

Libertarian Party of Michigan
Minutes of the State Nominating Convention
July 18, 2020
Treetops Resort, Gaylord, Michigan

Call to Order

The convention was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chair Greg Stempfle who welcomed the delegates. He moved that due to the absence of Secretary Wendi Parker that Mary Buzuma be approved as Secretary of the Convention. Motion seconded and passed.

Credentials Report

Credentials Chair Larry Johnson moved on behalf of the committee that the 53 delegates (majority: 27, 2/3rds 36; 7/8ths 47) credentialed as of 10:15 a.m. should be considered the voting roll of the Convention. Motion seconded and passed without objection.

Agenda

Convention Agenda was approved without objection.

Convention Rules

Convention Rules were approved without objection.

Previous Convention Minutes

Minutes of the March 14, 2020 State Convention were approved without objection.

Motion to amend the April 4, 2020 online State Convention Minutes to read 3 way tie for last delegate spot instead of 2 way tie under Results of National Delegate Vote. Minutes approved as amended without objection.

Officer Reports

Chair Greg Stempfle reported on the National Convention and the Hybrid Convention. He was pleased with the Michigan delegation members who were present for all votes. He gave a special thanks to Andrew Chadderdon for his hard work. Andrew became a lifetime member and was presented with a pin.

2nd Vice Chair and Political Director Jamie Lewis spoke about candidate paperwork and to welcome new life member Congressman Justin Amash who will be addressing the delegates later in the convention. His full report is included in the convention packet.

3rd District Rep Nathan Hewer reported that he is now the Michigan Campaign Coordinator for the Jo Jorgenson presidential campaign and that anyone who would like to volunteer for the campaign to contact him. He also has t-shirts and ball caps from the National Convention.

1st Vice Chair and Affiliate Director Ben Boren reported that now is a golden opportunity for liberty and that despite personal challenges he assisted in the revival of the Alpena affiliate. He also stated that now is the time to affiliate the Upper Peninsula.

Credentials Report

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

Credentials Chair Larry Johnson reported that Southwest Michigan added delegate Brandon Warzybok. He moved on behalf of the committee that the 55 delegates (majority: 28, 2/3rds 37; 7/8ths 49) credentialed as of 10:34 a.m. should be considered the voting roll of the Convention. Motion seconded and passed without objection.

Treasurer Report

Norm Peterson reported that the LPM is ahead from a year ago. The full Treasurer Report is included in the convention packet.

Committee Reports

Historical

Chair Stempfle reported that items collected by Historical Committee can be found on display outside the meeting room.

Social Media

Connor Nepomuceno reported that the social media team is committed to supporting all candidates. He thanked Nathan Hewer, Ben Boren, Tyler Palmer, and all previous members for building the foundation. He requested that all affiliate chairs add LPM as co-host to help move their events.

Membership

Jeff Pittel who was not present received special thanks from Greg Stempfle for keeping affiliates updated on membership.

Newsletter

Scotty Boman gave special thanks to deputy editor Catherine Filus for her hard work. He would welcome more article contributions.

Platform Committee

Nathan Hewer thanked members Jeff Wood, Jon Elgas, Brian Ellison. Jim Fulner, Jay Gillotte, Connor Nepomuceno, James Weeks and Daniel Ziemba.

Platform Consideration

Nathan Hewer, Platform Committee Chair, assumes the role of Convention Chair.

Proposal 1

New Plank IV.3 and renumber accordingly

As we believe that government transparency is essential to public accountability. Complaints of police misconduct should be should be open to public scrutiny. ~~As such~~, we support the revision of the Freedom of Information Act to remove the exemption of these records.

Will White moved to amend. Remove "As such" for clarity. Motion seconded and approved. It was moved and seconded to remove "of these" and replace with "all". Motion passed to current language. Scotty Boman moved to add "therefore" between We and support. Motion seconded but did not pass.

Main motion – passed unopposed. New Plank IV.3 to read as follows: As we believe that government transparency is essential to public accountability. Complaints of police misconduct should be should be

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

open to public scrutiny. We support the revision of the Freedom of Information Act to remove the exemption of these records.

Proposal 2

1.9 If adopted:

We oppose immunities for any public officials or employees for illegal acts or omissions. Like any individual, they should be subject to criminal prosecution and held personally liable for any injuries caused by their actions. Therefore, we seek to abolish the protections of qualified immunity.

Call to question. Motion passes unopposed

Proposal 3

V.4 Replace cannabis with drug

If adopted:

The natural lawful, unalienable, and absolute rights of the citizens of Michigan to cultivate and utilize the natural plant known as cannabis shall not be infringed. All local and state laws regarding drugs should be repealed, nullified or otherwise abrogated. All prior and current non-violent drug related convictions should be null and void and expunged from those individual's records.

Leonard Schwartz spoke against the proposal as platform will hurt candidates. Chair called at ease for 5 minutes to allow people to close car windows due to storm. Convention called to order at 11:14 a.m.

Scotty Boman and Bill Hall also spoke against as article 5.1 in current platform says same thing.

