

**Minutes of the April 14th, 2019 Annual Convention of the County Committee
Of the Libertarian Party of Chautauqua County
held at EBC West, 34 W. Main Street, Fredonia, New York**

Members in Attendance

Andrew Kolstee, Chair, Treasurer, State Committee Representative
Len Morlock, Vice Chair
Gerrit Cain, Secretary, Libertarian Party Candidate for County Legislature, District 16
Jeff Mason
Christopher Hayes
Bob Peterson
Shawn Salim
Dan Steward
Brian Donnelly

Observers

Brittany Spry, Candidate for Jamestown City Council Ward 4
David Wilfong, Candidate for Mayor of Jamestown
Dan Heitzenrater, Candidate for Ellicott Town Council Ward 4
Dennis J Welka, Candidate for Dunkirk City Council
Fred Norton, Candidate for Arkwright Supervisor
Larry Wilcox
Anna Wilcox
Christopher H Schaeffer, Candidate for County Legislature, District 3
Rudy Mueller, Candidate for Busti Town Supervisor
Jeremy Ziemba
Kari Bittner, At Large State Committee Member
Larry Ball, Candidate for Arkwright Town Council
Will Schmitt
Larry Sharpe, 2018 Libertarian Party Candidate for Governor
Sean C. Phelan, Monroe County State Committee Representative
Mallory Burniski
Pat Peterson

Chair Andrew Kolstee called the convention to order at 12:17 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Morlock to adopt the agenda with changes to accommodate guest speakers schedule seconded by Mr. Cain was passed with unanimous consent.

Guest Speaker Larry Sharpe

-Discussion of the liberty movement, state and national issues

Guest Speaker Gerrit Cain

-Chautauqua County Libertarian Secretary seeking endorsement and nomination from Libertarian party for District 16 Chautauqua County Legislature 2019 race.

Guest Speaker Kari Bittner

-Libertarian Party enrollment drive. Three new members enrolled.

Mr. Cain made a motion **to adopt the revised Rules of the Chautauqua County Libertarian Party** as presented to all members in attendance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Morlock. There was no debate and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Kolstee relinquished the chair to Vice Chair Mr. Morlock. Mr. Cain nominated Andrew Kolstee for Chair. Mr. Kolstee accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Andrew Kolstee was reelected Chair** by voice vote running unopposed. Mr. Morlock relinquished the Chair to Mr. Kolstee.

Mr. Kolstee nominated Len Morlock for Vice Chair. Mr. Morlock accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Len Morlock was reelected Vice Chair** by voice vote running unopposed.

Mr. Mason nominated Gerrit Cain for Secretary. Mr. Cain accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Gerrit Cain was reelected Secretary** by voice vote running unopposed.

Mr. Morlock nominated Andrew Kolstee for the position of Treasurer. Mr. Kolstee accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Andrew Kolstee was reelected Treasurer** by voice vote running unopposed.

Chautauqua County Libertarian Candidate Nomination/Endorsement

Mr. Steward nominated Gerrit Cain for the endorsement of the Chautauqua County Libertarian Party for the District 16 County Legislature race in 2019. Mr. Cain accepted and the vote carried with unanimous consent.

Chair's Report: Andrew Kolstee

- Strong Momentum in the Party to carry into the State Convention
- Discussion of upcoming events
- Continue promoting engagement via social media/Facebook and email lists
- Grow the party through voter registration

Guest Speeches by County Candidates Seeking Endorsement

Rudy Mueller (D):

- Running for Town of Busti Supervisor versus incumbent Jesse Robbins
- Currently serving on Town Board.
- Unsuccessful State Assembly run in 2018
- Presented data showing an average 6% annual overall (property and school) tax increase in the town while maintaining over 30% reserve surplus.
- Current supervisor proposed a 50% raise in pay for his position. Debated down to 30% but still passed.
- Committed to preventing town tax increase and roll back Supervisor wage increase.

Dan Heitzenrater (R):

- Running for Town of Ellicott Ward 4 Counsel Seat (incumbent)
- Served as and currently serving as County Executive Assistant to former Vince Horrigan and current George Borrello.
- Pushed for revision of proposed \$0.20/k town tax increase. Reduced to \$0.10/k.
- In favor of dissolution of villages within the town and consolidation of facilities and services.

Fred Norton (R):

- Running for Town of Arkwright Supervisor (incumbent)

- Town includes significant amount of State land-> poor tax base.
- In favor of maintaining current wind energy infrastructure in the town despite resistance from local residence. Town benefits from wind energy \$300/yr. 26 agencies slowed the process thus delaying income.

- State required town hall relocation. Eminent domain

Larry Ball (R):

- Running for Town of Arkwright Council Seat (incumbent)
- Lowered town budget by 8.5% last year
- In favor of wind energy in the town. Important revenue.

Brittany Spry (R):

- Running for Jamestown City Council Ward 4 versus Marie Carruba (D)
- Experience in Cassadaga School district. Secretary and Business Administrator.
- Connections to Duane Whitmer and Andrew Hollister
- Reduce spending to balance the city budget and reduce dependence on State funding.
- Increase Transparency

Chris Schaffer (D):

- Running for District 3 County Legislature versus Bob Scudder (R)
- Currently serving on Town of Pomfret Board
- Reformed town zoning
- State designated town a “clean community”
- Kept taxes under cap
- Promises to push for consolidation

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Morlock seconded by Mr. Peterson was carried unanimously.
Convention officially adjourned at 2:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Gerrit Cain, Secretary