quorum. He was ruled out of order by the Chair. Katz appealed the ruling. On a standing vote, the Chair was sustained: Ayes-28, Noes-1, abstentions-1.

On a voice vote, Greenberg's motion to amend PBA 6 was defeated.

Greenberg moved to amend PBA 6 by substituting "3/4's of those present (a majority being present)" for "by a unanimous vote of those present".

On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-9, Noes-16, abstentions-4.

Andrea Millen moved to substitute "by 3/4's of the State Committee" for "by unanimous...present".

On a voice vote the motion carried, 1-abstention, 0-nays, all others 'aye'.

Gary Greenberg moved to substitute "Executive Committee" for "State Committee".

The motion was defeated on a voice vote: one abstention.

On a roll call vote, PBA 6 was adopted: Ayes-24, Noes-10, abstentions-0.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA 1.

Fran Youngstein moved to amend by substituting "25" for "50". After some debate, the motion was withdrawn.

Neil Schulman moved that the Convention recess for lunch. On a voice vote the motion passed unanimously (no nays, no abstentions).

The Convention was recessed at 1:30 PM.

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The Chair called the session to order at 3:10 PM.

On a roll call vote PBA 1 was adopted: Ayes-35, Nays-7, abstentions-5.

SEK III yielded the floor to Ray Strong, who moved to amend the rules to prohibit any further amendments to By-laws amendments from the floor.

On a standing vote, the motion was adopted: Ayes-39, Nays-7, abstentions-2.

SEK III moved the adoption of PBA 20. On a roll call vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-13, Nays-33, abstentions-2.

SEK III moved adoption of PBA 2. On a roll call vote the motion was adopted: Ayes-45, Nays-0, abstentions-1.

SEK III moved adoption of PBA 3.

Neil Schulman moved to suspend the rules requiring a roll call vote on proposed By-Laws amendments. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

On a voice vote, PBA 3 was adopted unanimously.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #4. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #5. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-36, Nays-3, Abstentions-7.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #7. There was debate on the subject of what the FLP should and should not issue in the name of the Party, and of whether any person could speak for another. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-6, Nays-42, Abstentions-3

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #8. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-34, Nays-0, Abstentions-8.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #9. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-11, Nays-31, Abstentions-10.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #10. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-46, Nays-0, Abstention-4.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #11. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-44, Nays-5, Abstentions-4.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #12. There was debate on the subject of how libertarian candidates, if elected, could further libertarian policies. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-4, Nays-43, Abstentions-5.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #14. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-10, Nays-28, Abstentions-2.

A motion to recess for 15 minutes was made and adopted unanimously on a voice vote (no nays, no abstentions). The Convention recessed at 6:00 PM.

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The Chair called the session to order at 6:23 PM.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #15. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-13, Nays 28, Abstentions-5.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #16. Gary Greenberg moved that the motion be tabled. On a standing vote, the motion to table passed: Ayes-33, Nays-11, Abstentions-1.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #17. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-10, Nays-25, Abstentions-3.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #18. Paul Hodgson moved that the motion be tabled. The motion to table was defeated: Ayes-14, Nays-25, Abstentions-4. A standing vote was taken on the original motion: Ayes-28, Nays-12, Abstentions-6. Ray Strong requested a roll call vote. On a roll call vote, the original motion failed for lack of two-thirds: Ayes-27, Nays-18, Abstentions-1.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #19A. After some debate, the motion was withdrawn.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #21. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-39, Nays-1, Abstentions-5.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #22. After some debate, Tony Saglimbeni moved that the motion be tabled. The motion to table passed on a standing vote: Ayes-30, Nays-15, Abstentions-1.

Andy Thornton moved that PBA #22 be taken up from the table. On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-16, Nays-25, Abstentions-4.

Konkin moved adoption of PBA #13. A standing vote was taken on the motion: Ayes-26, Nays-14, Abstentions-6. Ken Kalcheim requested a roll call vote. On the roll call vote, the motion failed for lack of two-thirds: Ayes-21, Nays-16, Abstentions-8.

Ray Strong moved that the Convention recess for one hour. On a voice vote the motion passed unanimously (no nays, no abstentions).

The Convention recessed at 8:45 PM.

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The Chair called the session to order at 10:00 PM.

Neil Schulman moved to suspend the rules to discuss the matter of proxies at the National LP Convention. On a standing vote the motion passed: Ayes-15, Nays-7, Abstentions-3.

