

**Minutes of the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
of the Libertarian Party of New York  
held on Saturday April 29, 2017  
at the Genesee Grande Hotel  
1060 East Genesee Street  
Syracuse, New York**

The convention was called by the State Committee of the Libertarian Party of New York at its meeting of December 4, 2016. Convention personnel were as follows:

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Chair                                   | Mark Glogowski  |
| Recording Secretary                     | Blay Tarnoff    |
| Credentials Committee Chair             | Rachel Maisonet |
| Chair of Committee on Standing Rules    | Ed Garret       |
| Program Committee Chair                 | Shawn Hannon    |
| Resolutions Committee Chair             | Ed Garret       |
| Convention Arrangements Committee Chair | Shawn Hannon    |

The convention was called to order by Chair Mark Glogowski at 9:30. Chair Mark Glogowski issued a Chair's report. Secretary Blay Tarnoff issued a brief Treasurer's report from a document provided by Treasurer Mike Dowden.

The report of the Credentials Committee showing 42 members entitled to vote and 22 members who may be permitted to vote was amended to add the latter to the roll of voting members. During the course of the convention, three supplemental reports were adopted without debate, ultimately bringing the roll of voting members to 69.

The report of the Committee on Standing Rules proposing the *Standing Rules of the 2017 Annual Convention of the Libertarian Party of New York* (Exhibit 1) was adopted as amended without debate.

The report of the Program Committee proposing the program and agenda of the convention (Exhibit 2, un-amended), amended by the Program Committee to change the start time of the business session to 9:30, which was the time published in the notice of the convention, was adopted without debate.

**Mark Glogowski was re-elected Chair** by voice vote, running unopposed.

**Jim Rosenbeck and Brian Waddell were re-elected Vice Chair** by voice vote, running unopposed as a set.

**Blay Tarnoff was re-elected Secretary** by voice vote, running unopposed.

**Mike Dowden was re-elected Treasurer** *in absentia* by voice vote, running unopposed.

**Mark Potwora, Aaron Commey, Shawn Hannon, Michael McDermott, and Tony D’Orazio were elected State Committee Members At Large** by voice vote as a set, Mark Potwora and Aaron Commey being re-elected and Michael McDermott being re-elected *in absentia*.

**The Resolution to Restore Convict Voting Rights (Exhibit 3)**, placed on the agenda by the State Committee at its meeting of April 2, 2017, was presented by special resolution committee chair Aaron Commey and was debated and passed by two-thirds.

The convention stood in recess from 11:00 to 13:00.

Andrew Kolstee, chair of the Divisional Structure Committee, and several other members, made a major half-hour presentation in support of moving the LPNY to a divisional structure. **A resolution to endorse moving the LPNY to a divisional structure as outlined in the Divisional Structure document (Exhibit 4)**, placed on the agenda by the State Committee at its meeting of April 2, 2017, was debated and passed by two-thirds.

The following resolution offered by Seven Becker was debated and passed by two-thirds:

**Be it hereby RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party of New York recommends passage of the “Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2017”, Assembly Bill 680.**

Motion by Jim Harris to **declare that henceforth the fourth Saturday in August shall be “Thankful Libertarian Day” and celebrated with social gatherings** passed without debate.

The business session of the convention was adjourned at 14:23.

Blay Tarnoff, Secretary  
May 29, 2017

# Exhibit 1

## STANDING RULES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

Rule 1. The Credentials Committee, directly after the opening ceremonies of the business meeting, shall report the number of delegates registered as present with proper credentials who are entitled to vote and the names of other members in good standing registered as present with proper credentials who may be permitted to vote. The members in the latter category may be added to the roll of voting members at any time unless three members in the former category object.

Rule 2. To facilitate identification, seating and voting, members and others shall be required to retain and display upon request the wrist bands or voting cards issued by the Credentials Committee upon registration. Division votes, whether simple or counted, shall be taken by members' standing and display of wrist bands or voting cards issued by the Credentials Committee upon registration.

