



# LIBERTARIAN

## PARTY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY March 6, 2019

**Date and Time:** Wednesday, 6 March 2019 at 4pm Mountain time

**Where:** Online: Zoom

**Committee Attendees:** Caryn Ann Harlos, Joe Dehn, Ed Fochler, James Gholston, Andrew Kolstee

**Other Attendees:** Ben Leder

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm Mountain time.

**Records of Past Meetings:** The minutes of the 20 February meeting were approved.

**General LPedia:** There was discussion of articles recently uploaded representing documents such as press releases, but with titles that don't identify the issuing organization; titles that only identify the topic are not sufficient since there can be many documents on the same topic. It was agreed that these should be fixed by including at least the state, for press releases the words "press release", and, where known, the date.

There was discussion of the use of titles in references to activists, in particular "Rabbi Marc Montoni"; this is inconsistent with how we have been referring to people in LPedia and could create expectations that other people should be listed with titles (e.g., "Dr.", "Ms.", "the Honorable"), leading to further inconsistency. It was agreed that if a person is commonly referred to with a title it is appropriate to mention this fact in their biographical article, but the title of the article itself and references to it should just use their name.

**Site Statistics:** Ed reported that we are continuing to get about 100 users/day; Kim Ruff has been a popular topic recently.

**LPedia URLs:** Ed said that MyWikis has not yet implemented the change in format.

**Featured Article:** There was discussion of some articles that might be featured.



**New York:** Andrew reported that Bill McMillan has another box of material from the early 1970s.

**Categories:** Caryn Ann reported that she has been putting in a lot of hours on this. There was discussion of “maintenance” categories that can be used to track articles that do or do not contain certain kinds information (e.g., birth dates, photos). There was discussion of whether “Lists” is a useful category and what sorts of articles should be considered to be a “list”. There was discussion of the appropriate ways to categorize things that belong to subcategories (e.g., “newsletters in Colorado” vs. things that are related to Colorado that don’t belong to any obvious subcategory).

**California:** Joe reported that the LPC HPC had its second meeting. They are making use of old state newsletters as a resource for information like past Executive Committee members and membership statistics. They are trying to identify people who can help with information about local groups – both people who have records and volunteers who can help with organizing/uploading. They plan to have a table at the upcoming state convention with historical information and material on display.

**Colorado:** Caryn Ann has been working on fixing up pages that poorly represent old issues of CLiPboard because of the way they were created (scanned/copied/pasted). Joe noted such text pages should also point to a scanned image (e.g., PDF) of the original newsletter whenever such an image file is available.

**Illinois:** Caryn Ann reported that the Illinois activists working on donating material to a university do not seem willing to allow it to be scanned first, so we will just have to add that university to our list of known external archives.

**Personal Collections:** James reported that he is still working on getting a better scanner to Marshall Beerwinkle.

**Committee Membership:** Caryn Ann reported that responses from the applicants to whom we sent a followup message have not been encouraging. Only one of them replied to our questions, and that person did not do the sample project we requested. Another did do some work on an article but so far has only copied some material from Wikipedia, which is not what we want.



**Yahoo Groups:** Ed said he is helping Andrew decode some files that had been embedded in NY group messages.

**Scanning:** Caryn Ann is working on assembling the scanning job that we approved at the last meeting. Because there are multiple copies of many of these items, she can cut them up to make them easier to scan. The national office kept the various components of fundraising letters (envelope, reply card, etc.) as laminated pages in notebooks; she now has a laminating device and may do the same with other documents that had inserts. She also reported that she had obtained a (used) large-format (12x17 inch) scanner; if it works well it should be useful for various things.

**Fundraising:** Caryn Ann reported that the donor who had been making monthly contributions sufficient to cover our budget has stopped for now; he may resume in the future but for now she will need to do some additional fundraising.

**Helping New LPedia Users:** There was discussion of adding a link in the menu that appears on every page to our guide for new users.

**Usenet FAQs:** There was discussion of a list of state party activists from 1995 that appears on "faqs.org". Joe explained that this was one of a series of such FAQs relating to the LP that he had maintained on Usenet; this was a way that reference information was often shared online before the WWW became popular.

**Personal Collections:** Ben asked for advice on approaching large collections of material. Caryn Ann said she would have to see it and "commune with" the documents before she could suggest an approach. Joe suggested making an inventory that shows at least how much of each type of material there is.

**Upcoming LNC Meeting:** Caryn Ann noted the meeting coming up the next weekend and invited everyone listen in on the live stream.

**Future Meetings:** The next meeting is scheduled for 20 March 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm Mountain time.