

# **Chautauqua County Libertarian Party Chair's Report – October 7, 2021 – Page 1**

## **STATE COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** An Executive Committee meeting was held on September 13, 2021. Minutes were adopted, several County Contacts were renewed/appointed, and attorney fees were approved. Each committee issued a report. An Executive Committee meeting was held on October 4, 2021. At that meeting, an expenditure was approved for the Empire State Freedom Summit and Jennifer O'Connor as appointed County Contact for Rensselaer County following the resignation of Philip Vecchio.

2. **STATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** A State Committee meeting was held on September 12, 2021. Two vacancies were filled, and no further platform planks were adopted. The State Committee voted to pursue a platform consisting of general principles as opposed to specific issues. 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.** Larry Sharpe is officially exploring a run for Governor but has not yet officially announced.

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. Larry Sharpe and Scott Horton are among the speakers.

5. **BALLOT ACCESS LAWSUIT.** No update.

6. **TRAININGS.** The next monthly meeting for County Affiliate leaders is Tuesday, October 12, 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.

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 January 6, 2022 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.

## **ELECTIONS/CAMPAIGNS**

1. **GERRIT CAIN FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR.** A Paddle for Liberty event was held in early September, as well as a Sign Wave in Kiantone before the Town Hall hosted by George Borrello. We also have prepared mailings to send to voters in the district.

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### **OUTREACH**

1. **LIBERATE CHAUTAUQUA.** At the last meeting, there was a consensus that outreach and networking with existing groups is essential and the first step before proceeding with the vision of Liberate Chautauqua, which could serve as the umbrella organization in the future.

### **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.** I had a conversation with Duane Whitmer regarding networking with all Western New York Libertarians to help overall growth of the party in the region. We agreed to wait until after the election to move forward with this.

4. **2022 PLANS.** After the election, we need to have a plan for 2022 moving forward. One of the ideas discussed was in regard to 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. **LARRY SHARPE IN WESTERN NEW YORK.** Larry Sharpe is doing his Full Sharpe tour again to visit all 62 states. The dates for his trip to Western New York are not yet determined.

2. **VETERAN SPEAKER.** Duane Whitmer and I have discussed having an event for a speaker, Kiran Hill, to come to Western New York. The tentative date is Saturday, November 13, 2021.

3. **ELECTION NIGHT PARTY.** At the September 2021 meeting, we talked about holding the Election Night Party at Anthony's Supper Club. Updates?

4. **2022 ANNUAL LETTER.** It is not too early to start thinking about our 2022 annual letter, in which we can also advertise our spring fundraiser, if we can get that organized in time.

5. **FUNDRAISER.** We have postponed the idea of doing a chicken BBQ fundraiser for next spring.

Andrew Martin Kolstee  
Chair, Chautauqua County Libertarian Party