Rule 3. A resolution offered by an individual member shall be in writing, signed by the maker and the seconder – each of whom shall be a voting member of the convention – and shall be sent directly to the desk of the Recording Secretary.

Rule 4. (a) All resolutions except those proposed by the State Committee or by another committee, and all recommendations made in reports of officers or committees of the convention that are not in the form of resolutions, shall be referred without debate to the Resolutions Committee; resolutions proposed by the State Committee or by another committee shall be presented by the proposing committee directly to the convention.

(b) Each member who offers a resolution shall be given an opportunity to explain it to the Resolutions Committee if he so requests.

(c) The Resolutions Committee shall prepare suitable resolutions to carry into effect recommendations referred to it, and shall submit to the convention, with the Committee's own recommendation as to appropriate action, these and all other resolutions referred to the Committee, except questions which the Committee by a vote of two-thirds of its members may decide not to report.

(d) The convention by a majority vote may suspend this Rule 4 and may immediately consider a question, or may order the Resolutions Committee to report a question at a certain time, even if the Committee had voted not to report it.

Rule 5. No member shall speak in debate on the same question more than twice or longer than five minutes in total without permission of the convention granted by a two-thirds vote without debate.

Rule 6. Candidates seeking endorsement for each public office shall each be allowed an amount of time to speak and for two seconding speeches, such time to be determined by the Chair in consideration of the time available. Candidates for Chair shall each be allowed three minutes to speak; candidates for all other Party offices shall each be allowed one minute to speak.

Rule 7. Endorsements of candidates for public office shall be made in the same manner as elections for Party office, except that endorsements shall require a 2/3 majority. Each office shall be filled with one election, even if that office has more than a single position to be filled. Each election shall consist of a series of ballots. In each ballot, voters may vote for as many candidates as there are positions for the office still open or "None of the Above". If None of the Above achieves a majority, a new election shall be held for the open positions still remaining and the candidates who were outpolled by None of the Above shall be ineligible; otherwise, those who achieve the requisite majority shall be recognized as elected, in order of their vote totals and in order of the length of term. The candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be eliminated from succeeding ballots. Ties shall be resolved by a separate ballot.

Rule 8. All reports and other material for the permanent record or printed proceedings shall be typewritten and, immediately on presentation, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary **in electronic form**.

Rule 9. Notices for announcement to the convention shall be in writing, signed by the person (or a proper representative of the persons) under whose authority the announcement is issued, and shall be sent to the desk of the Recording Secretary.

Exhibit 2, un-amended



***#GoodIdeasDontRequireForce***

**Welcome to the 45th Annual LPNY State Convention**

The Onondaga County Libertarian Party thanks you for your attendance and participation during this years state convention. The OCLP has invited several voices of liberty to speak at this years convention including LP National Political Director, **Carla Howell**, LP National Vice Chairman, **Arvin Vohra**, founder of Muslims4Liberty and 2016 LP Vice Presidential candidate, **Will Coley**, and 2016 LP Vice President runner-up, **Larry Sharpe** with comic relief provided by **Liberty Memes!**

**8:00am** - Registration and Credentialing

**8:30am** - Parliamentary 101 w/M Carling

**9:00am** - Business Session Begins

Opening Remarks - Shawn Hannon OCLP Chairman

Chairman's Report - Mark Glogowski  
Treasurer's Report - Michael Dowden

Report of the Credentials Committee - Rachel Maisonet  
Report of the Standing Rules - Edward Garrett  
Report of the Program Committee - Shawn Hannon

Exhibit 2, un-amended cont'd

Election of Officers

Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer  
Members At Large

Resolutions and Other Business  
Divisional Structure

11:00am\* - Carla Howell - Who's Driving?