Call to question.

Division. Proposal did not pass as 2/3rd requirement for passage was not reached.

Proposal 4

X.2 Proposed change: We call for the restoration of every individual's ancient, common law standing to sue for trespass any individual business, government or other group that pollutes their property.

XI.1

The most fundamental property right is an individual's right to own and control their own body. All individuals have the right to determine their own health care needs and treatment. Exercise of this right does not remove the moral obligations not to violate the rights of others. We recognize the state, when it exists, has a duty to protect the rights of others, particularly those in society who are the most vulnerable, including the very old, the very young, and the mentally handicapped. The state, where it exists, does have a duty to protect the life of all individuals, and should prosecute those who utilize force or fraud to end life.

Proposal passes

Proposal 5

I.5 If adopted:

We support the rights of the smallest minority the individual. We oppose bigotry as irrational and repugnant. Individuals' human rights should not be based upon sex, wealth, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, personal habits, political preference, sexual orientation, or any other group or personal identification. Nor should an additional privileges or benefits, be granted on these same bases. Each individual has the same inalienable rights that must be protected.

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

Lisa Gioia moved to add after sexual orientation “and/or preferences” and change “and/or” to “or to preference.” Motion seconded. Scotty Boman stated to include preference platform already speaks to consent. Jamie Van Alstine stated consent already in platform.

Call to question on amendment. Amendment fails.

Motion to change “should be” to “are not.” Motion seconded and passed.

Call to question on main motion.

Division

Motion fails.

Proposal 6

New Plank Iv.4

If adopted:

While incarcerated, citizens should retain the right to vote.

It was moved and seconded to change location to II.7

Amendment passes

Orders of the day. Convention adjourned for lunch

Convention reconvened at 1:38 p.m.

Credentials.

Credentials Chair Larry Johnson moved on behalf of the committee that the 62 delegates (majority: 32, 2/3rds 42; 7/8ths 55) credentialed as of 1:38 p.m. should be considered the voting roll of the Convention. Motion seconded and passed without objection.

Candidate Nominations for November 3, 2020 General Election

US Senate

Max Riekse

NOTA

Max Riekse spoke to his nomination.

Mike Saliba spoke to NOTA

Results

Max Riekse - 17

NOTA – 43

60 votes total

The LPM will not put forth a candidate for U.S. Senate.

State Board of Education (2)

Nominations

Bill Hall

Richard Hewer

Both candidates nominated by acclamation.

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

MSU Board of Trustees
Tabled until after district caucuses.

U of M Board of Regents
Eric Larsen
Jim Hudler
Both candidates nominated by acclamation.

Wayne State U Board of Governors
Tabled until after district caucuses.

Justice of the Supreme Court (2)
Nominations
Kerry Morgan
Katie Nepton
Robert Roddiss
NOTA

Results
Kerry Morgan 41
Katie Nepton 48
Robert Roddiss 24
NOTA – 1
Candidates for Justice of the Supreme Court are Kerry Morgan and Katie Nepton.

Results of Congressional District as reported to
the Convention Secretary:

District 1
U.S. Rep in Congress – Ben Boren
Elector - David Holmer

District 2
U.S. Rep in Congress – Max Riekse
Elector – Alex Avery

District 3
U.S. Rep in Congress – NOTA
Elector – Vicki Hall
LEC Rep - Jay Gillotte

District 4
U.S. Rep in Congress – David Canny
Elector – Richard Hewer

District 5
U.S. Rep in Congress – James Harris
Elector – Angela Thornton

District 6
U.S. Rep in Congress – Jeff DuRoy
Elector – Rafael Wolf

District 7
U.S. Rep in Congress – NOTA
Elector – James Hudler

District 8
U.S. Rep in Congress – Joe Hartman
Elector – Jonathan Elgas

District 9
U.S. Rep in Congress – Mike Saliba
Elector – Greg Stempfle

District 10
U.S. Rep in Congress – NOTA
Elector – Jim Fulner
LEC – Jim Fulner

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

District 11
U.S. Rep in Congress – Leonard Schwartz
Elector – Daniel Ziemba

District 13
U.S. Rep in Congress – NOTA
Elector – Andrew Chadderdon

District 12
U.S. Rep in Congress – NOTA
Elector – Claranna Gelineau

District 14
U.S. Rep in Congress – Lisa Lane Gioia
Elector – Scotty Boman

Results of Affiliate Caucuses as reported to the Convention Secretary:
[For clarity, a full list of candidates will be included at the end of these minutes rather than here.]

Convention body reconvenes

Additional Candidate Nominations for November 3, 2020 General Election

MSU Board of Trustees
Nomination
Will White
Candidate nominated by acclamation.

Wayne State U Board of Governors
Jonathan Elgas
Candidate nominated by acclamation.

At Large Electors to the Electoral College
Connor Nepomuceno
Andy Evans
Candidates elected by acclamation.

Endorsement of Candidates Running for Nonpartisan Office

Scotty Boman endorsed for Detroit Community Advisory Council, District 4

Motion made and seconded to extend adjournment time to 4:30 p.m. Motion passed.

