



Libertarian Party of Michigan

Fall Convention

Saturday, August 25, 2018
Wyndham Garden Hotel, Romulus, Michigan

Call to Order

The convention was called to order by LPM Chair Bill Hall at 11 a.m.

Credentials Report

Credentials Chair Larry Johnson moved approval of the voting roll and the following report: As of 10:55 a.m., 68 delegates and 2 alternates had been credentialed (majority=35, 2/3rds=46, 7/8ths=60).

Greg Creswell moved to amend the report by striking Keith Butkovich, Livingston County alternate, from the roll as he is the gubernatorial candidate for the Natural Law Party. Amendment **passed** (43 for, 27 against).

Amended credentials report was **approved**.

Luke Sciberras moved the following: *That each of the duly elected delegates and the selected alternates from the joint session of counties Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, and Shiawassee, who are present here today and were denied their credentials to this State Convention, in accordance with the State of Michigan election law, be seated as delegates, and for the CALP delegate and alternate roster to be reflected in the credentials report.* Credentials Chair Larry Johnson informed the convention that the people in question, delegates Daniel and Ed Symanzik and alternate Cassidi Palmer, had not joined the Libertarian Party of Michigan by the required 30 days in advance. Motion **failed**.

Greg Stempfle moved to add Angelique Thomas as a delegate to the Oakland County delegation; **passed**.

Bill Gelineau moved to add Tracey Mclaughlin as an alternate to the West Michigan delegation; **passed**.

John Tatar moved to add Ken Rhodes, Suzi Brown and Dan Nash as delegates to the Capital Area delegation; **failed**.

Approval of Agenda

Jeff Wood moved approval of agenda. As we were already behind time, Bill Gelineau moved to amend the agenda to start platform deliberation as soon as possible and, if necessary, go back to that agenda item after candidate nominations if any time remained; **passed**. Agenda as amended **passed**.

Approval of Convention Rules

Art Gulick moved to approve convention rules; **passed**.

Platform Consideration

James Weeks, chair of the platform committee, assumed the Chair and Jeff Wood, secretary of the platform committee, took notes (additions in blue, strike outs in red).

Proposal A

In III. Courts; 9: *We support equal treatment and oppose ~~sexual~~ discrimination on the basis of sex and sexual orientation in any judicial proceeding adjudicating a parental right, privilege, or obligation concerning ~~his or her~~ their child.* **Passed.**

Proposal B

In last paragraph of preamble: *This precondition allows that the only legitimate function of government, where it exists, is the protection of the inalienable rights of its citizens.* **Passed.**

Proposal C

IV. Public Safety New plank 2, renumber accordingly: *2. State prison facilities should be used only for the incarceration of individuals who have proven themselves a threat to others. Once free from incarceration, all rights should be restored immediately, and the classification of 'felon' should not impede one's constitutional rights.*

Will White moved to amend by changing “proven themselves a threat to others” to “who have been found guilty of acts of aggression”; **failed.**

Jim Fulner moved to amend by striking the first sentence; **passed.**

Approved plank: *Once free from incarceration, all rights should be restored immediately, and the classification of 'felon' should not impede one's constitutional rights.*

Proposal D

Add new section to VII. Economy: *5. We recognize all mutually agreed upon forms of trade, including, but not limited to non-fiat currencies such as precious metals, cryptocurrencies and bartering.* **Passed.**

Proposal E

Add new section to III. Courts: *12. No person should be denied due process on the basis of age or citizenship.* **Passed.**

Proposal F

Add new section 1 and renumber IV. Public Safety: *1. We believe the largest threat to public safety is the government itself, and thus the right to bear arms exists primarily to ensure the people the ability to effectively resist tyranny.*

Will White moved to amend by striking the language from the beginning through “thus”; **failed.**

Benjamin Dryke moved to amend by changing “government” to “capitalism”; **failed.**

JJ McCurry moved to amend by adding “foreign and domestic” after government; **failed.**

Main motion **passed.**

Proposal G

In VI Taxes, remove sections 6 & 7 and add new section 6:

~~6. Sales tax on used merchandise that is resold results in double taxation and should be eliminated.~~

~~7. Adding sales tax to products already subject to specific state taxes, such as gasoline and cigarettes, should be ended. This practice results in double taxation, as consumers are paying a tax on a tax.~~

86. We oppose any sales or use tax, *including* on the Internet. **Passed.**

Proposal H

Add new section to III. Courts: *11. We affirm the right of victims of aggression to seek justice, and deny the legitimacy of criminal prosecutions of persons who have victimized no one. To prevent false prosecutions and the fabrication of victims, we affirm the right of any alleged victim to end a prosecution by freely asserting his or her objection to it.*