12:30pm\* - Lunch

1:30pm\* - Arvin Vohra

2:15pm\* - Liberty Memes

2:45pm\* - TBD/Break

3:45pm\* - Will Coley

4:15pm\* - Larry Sharpe

5:00pm - End Program

*Thank you, in Liberty.  
Onondaga County LP*

*[www.onondagalibertarians.org](http://www.onondagalibertarians.org)*

## Exhibit 3

### Resolution to Restore Convict Voting Rights

WHEREAS the right of citizens of the United States to vote is a fundamental right;

WHEREAS there are more than 2.2 million people incarcerated in federal and state prisons and county jails;

WHEREAS there are approximately 4.7 million people in the United States on probation or parole;

WHEREAS there are currently 48 of these United States and the District of Columbia that strip incarcerated felons of their voting rights;

WHEREAS there are currently 10 of these United States that strip incarcerated misdemeanants of their voting rights;

WHEREAS many of the 48 of these United States also strip felons who have been released from prison of their voting rights under a variety of conditions;

WHEREAS certain racial and socioeconomic segments of the population are disproportionately disenfranchised by such laws;

WHEREAS prisoners are counted for census purposes as residents of the community where the prison is located rather than as residents of the communities from which they hail;

WHEREAS the vast majority of prisoners hail from a small number of communities which are far removed from the community in which the prison in which they are incarcerated is located;

WHEREAS communities that contain prisons enjoy more representation in government than that to which they are entitled;

WHEREAS communities from which prisoners are relocated suffer from diminished representation in government than that to which they are entitled;

WHEREAS such laws provide incentives to distort the justice system to criminalize otherwise innocuous behavior for reasons other than criminal justice;

WHEREAS such laws provide incentives to distort the justice system to systematically convict vulnerable members of society for reasons other than criminal justice;



## Exhibit 3 cont'd

WHEREAS deprivation of this fundamental right does little if anything to further the goals of rehabilitation, incapacitation, deterrence or retribution;

WHEREAS Maine and Vermont allow prisoners to vote and Massachusetts and Utah allowed prisoners to vote until 2000 and 1998, respectively; and

WHEREAS Puerto Rico, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Sweden and Zimbabwe allow prisoners to vote; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Libertarian Party of New York

1. Urges the New York State Legislature to restore forthwith the voting rights of all citizens convicted of crimes unrelated to the elective franchise, be they incarcerated, on probation or on parole;
2. Urges all state legislatures of these United States that currently disenfranchise citizens convicted of crimes unrelated to the elective franchise to restore forthwith the voting rights of all such citizens, be they incarcerated, on probation or on parole;
3. Urges the United States Congress to restore forthwith the voting rights of all citizens convicted of crimes unrelated to the elective franchise in the District of Columbia, be they incarcerated, on probation or on parole; and
4. Urges the United States Congress to restore forthwith the rights of all citizens convicted of crimes unrelated to the elective franchise in the United States to vote in federal elections, be they incarcerated, on probation or on parole.

Original movant: Aaron Commey

Special Resolution Committee:

Aaron Commey, Chair

Michael McDermott

Ed Garret

Blay Tarnoff

Exhibit 4



LPNY Divisional Structure

Version April 2, 2017



## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **I. Introduction**

- A. The purpose of this document is to organize the Libertarian Party of New York into five divisions, which is basically a category that groups certain tasks and projects. The structure will be the basis for which all committees are organized under.
- B. The purpose of the Divisional Structure is to establish an organized infrastructure for the Libertarian Party of New York, so it can carry out its functions.

### **II. Current Structure**

A. Upon adoption of the Divisional Structure, the following standing committees and ad hoc committees shall be merged into the Divisional Structure with their current leadership and members as follows:

- 1. Standing Committees
  - a. Budget Committee (Chair: Jim Harris)
    - i. *as part of the Finance Division*
  - b. Communications Committee (Chair: Andrew Kolstee)
    - i. *as the general committee of the Communications Division*
  - c. Chapter Development Committee (Chair: Jim Rosenbeck)
    - i. *as part of the Outreach Division*
  - d. Fundraising (Chair: Gregg Fort)
    - i. *as part of the Finance Division*
  - e. IT Committee (Chair: Chris Edes)
    - i. *as part of the Administrative Division*
  - f. Strategic Planning Committee (Chair: Andrew Kolstee)
    - i. *as part of the Administrative Division*
- 2. Ad Hoc Committees
  - a. Platform Committee (Chair: Tom Timmons)
    - i. *as "Issues & Platform Committee," part of the Communications Division*

B. Upon adoption of the Divisional Structure, the following ad hoc committee shall be merged with the Strategic Planning Committee, as organization of the structure of the LPNY is part of strategic planning.

