



LIBERTARIAN

PARTY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY MARCH 1, 2017

Date and Time: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 @4pm Mountain

Where: Online: Go To Meeting

Committee

Attendees: Caryn Harlos, Joseph Buchman, Joe Dehn, Ed Fochler, James Gholson

Member

Attendees: Trish Lynch, Bonnie Scott, John Sullivan

Meeting called to order at 4:03pm (mountain).

Brief introductions of Committee members.

Objective and Goals: A budget of \$5,000 has been allocated by the LNC in the context of preserving through digitizing the Party archives kept at the Home Office (HQ) and offsite storage facility though broad discretion has been given to the Committee. In light of this, the focus of funds allocation will be to those records. However, the goals of the Committee are the preservation of the broader scope of Party history which will take place through LPedia and be flexible according to the interests of the volunteer pool. The primary function of the Committee to steer the project, though the Committee members may operate in additional roles as volunteers and will be free to focus on their particular area of interest in Party history. The records at HQ thus are a necessary minimal focus but not a necessary full or sole focus.

It will be nearly impossible to set priorities until we know more thoroughly what exactly we have at HQ so an inventory is the top priority. A few volunteers will be working on that in March. We already have some items scanned that can be the seed for the project. While this groundwork is being done, the Committee will need to get LPedia ready (see later). The rationale for the items in process of scanning now has been readily identifiable discrete projects of broad Party interest (such as the Liberty Pledge and LP News),

We have also been granted access to the Nolan collection in the possession of Elizabeth Nolan.



Ultimately we would wish to see this Committee become a permanent Committee under the LNC Policy Manual rather than its ad hoc status. Thus, we need to lay a solid groundwork and show successes and value to the Party, and work with an eye to make things smooth and easy to transition to successors.

Preservation: Decisions will need to be made as to the strategy for tackling the records at HQ including file format for preservation (Joe Buchman is presently using .tiff which can be OCRd). Ed Fochler mentioned photographing the items but that would not render them searchable. Our goals should be very future-oriented to produce something useful years from now. A compressed lower quality version can be produced from our digitized originals for LPedia with the originals being kept in our Mega (or equivalent) drive. Both preserving the content (i.e. what the document says) and the medium (how the document looked) are considered important. The Committee has not been given charge of the preservation of the physical documents which remain in the purview of the full LNC but we certainly can and should make recommendations. What we have been given is access for digital preservation. We will also need to plan ahead for preservation of audio.

Mega Drive: Some divergence of opinion exists on organization of this drive (or equivalent). Caryn Ann Harlos is of the opinion that some rudimentary organization is needed so that we have a separate archive outside of LPedia so that these records can be distributed as a unit, and this will function as a backup in a different hierarchy. She will propose a basic organization guideline and distribute and will take on the Mega organization as Joe Buchman has been uploading Liberty Pledge items. Caryn Ann Harlos is mirroring the Mega drive locally. We will want to add in layers of redundancy.

LPedia: Bonnie Scott gave a detailed update on her extensive and lengthy database cleanup. The status at this point is that we are waiting for the data to be transferred to the new host site. A background was given as to how we ended up where we are. There are potential issues with our host that will be covered in an email outside the meeting. The organization (admin team?, article naming? , categorization?) is still a wide area for us to cover, but a lot of that will happen organically. It is intended that copies of documents will reside on LPedia itself and any outside archive will be redundant.



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Procedure: Joe Dehn to set up an email list which will have read-only subscription capabilities. Committee business will be conducted via that list between meetings. We do have the ability to use email voting as it is permissible under the rules of the parent body. Any Committee member can request an email ballot and voting shall remain open for ten days. Motions dispensed through email ballots satisfy the requirement of giving previous notice.

Volunteers: Trish Lynch has extensive sysadmin/database experience and has offered to help. She will also be in the Alexandria area the end of March and can assist in the inventory project. Additionally she has audio scrubbing software and skills and requested a link to the 1972 and 1974 convention audio files. Joe Buchman also stated that he might be able to dedicate several weeks and visit HQ to finalize the inventory and perhaps conduct some scanning. He is also presently scanning items, and the work is much more tedious than original envisioned. Emily Goldberg will be scanning the items from Elizabeth Nolan's home and then those originals need to find a home. Caryn Ann Harlos will be broaching that subject with the LNC when the time comes. Kimberly Sutich offered to add items to LPedia. Volunteers will be the lifeblood of the success of this venture.

THE NEXT MEETING TIME IS SET FOR MARCH 16, 2017 AT 4PM MOUNTAIN VIA GOTOMEETING.