

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andrew M. Kolstee, Chair
Duane J. Whitmer, 1st Vice-Chair
Richard F. Purtell, 2nd Vice-Chair
Mark S. Braiman, Secretary
William Cody Anderson, Treasurer
Maura E. Botsford, Member-At-Large (JD8)
Justin N. Carman, Member-At-Large (JD3)
Keith C. Redhead, Member-At-Large (JD5)
William K. Schmidt, Member At-Large (JD9)
Karyn A. Keniry Thompson, Member-At-Large (JD4)

OBSERVERS (15)

Mark N. Axinn, State Committee member, Judicial District 1
Chance Haywood, State Committee member, Judicial District 1
Paul M. Grindle, State Committee member, Judicial District 3
Jennifer L. O'Connor, State Committee member, Judicial District 4
Daniel J. Castello, State Committee member, Judicial District 5
Shawn C. DeGrand, State Committee member, Judicial District 5
David S. Penner, State Committee member, Judicial District 6
Christopher M. Olenski, State Committee member, Judicial District 6
Sean C. Phelan, State Committee member, Judicial District 7
Michael R. Rebmann, State Committee member, Judicial District 8
Richard Bell, State Committee member, Judicial District 13
Catrina Rocco, Dutchess County Chair
Michael J. Long, Fulton County Secretary and Acting Chair
Shawn Hannon, Onondaga County Chair
Pietro S. Geraci, Orange County Vice-Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Andrew Kolstee, Chair. Secretary Mark Braiman conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

The Chair opened a period of public comment. Pietro Geraci stated that he is Vice-Chair of Orange County Libertarian Party, and that earlier today he emailed the minutes of their convention.

Secretary Mark Braiman issued a report. **The reading of the minutes of the December 18, 2022 and January 15, 2023 meetings of the Executive Committee** was waived. Approval of these minutes was postponed because they were not in final format. Braiman also reported that he mailed paper notice of the State Committee meeting of March 5, 2023 to all the members of the State Committee for whom he had a mailing address. The exception was Chance Haywood, for whom a current mailing address was not available. This included the Rules Committee's proposed amendments to the Rules of the Libertarian Party.

Treasurer William Cody Anderson issued a Treasurer's Report in **writing (Exhibit 1)** and the report was accepted without objection.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **authorize an expenditure of up to \$400 to William Ostrowski for paid petitioning** was seconded by Mark Braiman and passed by voice vote.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **dissolve the 2022 LPNY Petitioning Committee bank account and to transfer the funds to the LPNY Constituted Committee bank account** was seconded by Duane Whitmer and passed by voice vote.

Chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. There was no further action on legal issues from what was discussed at the January 15, 2023 meeting. A review of voter data revealed that the New York State Board of Elections is no longer recording enrolled Libertarians in Chenango County, while they are still being recorded at the county level. About 26% of the LPNY email list has opened the February Newsletter.

Communications Director Duane Whitmer issued a joint report to include the report on behalf of Outreach Director Steven Felano. The video response to Kathy Hochul's State of the State address earned 20 new subscribers and 350 views, which Whitmer indicated did not meet his expectations. The last good press received by the LPNY was regarding the challenge of Lee Zeldin's Independence Party petitions, and some work with the Seneca Nation. The LPNY support for a bill to end qualified immunity is likely to get good press, and LPNY support for a current bill to stop police surveillance. A bill to restore ballot access has been introduced in the Legislature, which has five sponsors, all Republican. Finding a Democratic co-sponsor could be helpful. Mark Braiman pointed out that Assembly redistricting is an issue that should be of interest to the Communications Division. Braiman and Mark Glogowski both offered oral and written testimony before the New York Independent Redistricting Commission arguing in favor of paying attention to provisions in the New York Constitution requiring Assembly members to represent counties. If suggestions from either of these LPNY officials ends up being adopted by the Commission or by the court overseeing the redistricting process, the LPNY should take credit for helping to reduce gerrymandered splitting of small counties between multiple Assembly districts.

Field Development Director Andrew Kolstee issued a report, referring to documentation available online, that one County Affiliate has met all the requirements for certification. **Certification that the County Affiliate in Orange County has met the criteria required in Article 11.2.3 of the Rules of the Libertarian Party of New York** passed without objection.

The report included a list of one (1) county that has held a convention but has not yet provided full documentation for certification (Putnam). There are also four (4) counties that have scheduled a convention (Albany, Saratoga, Tioga, and Yates). The report also included a list of nine (9) County Affiliates that have previously been organized during the 2020-2022 period, but have not provided documentation of having held a convention (Chenango, Fulton, Montgomery, Otsego, Orleans, Richmond, Schoharie, Wayne, and Westchester). These counties need to provide documentation by March 31, 2023, or they will be considered for revocation of their affiliation.

The renewal of Keith Redhead as County Contact of Oneida County for a three-month term set to expire on June 18, 2023 passed without objection.

Kolstee is working on consolidating all guides into one large guide for LPNY volunteers.