- 1. Organizational Structure Committee (Chair: Andrew Kolstee)

C. Upon adoption of the Divisional Structure, the following standing committee shall be dissolved, as it will be part of the Political Division, which will be divided into three committees.

- 1. Elections Committee (Chair: Chris Padgett)

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **III. Divisional Structure Outline**

The following is an outline of the Divisional Structure.

1. Administrative Division
  - a. Training & Support Committee
  - b. Legal Committee
  - c. Volunteer Committee
  - d. IT Committee
  - e. Strategic Planning Committee
2. Communications Division
  - a. Social Media Committee
  - b. Issues & Platform Committee
  - c. Media & Press Committee
3. Outreach & Events Division
  - a. Organizing Committee
  - b. Chapter Development Committee
4. Political Division
  - a. Ballot Access & Petitioning Committee
  - b. Candidate Recruitment Committee
  - c. Candidate Support Committee
5. Finance Division
  - a. Budget Committee
  - b. Fundraising Committee

Exhibit 4 cont'd

**IV. Divisional Structure Infographic**

| STATE COMMITTEE |                   |   |
|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| Divisions       | People            | Specialized Committees  |
| Administrative  | Director          | 1. Training & Support<br>2. Legal<br>3. IT<br>4. Volunteer<br>5. Strategic Planning |
|                 | General Committee |   |
|                 | Positions         |   |
| Communications  | Director          | 1. Social Media<br>2. Issues & Platform<br>3. Media & Press                         |
|                 | General Committee |   |
|                 | Positions         |   |
| Political       | Director          | 1. Ballot Access & Petitioning<br>2. Candidate Recruitment<br>3. Candidate Support  |
|                 | General Committee |   |
|                 | Positions         |   |
| Outreach        | Director          | 1. Organizing<br>2. Chapter Development   |
|                 | General Committee |   |
|                 | Positions         |   |
| Finance         | Director          | 1. Budget<br>2. Fundraising   |
|                 | General Committee |   |
|                 | Positions         |   |

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **V. General Overview**

#### **A. Divisions**

Divisions are described as the following:

1. A category with a set of responsibilities to carry out different tasks for the LPNY.
2. Headed by a Divisional Director, which is a cabinet-level position
3. Comprised of a General Committee (a team with members that have skills for that division)
  - a. The Divisional Director will chair the General Committee, or appoint someone else to do so
4. Divisions may have additional committees for specialized tasks.

#### **B. Division Directors**

1. Each division is headed by a "Division Director," which is a cabinet-level position
2. Division Directors are chosen as follows:
  - a. Appointed by the State Chair and/or at the recommendation of the Administrative Division, then approved/confirmed by the State Committee
  - b. Each new incoming chair may appoint new people to those positions
3. Division Directors are responsible for:
  - a. Leading their division and populating the division's committees and positions
  - b. Carrying out whatever tasks for which their division is responsible
4. Division Directors have the following abilities:
  - a. Populating the General Committee
  - b. Creating and appointing positions (with State Committee approval)
  - c. Creating and populating specialized committees within their division (with State Committee approval)

#### **C. Rules for Committees**

1. All LPNY members are eligible to be on any committee or serve as Division Director.
2. At least one State Committee member must be on each committee.
3. Committees have the power to appoint members and fill vacancies.