Will White moved to amend by striking the 1st sentence; **failed.**

Emily Salvette moved to postpone this motion until platform consideration after lunch; **passed.**

Proposal I

Add a new plank 2 and renumber in I. State Government: *2. We advocate for the elimination of the Michigan State Senate.*

Benjamin Dryke moved to replace “Senate” with “government”; **failed.**

Bill Gelineau moved to amend by replacing “the elimination of” to “support proportional representation in”; Katie Nepton moved to amend Gelineau’s motion by inserting a statement saying we support proportional representation until the Senate can be eliminated. Brian Ellison submitted the following rework of the Gelineau/Nepton amendment to be used as substitute language for the main motion: *We support proportional representation in the Michigan State Senate until such time as it can be eliminated;* **passed.** Donna Gundle-Krieg moved to replace “it” with “the Senate”; **passed.**

The main motion **passed.**

Leonard Schwartz moved to recess for lunch; **passed.**

The lunch program was a kick-off of the 2018 campaigns with Paul Connolly as Master of Ceremonies. John Tatar spoke first, ten state legislative candidates spoke on the *Libertarian Promise to Michigan*, and the gubernatorial candidate, Bill Gelineau, was the keynote speaker.

The convention reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

Credentials Chair Larry Johnson reported that as of 2 p.m. 91 delegates and 2 alternates had been credentialed (majority=46, 2/3rds=61, 7/8ths=80).

Candidate Nominations

Lieutenant Governor

Bill Gelineau spoke then yielded to LPM founder James Hudler, who nominated **Angelique Thomas**. Jim Fulner nominated **John Tatar**. Mike Saliba and James Weeks jointly nominated **John Kanan**. Nominations were closed and the three candidates were given an opportunity to speak. While ballots were tallied, nominations continued.

Attorney General

Scott Boman nominated **Lisa Gioia**. Jim Fulner moved to close nominations and elect by acclamation; **passed**.

Michigan State Supreme Court

Greg Stempfle nominated **Kerry Morgan** and read a statement from him. Nominations were closed. On voice vote against NOTA, **Kerry Morgan** was elected.

The results of the Lt. Governor race were announced: **Thomas-59 (elected)**; Tatar-18; Kanan-16; NOTA-1.

Secretary of State

James Weeks nominated **John Tatar** and Scott Boman nominated **Greg Stempfle**. The candidates were given the opportunity to speak. During balloting, LP congressional candidates Leonard Schwartz and Brian Ellison addressed the convention.

The results of the Secretary of State race were announced: **Stempfle-84 (elected)**; Tatar-9; NOTA-1.

State Board of Education

Rob Stano nominated **John Tatar** and Greg Stempfle nominated **Scott Boman**. Both candidates were elected by voice vote against NOTA.

Michigan State University Board of Trustees

Bill Gelineau nominated **Tim Orzechowski** and Ann Campbell nominated **Bruce Campbell**. Both candidates were elected by voice vote against NOTA.

University of Michigan Board of Regents

Brett Cashman nominated **James Hudler** and **John Jascob**. Both candidates were elected by voice vote against NOTA.

Wayne State Board of Governors

Jeff Wood nominated **John Hargenrader** and **Jon Elgas**. Both candidates were elected by voice vote against NOTA.

Other Endorsements

Greg Stempfle moved that the convention endorse **Mark Ashley Price**, who is running in the non-partisan race for Highland Park School Board; **passed**.

Platform Consideration (continuation)

Dana Carver moved to suspend the rules to allow time on the agenda to consider a vote of no confidence for Libertarian Executive Committee District 1 Representative Donna Gundle-Krieg; **failed**.

Andy Evans moved to suspend the rules to allow time on the agenda to consider a motion to accept the resignation of Donna Gundle-Krieg; **failed**.

Andy Evans moved to adjourn the convention; **failed**.

James Weeks assumed the Chair and Jeff Wood took notes.

Continuation of **Proposal H**

Scott Boman moved the following substitute language:

*We deny the legitimacy of criminal prosecutions of persons who have victimized no one. To prevent false prosecutions, we affirm the right of alleged victims to end prosecutions by freely asserting their objection to it. This does not preclude prosecution in cases where a victim remains silent, nor shall it preclude prosecutions where a victim has been coerced into objecting; **passed**.*

Main motion **passed** (38/19).

