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Parliamentary Opinion

February 22, 2022

Issue to be Addressed:

To assure the Vermont Libertarian Party shall comply with the Regulations of the Vermont Secretary of State as to Political Parties in regard to retaining ballot access and to take all steps necessary to thereby do so brought about by the expired term of the chair. and due to the refusal and failure of the Chair to call a meeting for the purpose of Reorganization of the Vermont Libertarian Party after numerous requests to do so, and refusal to communicate why there was an unprecedented delay, the State Committee was left with no alternative but to properly notice and call a Special/ Extraordinary Meeting to appoint a Chair Pro Tem to conduct a meeting to elect an acting Chair to conduct said mandated Reorganization Meeting.

After the Special Meeting and the election of the new acting Chair, the Reorganization Meeting took place as duly noticed. All this was accomplished under the Bylaws of the VLP and in the presence of National Libertarian Party officials with the newly-elected Chair presiding. Both the VLP and NLP Members were present for the entire Special Meeting to appoint a Chair Pro Tem and the Reorganization Meeting and voiced no objection.

Both the Special Meeting and the Reorganization Meeting were conducted in compliance with the Bylaws of the VLP, the NLP and Roberts' Rules of Order, 11th Edition.


Source Materials: VLP Bylaws, NLP Bylaws, Roberts' Rules of Order, 11th Edition, and numerous communications between the VLP and the Vermont SOS Office, Merriam-Webster and Oxford Dictionary.

VLP Bylaws, III. Committee Functions and Operations, B. The State Committee, "1. This committee shall serve as the ruling body of the Vermont Libertarian Party."

Subsection II of the above states: "The State Chair may call an extraordinary (Special) meeting of the committee provided he gives at least 72 hours notice orally or in writing to each Committee Member, stating the place, time, and purpose of the meeting."

The word "may" does not connote only, must or exclusivity. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of "may" is: expresses permission, possibility, probability, sometimes used where "might" would be expected.

Conclusion: Therefore, it is my parliamentary opinion based on the VLP Bylaws and the NLP Bylaws and Roberts' Rules of Order 11th Edition as well as Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Oxford Dictionary that all meetings and actions taken were in compliance therewith.



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