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **VI. Descriptions of Divisions**

The following are the proposed 5 divisions and their descriptions:

- **A. Administrative Division** - responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Libertarian Party of New York. These operations shall include training and support, record keeping, maintaining policies, and procedures, technology, managing volunteers, and legal support for the Libertarian Party of New York.
- **B. Communications Division** - responsible for communicating the policies, positions, and opinions of the Libertarian Party of New York to the public at large. This includes maintaining the content of the website, managing and maintaining the social media presence, managing relationships with all media and press and communicating with the members of the party.
- **C. Outreach Division** - responsible for grassroots-level contact between the Libertarian Party of New York and the public at large. These responsibilities shall include maintaining useful contacts and coordination with student organizations, recruiting key demographics into the Libertarian Party, developing contacts with other grassroots-level organizations, and establishing county chapters for the Party. The Outreach Division will organize grass-root events such as attending meetings and gathering signatures for petitions. For the event aspect, the division is responsible for planning and implementing statewide events such as the state convention, monthly social events, and organizing political events. The Events Division will identify and work with conventions, conferences, and events throughout New York. Additionally, the Events Division will assist in training and supporting county Libertarian parties on successful event planning techniques and strategies.
- **D. Political Division** - responsible for recruiting and training Libertarian candidates for public office. This shall include working with volunteers and maintaining a list of all elected and appointed offices. The Political Division shall provide support to Candidates such as assistance with filing the proper paperwork, and assisting campaign strategy, and managing petitions. The Political Division will also support the Libertarian Party Presidential nominees.
- **E. Finance Division** - responsible for creating a budget and developing ideas to raise funds and implement those ideas



## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **VII. Division Responsibilities, Committees, and Positions**

#### **A. Administrative Division**

##### **1. Responsibilities**

- **a. Vetting** - whether it is employees (in the event that the LPNY grows and we may need these positions or other roles), volunteer positions, or candidates.
- **b. Training & Support** - developing methods for training and supporting other divisions and members of those divisions
- **c. Legal Committee** - assists with election Laws, leadership standards, ballot access, liabilities, contracts, and employment law.
- **d. Institutional Knowledge** - responsible for maintaining institutional knowledge of the LPNY to include, but not limited to: job descriptions for each position within the organization, policies for each division, glossary of terms, field manuals (Guides and Handbooks), and transitions (passing the torch).
- **e. Interface with other Divisions** - the Administrative Division will work with other divisions within the Party.

##### **2. Specialized Committees**

- **a. Administrative Committee** - general committee consisting of all the administrative team members.
- **b. Training & Support Committee** - develops curricula to train and support each Division including course development and online education.
- **c. Legal Committee** - responsible for assisting with election and ballot access laws, leadership standards, liabilities, contracts and employment law.
- **d. Volunteer Committee** - responsible for recruiting and maintaining relationships with volunteers, maintain and update a field manual for volunteers, manage and place volunteers where they best fit, and work with political campaigns to place volunteers.
- **e. IT Committee** - responsible for all aspects of technology in the LPNY including website operations, data management, technology services (such as Grasshopper and Webex), and working with other divisions in the party that need technological resources.
- **f. Strategic Planning Committee** - responsible for creating the plans/goals for the LPNY
- **g. Organizational Structure Committee** - responsible for strengthening the structure of the LPNY and creating a smooth transition to a new structure.

##### **3. Positions**

- **a. Administrative Director**
- **b. Webmaster**



## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **B. Communications Division**

#### **1. Responsibilities**

- **a. Public Relations** - responsible for all aspects of the LPNY's public relations including, but not limited to: messaging, media relations and membership communications.
- **b. Website Content, Blog & Newsletter** - draft engaging language for all pages on the official website. The Communications Division manages the LPNY Blog and Newsletter.
- **c. Social Media Presence & Management** - responsible for maintaining and building a strong social media presence. This also includes targeting new demographics with the intent to build our social media reach/following and increasing our audience.
- **d. Media & Press** - Maintain a database of all media outlets in New York as well as key national media outlets.