Neil Schulman moved the following resolution:

"Let it be hereby resolved that the Free Libertarian Party, Inc. of New York is in favor of the National Libertarian Party allowing voting at all National Conventions by proxy as well as in person."

On a standing vote, the motion was defeated: Ayes-8, Nays-18, Abstentions-1.

The Convention recessed for 10 minutes at 10:15 PM.

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The Chair called the session to order at 10:35 PM.

Guy Riggs, Chairperson of the Platform Committee, make some opening remarks on the work of that Committee. He explained that the Committee had produced two different drafts of a proposed platform. (see Exhibits #6 & #7)

Gary Greenberg made some remarks in favor of 'no platform'.

Paul Hodgson made some remarks in favor of the 'Majority Report' (see Exhibit #6), and moved adoption of same. Guy Riggs moved to substitute the 'Minority Report' for the 'Majority Report'. Gary Greenberg moved to postpone indefinitely the question of adopting a platform. There was debate in which many of the delegates took part.

Neil Schulman moved to have a roll call vote on the motion to postpone. On a voice vote, the motion carried: no abstentions, Ellen Rich-nay, all others 'aye'.

It was moved to call the question. On a standing vote, the motion carried: Ayes-42, Nays-1, Abstentions-1.

On a roll call vote, the motion to postpone indefinitely passed: Ayes-37, Nays-5, Abstentions-3.

It was moved to recess until Sunday morning. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (no nays, no abstentions).

The Convention recessed at 11:58 PM.

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APRIL 1: Chair called the session

The Chair called the session to order at 12:35 PM.

The Chair then issued a call for nominations for the position of State Chairperson.

Jerry Klasman nominated Andrea Millen - seconded by Paul Lepanto. Klasman moved that nominations be closed. On a voice vote the motion passed unanimously. Konkin moved that the election voting be by roll call. On a standing vote, the motion passed: Ayes-20, Nays-11, Abstentions-13.

Andrea Millen was elected State Chairperson by a unanimous vote: Millen-36, Illegal votes-9, Abstentions-0.

The Chair called for nominations for State Vice-chairperson.

Samuel Konkin nominated Nona Aguilar - seconded by Ken Kalcheim. Gary Greenberg nominated Howard Rich - seconded by Gerry Kullen. Fran Youngstein nominated Ray Strong - seconded by Christine Graf. Jerry Klasman moved that nominations be closed. The motion passed on a voice vote. Roger Eisenberg moved that the voting be by roll call. The motion passed on a voice vote.

On the vote for Vice-chairperson (23 needed to elect), Rich and Strong were elected: Aguilar-15, Rich-32, Strong-31, Rothbard-8, Schulman-1, Blank ballot-1.

The Chair called for nominations for Secretary.

Bob Cohen nominated Andy Thornton - seconded by Ray Goldfield. Ann Weill nominated Mike Nichols - seconded by Mona Slota. Jerry Klasman moved that nominations be closed. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Eisenberg moved that the voting be by roll call. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Nichols was elected Secretary: Thornton-12, Nichols-30, Sanford Cohen-1, Abstentions-1.

The Chair called for nominations for Treasurer.

Guy Riggs nominated Jerry Klasman - seconded by Chuck DeRosa. Sam Konkin nominated Ray Goldfield- seconded by Tony Saglimbeni. Andrea Millen moved that nominations be closed - the motion passed on a voice vote. Eisenberg moved that the voting be by roll call. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Jerry Klasman was elected Treasurer: Klasman-34, Goldfield-9, Rothbard-1, Abstentions-3.

The Chair called for nominations for State Committeeperson-at-large.

Murray Rothbard nominated Joe Castrovinci - seconded by Andy Thornton. Marjorie Caines nominated Robert Cassella - seconded by Fran Youngstein. Spencer Pinney nominated Robert Cohen - seconded by Sam Konkin. Tom Avery nominated Gary Greenberg - seconded by Guy Riggs. Nona Aguilar nominated Sam Konkin - seconded by Noah Fuhrman. Andrea Millen nominated Martin E. Nixon - seconded by Bill Lawry.

Tom Avery moved that nominations be closed. The motion passed on a voice vote. Roger Eisenberg moved that the voting be by roll call. The motion passed on a voice vote.

During the process of taking the vote there was a five minute recess.

Castrovinci, Greenberg and Konkin were elected: Cassella-8, Castrovinci-28, Cohen-7, Greenberg-35, Konkin-31, Nixon-27, Rothbard-1, Blank ballots-10. (25 needed to elect.)

Howard Rich moved to invalidate the vote taken for Committeeperson-at-large. The motion was seconded by Gary Greenberg.

