

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

LNC MEETING SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2020

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Policy Manual Section 2.02 SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Historical Preservation Committee

The HPC shall be responsible for directing the preservation and publication of Party historical documents and the administration of LPedia.org. A report of its decisions and activities shall be delivered at each LNC meeting.

The scope of the initial organizing work will last well into several years (the estimate is at least additional five years depending on member involvement), and LPedia will need to be maintained for the time of its existence.

Committee Members

- Caryn Ann Harlos (Chair)
- Joe Dehn (Secretary)
- Ed Fochler
- James Gholston
- Andrew Kolstee

Status of search for potential additions to committee:

As this is a new term, new applications are being solicited. We are also awaiting the appointment of the committee chair for this term.

Reports, Meetings, and Communications

The Committee is committed to transparency and conducts open meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month via Zoom. The monthly agenda is posted and updated here: http://lpedia.org/LPedia:LPHPC_Agenda. Committee discussion is also conducted via email with a read-only subscription option available to all Party members by sending a message to lphpc-request@lists.dehnbase.net with "subscribe" in the subject line. The minutes and other records from its proceedings are preserved on LPedia¹ (links noted below for member review):²

¹ The complete history of minutes and reports can be found at: http://lpedia.org/National_Historical_Preservation_Committee

² The committee will soon be testing out using the google meeting software instead of Zoom.

Minutes Prepared since the last report:³

- July 1, 2020 http://lpedia.org/w/images/d/d3/Minutes_2020-07-01_HPC.pdf
- July 15, 2020 http://lpedia.org/w/images/a/a4/Minutes_2020-07-15_HPC.pdf
- August 5, 2020 https://lpedia.org/w/images/9/98/Minutes_2020-08-05_HPC.pdf
- August 19, 2020 https://lpedia.org/w/images/7/73/Minutes_2020-08-19_HPC.pdf

Prior Committee Reports this Term:

- July 8, 2020 https://lpedia.org/w/images/7/7e/LPHPC_Report_2020-07-08.pdf

Motions Considered

- None

Regular Dedicated Non-Committee Volunteers

There are multiple regular volunteers that tend to specialize either in their state or in broader subject matters such as election statistics. The committee is in search of another Colorado on-site volunteer and will be exploring internships once again. I have been encouraging the state affiliates to take ownership of their pages and update them regularly.

STATUS OF DOCUMENT PRESERVATION

Storage Unit

Initial plans have been made to expand the shelving at the unit in order to maximize the storage space, but we are not at that point. Details on the method behind the organizational process as well as a tour of the site are available upon request.

Digitization

Documents and Papers:

Batches of documents are scanned regularly. Presently, we have a backlog of items already scanned to be uploaded.

Audio/Video/Electronic Data Materials:

We received previously unknown boxes and boxes of Clark video material that will be digitized in the future, with some of the items being in the rarer formats for which there is only one current vendor who does that work. We need volunteers to work on other media categories such as audio and VHS. All of the past meetings on UStream have been downloaded but are not yet on LPedia. LPHQ took all of our VHS tapes to digitize for use in 50th anniversary events. Those files are being received in batches.

³ As per the requirements of the Policy Manual Section 2.02.1, the above-linked minutes contain the dates and attendance rosters for each of the Committee's meetings since the previous regular LNC Meeting.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS AND PROJECTS

State Party Preservation Efforts

State Party Coordinated Preservation Efforts/Committees:

- California
 - A historical committee, chaired by Joe Dehn, is working on collecting and preserving material relating to the state and local LP organizations.
- Colorado
 - The affiliate is using LPedia as its public records archive and regularly uploads records.
- New York
 - A historical committee is being led by Andrew Kolstee to organize their substantial records.

Individual Preservation Efforts or Donations of Items

Individuals regularly contact the committee regarding their personal collections. The committee is very focused about what kinds of material it will accept, and offers advice concerning items it generally does not accept. In cases where it appears that important items will be thrown away if the committee does not intervene, we try to find a home for them in an academic archive if possible. The priority remains the national party records, and the committee encourages and trains state parties to use LPedia as their permanent archive and to organize local volunteers to do the digitization work.

Nolan Archive

These materials are presently stored in the Utah home of Dr. Buchman who has expressed interest in writing a biography of David with the encouragement of his widow, Elizabeth. Elizabeth signed a written copyright waiver for these materials to be published with or without attribution to LPedia and for commercial or non-commercial use. As the committee had passed a motion to get these scanned, we are attempting to work with Mr. Buchman to get these records to the scanning facility.

Yahoo Lists

We have downloaded as many groups as possible and have these in the archive.

STATUS OF LPEDIA

General Statistics⁴

- 4,473 Articles
- 32 Active Editors
- 5,224 Document/Image Uploads

Daily unique visitors remain about 100-125 with bumps when particular pieces are featured on Facebook or Ms. Harlos appears at various speaking engagements.

Featured Articles

At least once a month (preferably twice) detailed and image-rich articles are featured on the front page to freshen up content and highlight various affiliates, events, people, and documents. Nearly any article can qualify if they meet the standards of high-quality content. Types of content are alternated in order to not emphasize one interest over any other and provide variety. The following are the 2020 featured articles thus far:

- First Issue of LP News
- California Convention 2020
- Libertarian Party of Colorado
- National Convention 1996
- LNC Meeting 1-2 February 2020
- LP News 1972 January Issue 2
- David Koch

Massive Category Clean-Up

The initial structure has been laid out using OmniOutliner with the master file available for download. The process is coming close to completion with the exclusion of the “images” and “publication files” categories. The current top-level category tree is structured as follows:

- Collections
- Definitions
- Events
- Files
- Images
- Issues
- Lists
- LPedia

⁴ *Last report statistics:*

- 3,532 Articles
- 22 Active Editors
- 4,222 Document/Image Uploads

- Organizations
- People
- Places
- Publications
- Records

Technical Issues

We successfully completed the move to /wiki/ as the subdirectory for main wiki content which was the recommended best practices.

Data Back-Ups

Regular back-ups are done professionally and consistently. All of the uploaded documents are also kept offline on hard drives and regularly copied to drives stored at a safety deposit box. Any member who provides Ms. Harlos with hard drives may have a copy of all of these records. The committee would like to see them widely distributed so that there is never a single source/point of failure.

Rating Articles

We are working on a system to rate articles in terms of quality and importance to facilitate improvement on below par items.

ACCOUNTING FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020

Total Expenses Booked: \$1,102.16

Total Revenue: \$250.00

Total Budget: \$2,500.00

Funds Committed: None

Respectfully Submitted,



Committee Chair