#### **2. Specialized Committees**

- **a. Communications Committee** - general committee consisting of all the communications team members.
- **b. Social Media Committee** - responsible for maintaining and building a strong social media presence and strategy to increase the social media reach/following of our audience.
- **c. Issues & Platform Committee** - will identify Libertarian positions on current issues and develop the platform for the Libertarian Party of New York.
- **d. Media and Press Committee** - maintain a database of all media outlets and key journalist throughout New York as well as key national media outlets. Maintain relationships with key journalists.

#### **3. Positions**

- **a. Communications Director**

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **C. Outreach Division**

#### **1. Responsibilities**

- **a. Campus Building** - work with partisan (College Libertarians) and non-partisan (Young Americans for Liberty, Students for Liberty, etc.) to set up additional chapters throughout the state.
- **b. Target New Demographics** - Identify and target new demographics who would have a high likelihood to be interested in the Libertarian Party.
- **c. Coalition building** - one of the most important aspects of politics is having good relationships with other organizations. Work with organizations that are niched to specific issues that are aligned with the party platform such as gun rights, pro-legalization, etc.
- **d. Networking** - frequent networking events and interact with other professionals and groups.
- **e. Civic Engagement** - increasing voter registration.
- **f. Counties** - establish and build county chapters throughout the state.
- **g. Grass-root Event Organizing** - Organize City Council, County Commission and other rallies.
- **h. LPNY Events** - Responsible for planning all statewide events including, but not limited to, the state convention.
- **i. Maintain Vendor Relationships** - Identifying and negotiating with vendors associated with event production.
- **j. Calendar of Events** - maintain and update a database of all conferences, conventions and events throughout the state.
- **k. Event Sponsorship** - work with organizations to determine which events we will participate in and/or sponsor.
- **l. Training and Support** - maintain and update a field manual on event production as well as train and support county parties.

#### **2. Committees**

- **a. Outreach Committee** - general committee consisting of all the outreach team members.
- **b. Organizing Committee** - Determine which events we want to attend, develop ideas for rallies, and act as the "watch dog" for New York. Also works on managing and organizing events, including the annual state convention.
- **c. Chapter Development Committee** - responsible for identifying potential county chapter leaders by seeking and vetting TCCs and supporting the formation of county-level parties.

#### **3. Positions**

- **Outreach Director**

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **D. Political Division**

#### **1. Responsibilities**

- **a. Candidates** - Recruiting Candidates to run for office and training Candidates to run successful and effective campaigns. They will maintain a database of all Libertarian Candidates.
- **b. Placing Volunteers** - Identifying and placing Libertarians who are interested in working on campaigns.
- **c. Database of Offices** - It is important that we know all offices available, when they are available and how to qualify or run for each office. The Libertarian Party of New York will maintain a database of all elected offices and appointed offices on the website.
- **d. Situational Awareness** - Staying on top of media and current events and distributing that to Candidates so we are in the know and can react appropriately.

#### **2. Committees**

- **a. Political Committee** - general committee consisting of all the political division team members.
- **b. Ballot Access & Petitioning Committee** - responsible for creating, organizing, and distributing petitions
- **c. Candidate Recruitment Committee** - responsible for finding candidates
- **d. Candidate Support Committee** - responsible for supporting candidates, providing resources, etc.

#### **3. Positions**

- **a. Political Director**

## Exhibit 4 cont'd

### **E. Finance Division**

#### **1. Responsibilities**

- **a. Budget.** Create an annual budget by determining how much money to allocate to divisions and to party functions (events, petitioning, lawsuits, etc.)
- **b. Fundraising.** Coming up with fundraising ideas and implementing those campaigns.
- **c. Interface with other divisions.** Work with other divisions to determine where funds should be allocated.

#### **2. Committees**

- **a. Finance Committee** - general committee consisting of all the finance team members.
- **b. Budget Committee.** Committee for creating an annual budget
- **c. Fundraising Committee.** Committee for coming up with fundraising ideas and implementing them

#### **3. Positions**

- **a. Finance Director**