During the debate on the motion to invalidate, the Chair was asked to give the vote tally as it was before any of the delegates had changed their votes: Cassella-10, Castrovinci-28, Cohen-9, Greenberg-33, Konkin-32, Nixon-28, Rothbard-2, Blank ballots-5. The motion was defeated on a standing vote: Ayes-18, Nays-21, Abstentions-9.

Howard Katz moved to commend Martin Nixon for his help during the trying business of settling the vote on Committeeperson-at-large. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The Convention recessed at 4:20 PM.

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The Chair called the session to order at 5:45 PM.

A motion was made to suspend the rules to proceed with the business of endorsements until Sanford Cohen arrived. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Andrea Millen made a short acceptance speech.

Sanford Cohen arrived, was introduced and made a speech.

The Chair called for nominations for endorsements for Mayor of New York City.

Jerry Klasman nominated Fran Youngstein - seconded by Bob Cassella. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote that nominations be closed. On a standing vote Fran Youngstein was endorsed: Ayes-37, Nays-0, Abstentions-0.

The Chair called for nominations for endorsement for City Council President (NYC).

Gary Greenberg nominated Bill Lawry - seconded by Fran Youngstein. It was moved passed and seconded on a voice vote that nominations be closed. On a standing vote, Bill Lawry was endorsed: Ayes-35, Nays-0, Abstentions-3.

The Chair called for nominations for endorsement for Comptroller of New York City.

Andrea Millen nominated Tom Avery - seconded by Jerry Klasman. Millen yielded part of her time to Avery. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote that nominations be closed. On a standing vote, Tom Avery was endorsed: Avery-35, Rothbard-1, Nays-0, Abstentions-2.

The Chair called for any other nominations for endorsement.

Art O'Sullivan nominated Gary Greenberg for New York County District Attorney - seconded by Mona Slota. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote. On a standing vote, Gary Greenberg was endorsed: Ayes-35, Nays-2, Abstentions-1.

Bob Cohen nominated Spencer Pinney for Councilman in the 14th District (Queens) - seconded by Sheldon Horowitz and Roger Eisenberg. Cohen yielded part of his time to Pinney. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote that nominations be closed. On a standing vote, Spencer Pinney was endorsed: Ayes-30, Nays-0, Abstentions-5.

Ray Strong nominated Ray Goldfield for Councilman in the 33rd District (Brooklyn) - seconded by Howard Katz. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote to close nominations. There was debate on the question of endorsing Goldfield. On a standing vote, Ray Goldfield was endorsed: Ayes-15, Nays-6, Abstentions-15.

Roger Eisenberg moved to suspend the rules to allow Sandy Cohen to make a few remarks on why he abstained on the vote to endorse Goldfield. The motion pass on a standing vote: Ayes-18, Nays-9, Abstentions-7.

Sanford Cohen made a few remarks.

Tom Avery nominated Paul Streitz for Councilman-at-large from the Borough of Manhattan - seconded by Martin Nixon. Avery yielded part of his time to Streitz. There was debate on the endorsement. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote to close nominations. On a standing vote, Paul Streitz was endorsed: Ayes-27, Nays-3, Abstentions-8.

Paul Streitz nominated Louis Sicilia for Borough President of Manhattan - seconded by Ray Strong. Streitz yielded part of his time to Sicilia. It was moved, seconded and passed on a voice vote to close nominations. On a standing vote, Louis Sicilia was endorsed: Ayes-30, Nays-1, Abstentions-5.

Andrea Millen moved to suspend the rules to hear from the candidates who had not yet spoken. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Bill Lawry, Gary Greenberg, Ray Goldfield and Fran Youngstein then each made some short remarks.

Martin Nixon made some short remarks asking people to submit news items and other materials for the Newsletter.

Fran Youngstein introduced and resolution to have the Party send a letter to each state legislator on repeal of all abortion and contraception laws. There was debate on the question. On a point of information, Fran said that the actual text of the letter would be drafted by the Secretary based upon the LAAG letter. After further debate, Fran moved to amend by substituting a resolution on contraceptive law repeal only. The motion carried on a voice vote. Fran then moved to have a letter sent out on abortion law repeal. The motion failed on a voice vote.

Ken Kalcheim moved to have the FLP write a letter to each state legislator in support of the Liberty Amendment. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The Chair asked if there was any other new business. There being none the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The First Annual State Convention of the Free Libertarian Party adjourned sine die at 8:34 PM on April 1, 1973.

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