

Chautauqua County Libertarian Party Chair's Report – September 2, 2021 – Page 1

STATE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** An Executive Committee meeting was held on August 16, 2021. Actions were completed on financial authorizations for upcoming events in September and November. Additionally, \$500 was authorized for outreach campaigns in organized counties and Patricia Berthod was appointed County Contact for Oswego County. A Candidate Support Committee was created and is chaired by Duane Whitmer. The committee will focus on finding small, winnable races in local elections. Additionally, the 2022 Libertarian National Convention Delegate Selection Committee with Tony D'Orazio and Lora Newell as co-chairs. Applications for the LPNY's Representative and Alternate Representatives for the National Platform and Credential Committees have been opened.

2. **STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** The next State Committee meeting will be held online on Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 7 p.m., with a focus on continuing the Platform Committee's report. An in-person State Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, November 7, 2021, in Syracuse and on Zoom during the Empire State Freedom Summit.

3. **AN EVENING WITH LARRY SHARPE – SEPTEMBER 25.** Reservations have been set for a fundraiser event with Larry Sharpe as keynote speaker set for Saturday, September 25, 2021, at the Radisson Hotel in New Rochelle. Tickets are available. \$150 gold sponsor tickets are sold out, but \$125 silver sponsorship and \$100 regular tickets are available.

4. **EMPIRE STATE FREEDOM SUMMIT.** Set for the weekend of November 5-7, 2021, in Syracuse, it will be a large event with workshops, speakers, a fundraiser, and a business meeting.

5. **BALLOT ACCESS LAWSUIT.** Michael Kuzma, one of our attorneys, filed paperwork on July 30, 2021. An extension was requested and granted on August 11, 2021 by the opposing parties. There is no further update on further action or hearings.

6. **TRAININGS.** The next monthly meeting for County Affiliate leaders is Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

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. Jackson Arthurs is no longer an enrolled Libertarian and thus has vacated his position on the County Committee.

2. **ENROLLMENTS.** As of August 5, 2021, we have 269 enrolled Libertarians in Chautauqua County. This is a drop from the 275 enrollees on February 25, 2021. We gained 6 new enrollees and lost 12 enrollees.

3. **FACEBOOK.** Meetings through October 7, 2021 are set up on Facebook.

4. **WEBSITE.** Meetings are up on the website through February 3, 2022. The candidate questionnaire still needs to be fixed on the mobile version.

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ELECTIONS/CAMPAIGNS

1. **GERRIT CAIN FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR.** We have been preparing materials for the campaign, including a new logo, rack cards, and an updated website and social media. A “Paddle for Liberty” event is scheduled for Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OUTREACH

1. **LIBERATE CHAUTAUQUA.** The August 12, 2021 meeting was cancelled. Next meeting? How can we reach out to other groups ahead of the election, as well as the 2022 gubernatorial campaign? We might want to have an in-person meeting to start growing the group. Meeting location ideas?

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **FUNDRAISER.** TBD Late Summer 2021. We were talking about doing a chicken BBQ in late September, possibly located in Dunkirk. The company that the Erie County Libertarian Party worked with, Carrabba's, is booked through the rest of the year. If we don't do a fundraiser this year, we can definitely plan ahead for 2022.

2. **SUMMER PICNIC.** At the July 2021 meeting, we determined that we would schedule our picnic at our August 2021 meeting, but that did not happen. I reached out to Duane Whitmer about the possibility of doing a Western New York Libertarian picnic and he is on board. We can also do our picnic this weekend, to go along with Gerrit's “Paddle for Liberty” campaign event.

3. **ANNUAL CONVENTION.** TBD October 2021. We always have a guest speaker at our convention. Any ideas for a guest speaker? Combination with our annual picnic?

4. **ELECTION NIGHT PARTY.** November 2, 2021. Location?

Andrew Martin Kolstee
Chair, Chautauqua County Libertarian Party