Proposal J

Strike language in section 1 of V. Vice Laws and add a new section 3: *1. Government should confine itself to protecting individuals from aggression, coercion and deceit. We oppose all laws and regulations that attempt to protect individuals from the consequences of their own behavior. While not necessarily condoning such activities, we advocate the repeal of all laws criminalizing gambling, possession and sale of drugs and alcohol, ~~and sexual relations between consenting adults~~. All those presently incarcerated or ever convicted solely for the commission of these victimless crimes should be pardoned and their records expunged.*

3. We call for the repeal of all laws criminalizing relationships between consenting persons. Libertarians recognize that sex is a valid form of work and as such support the repeal of all laws criminalizing the offer of sexual services for compensation by consenting persons, as well as the repeal of all laws criminalizing voluntarily seeking out sexual services for hire.

Lisa Gioia moved to amend by replacing in section 3 the word “relationships” with “actions”; **passed**.

Donna Gundle-Krieg moved to replace all instances of “persons” in section 3 with “adults”; **passed**.

Jim Fulner moved to strike in section 3 all words from “recognize” through “such.”

Orders of the Day were called for. Fulner amendment **passed**, main motion **passed**. The new language for section 3 is:

- 3. We call for the repeal of all laws criminalizing actions between consenting adults. Libertarians support the repeal of all laws criminalizing the offer of sexual services for compensation by consenting adults, as well as the repeal of all laws criminalizing voluntarily seeking out sexual services for hire.*

Leonard Schwartz moved to suspend rules for 5 minutes to consider the last proposal; **passed**.

Proposal K

Strike and add language to IV. Public Safety: 4. Laws requiring the use of seat belts ~~and helmets~~ or other personal protection devices are misguided, paternal, and should be repealed. Individuals must assume responsibility for their own safety. **Passed.**

State Chair Hall resumed the chair, thanked the platform committee for its work, and recessed the convention for a short break while the delegates from Congressional District 4 caucused to choose a new LEC representative to replace Tim Coon.

The convention reconvened at 4:03 p.m.

Officer and Committee Reports

The State Chair, Bill Hall; 1st Vice Chair (affiliates) Tim Yow; 2nd Vice Chair (campaigns) Greg Stempfle highlighted elements of their printed reports. Secretary Emily Salvette thanked the convention committee: Greg Stempfle, Vicki Hall, Paul Connolly, Lisa Gioia and Adam Zientarski; and its volunteers: Jon Elgas and John Jascob. Jason Brandenburg gave the Treasurer's report, and Lisa Gioia discussed membership and recruiting. Scott Boman talked about the state newsletter and the need for an assistant editor. Emily Salvette relayed that Legislative Committee Chair Will White has compiled a list of Michigan bills that is available on the LPM website convention packet page.

The result of the District 4 caucus is that Luke Sciberras is the new LEC representative.

Resolutions

Connor Nepomuceno moved the following:

Whereas, we condemn bigotry as irrational and repugnant irrespective of Race, Class, Sex, Nationality, etc.,

Whereas, the Duopoly politicians and extremists of the Left and Right utilize Identity Politics as a means to denigrate their political opposition on the grounds of group identities,

Whereas, we hold that the population at large must be united under common cause against government oppression in order to maintain our Individual Rights, irrespective of Race, Class, Sex, Nationality, etc.,

Whereas, "Each person has the same inalienable rights that the State has a duty to protect,"

*Let it be RESOLVED, that in pursuit of a Libertarian society, we CONDEMN the use of negative Identity Politics, as tribal and authoritarian. **Failed.***

Bill Gelineau moved the following:

*RESOLVED, that the Libertarian Party of Michigan oppose HB 4747, a bill that would suppress freedom of speech by amending Michigan election law to dramatically increase primary election candidate filing fees and make them nonrefundable, and file a legal brief in opposition to this proposed law. **Passed.***

Scott Boman moved the following:

Whereas the ballot proposal put forth by the group called, "Voters Not Politicians" Fails to end Gerrymandering since the proposed "Citizens Commission" would simply be another body of politicians given a task previously performed by state legislators...

Further enshrines the Duopoly by reserving a majority of seats on the "Citizens Commission" for two major parties.

Gives the Secretary of State (a politician), not voters, extensive control in the selection process of the "Citizens Commission."

Whereas there are effective remedies for Gerrymandering that have not been applied such as Setting a maximum ratio of a district's perimeter to surface area.

Proportional allocation of representation from compact regions with fixed boundaries, such as counties or townships.

*Be it resolved that the Libertarian Party of Michigan opposes this proposal, but supports effective changes that will end Gerrymandering. **Passed.***

Jim Fulner moved the following: *Be it resolved, the Libertarian Party of Michigan supports the efforts to end the ICE Contract with Calhoun County; **passed.***

Dana Carver moved the following: *Be it resolved, the Michigan Libertarian party accepts Donna Gundle-Krieg's District 1 rep resignation dated 8/17/18; **failed.***

Adjournment

The convention was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Emily Salvette

LPM Secretary