Information Technology (IT) Director Justin Carman issued a report. The IT Division currently has a plan to move the LPNY.org website that is currently hosted by the National Libertarian Party to a hosting account owned by the LPNY. He also is working to get LPNY.org email addresses for all State Committee members.

Motion by Justin Carman to **transfer domains owned by Christopher Edes (lpnewyork.us, lpnewyork.net, and lpnewyork.info), Anthony D’Orazio (lpnys.org and lpnystore.com) and Alex Merced (newyorklp.org and lpnewyork.org) to the LPNY NameCheap account and to allocate up to \$300 to register the domain names and set up forwarding** passed without objection.

Motion by Justin Carman to **open a hosting account with NameHero, to transfer the lpny.org website to that host from the National Libertarian Party, and to allocate up to \$150 for the purchase of the Starter Cloud account on NameHero** passed without objection.

Legislative Affairs Director Richard Purtell issued a report. He spoke about the Qualified Immunity bill proposed in the New York Legislature, which we are supporting strongly. We are working with the Institute of Justice on passing this bill.

Political Director Paul Grindle issued a written report (**Exhibit 2**). He has a list of villages and towns in New York and positions up for election this year. Grindle would like help in determining which villages have June elections this year. He would also like to identify villages where candidates are running uncontested.

Rules Committee Chair Andrew Kolstee issued a report. The Rules Committee has continued to meet. A mailer was sent out with a report of Rules Amendments that will be proposed at the March 5, 2023 meeting of the State Committee.

Only one candidate, Chance Haywood, expressed interest in the position of Finance Director. Chair Andrew Kolstee read his application to the Executive Committee, and Haywood spoke on his candidacy. **The appointment of Chance Haywood as Finance Director** was approved without objection.

Motion by William Cody Anderson to **request a hearing to be held by the State Committee in accordance with Article 12 of the Rules of the Libertarian Party for the purpose of considering the removal of Scott Thompson as a member of the State Committee from Judicial District 10 due to abandonment of position** was seconded by Richard Purtell and passed without objection.

Motion by Duane Whitmer to **request a hearing to be held by the State Committee in accordance with Article 12 of the Rules of the Libertarian Party for the purpose of considering the removal of Jacob Cornell (JD 5), David Penner (JD 6), Keith Price (JD 6), Mark Smith (JD 7), Kelly Durkin (JD 7), Angelo Veltri (JD 10) if they do not attend the State Committee meeting of March 5, 2023** was seconded by Karyn Thompson and passed without objection.

Motion by Karyn Thompson to **adjourn** was seconded by Duane Whitmer and passed by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Mark Stephen Braiman,
Secretary.

EXHIBIT 1 (Page 1 of 2)

LPNY Treasurer's Report February 19, 2023

Housekeeping Committee account balance as of 02.19.23: **\$909.38** (+\$216.31 since 1.15.23)

Constituted Committee account balance as of 02.19.23: **\$24,274.36** (+\$2,289.84 since 1.15.23)

LPNY 2022 Petitioning Committee account balance as of 02.19.23: **\$4,335.95** (no change since 1.15.23)

Deposits to Housekeeping account since 1.15.23:

Transfer from CC account - \$1000.00

Disbursements from Housekeeping account since 1.15.23:

Grasshopper - \$33.72

Constant Contact - \$200.07

Zoom - \$549.90

Deposits to CC account since 1.15.23:

Net Donations - \$3289.84

Includes one-time convention sponsorship monies of \$2000.00 received from D. Whitmer

Does not include deposit in transit of \$418.78 from Paypal, including LPNY Store net proceeds transferred to LPNY by M. Rebmann

Disbursements from CC account since 1.15.23:

Transfer to Housekeeping account - \$1000.00

EXHIBIT 1 (Page 2 of 2)

Deposits to petitioning account since 1.15.23:

none

Disbursements from petitioning account since 1.15.23:

none

Respectfully submitted,

W. Cody Anderson
Treasurer

EXHIBIT 2

Political Division Report - 2/19/23

Paul Grindle

Candidate Acquisition:

- Got full list of villages and cities and towns
 - If there's a central organized list for water boards please let me know
- Need volunteers to sort:
 - which village dates are for June - TARGETABLE THIS YEAR
 - City and town election dates
 - < 1000 votes to win races
 - No opposition candidates
 - Any blanks, as in registration and as in nobody ran
- We have gap time for brief moulton. If we have resources by then, we try it. If not, we just study it for more information

Candidate Support:

- General volunteer request email to be sent out middle of this week
- Roggen is on the ballot, thank you Michael Rebmann
- Need local volunteers for door knocking
- Need remote volunteers for phone banking
- Join general request with Roggen request?
 - Use people for candidate acquisition or make that request separate?

Incumbent Support:

- Got list of all incumbents
- Interest previously from a few for a joint council
- Will complete outreach to all uncontacted and follow up with old contacted by next week
- Interest from Schmidt for advising from his time in office
- Aiming for early to mid march first meeting to just assess people's opinions and build an action plan
- Possibly use the candidate support volunteer request results for doing incumbent support tasks?