Resumption of Platform Consideration with Nathan Hower acting as Chair

Proposal 7
II.2 If adopted:
We support the addition of the alternative “None of the above is acceptable” to all ballots. We further propose that in the event that “None of the above is acceptable” receives a plurality of votes in any election, a new election shall be held for which none of the losing candidates shall be eligible. Other forms of voting should also be considered, such as ranked choice voting or proportional representation.

Passes unopposed

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

Proposal 8

New plank IV.7 If adopted:

Fuck the police.

Proposal fails

Proposal 9

New plank I.11 If adopted:

~~The Libertarian Party of Michigan~~ We believes the government ~~should no longer~~ should not force individuals to alter their schedules through the practice known as daylight savings, as the manipulation of time is not within the government's legal authority.

Moved and seconded to change "Libertarian Party of Michigan" to "We";
"believes" to "believe" and "should no longer" to "should not"

Amendment passes and the plank now reads:

We believe the government should not force individuals to alter their schedules through the practice known as daylight savings, as the manipulation of time is not within the government's legal authority
Proposal passes as amended.

Justin Amash addresses convention delegates remotely at 3:45 p.m.

Luke Sciberras proposed amendment to I.5

Replace the "state has a duty to protect" with "must be protected."

After discussion it was moved and seconded to table this to the next platform committee meeting.

Motion passes.

Connor Nepomuceno proposed new plank 1.2, and renumber the subsequent planks accordingly.

If adopted would read:

"The state government has no duty to enforce federal laws and powers not explicitly permitted by, or contrary to, actions not authorized by the US Constitution, and which do not protect the life, liberty, or property of Michiganders. Federal agents enforcing such acts and powers in Michigan must face state level criminal prosecution."

Rationale - This is a measure to expand upon our beliefs on nullification and decentralization. Nullifying federal powers would greatly expand the freedom of michiganders. Think about the implications. The majority of the alphabet soup agencies would be barred from the state. The ATF, FBI, NSA, ICE, Border Patrol and dozens more would not be allowed to operate here.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the plank by removing "and powers not explicitly permitted by, or contrary to". The amendment passes and the plank now reads:

The state government has no duty to enforce federal laws not authorized by the US Constitution, and which do not protect the life, liberty, or property of Michiganders. Federal agents enforcing such acts and powers in Michigan must face state level criminal prosecution.

Call to question. Plank passes.

Resolutions

From Scotty Boman: Resolution Against Trump's Threat

We the Libertarian Party of Michigan oppose the use of the United States Military against Americans on American soil, and condemn President Donald Trump's threat to do so. Furthermore, we believe he has set a dangerous precedent by using this threat to extort governors into using more draconian policies against residents of their states. This is not only a threat to the life and liberties of individuals in these United States of America, but is an usurpation of state powers by the less accountable Federal government.

Because some former libertarians have publicly supported Donald Trump and his abuses of power, we must clearly state that Donald Trump is not a libertarian, nor is any other person who advocates the use of the United States Military against the American people. As a Libertarian Party affiliate, we don't endorse any candidate who supports such policy and urge all other Libertarian Party organizations to withhold such an endorsement.

Resolution passed unanimously.

From Daniel Ziemba: Resolution Condemning Governor Whitmer's Response to the Coronavirus Outbreak

The Libertarian Party of Michigan (LPM) strongly condemns the actions of Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer in response to the spread of COVID-19. We believe the governor has no authority under the Michigan Constitution to restrict individuals' freedom of movement and association unilaterally. The LPM does not advocate any legal restriction of personal freedom; rather we advocate voluntary participation in scientifically sound measures to prevent the virus' spread as the most preferable solution (social distancing, rigorous hygiene, and the use of personal protective equipment). Only private citizens can achieve this through their own volition, whereas the Governor's actions are both oppressive and incapable of mitigating the severe crisis at hand. Moreover, her actions will cause irreparable harm to the economy of the State of Michigan at both the personal and societal level. Citizens will feel this in the form of lost jobs, homes, businesses and lives, along with the suffering that follows.

The mask mandate of July 2020 has redoubled the governor's tyranny, demanding business owners participate in the enforcement of state lawlessness. Moreover, Governor Whitmer has demanded the violation of ADA and HIPAA protections by insisting that business owners confirm that unmasked customers have medical justification for their non-compliance. We call for the nullification of this demand to the extent that citizens deem it safe to do so.

We therefore call on Governor Whitmer to lift the authoritarian restrictions in place and restore the human rights of movement and interaction to the citizens of Michigan. We also call upon the public servants of Michigan to resist these edicts and act to protect the rights of their constituents. Most importantly, we implore the citizens of Michigan to speak out against these egregious violations of human rights and demand a return to sanity and freedom.

It was moved and seconded to add "and lives" in the last sentence of the first paragraph. Motion passes. The sentence will now read: Citizens will feel this in the form of lost jobs, homes, businesses and lives, along with the suffering that follows.

Minutes of the July 18, 2020 LPM State Nominating Convention

Call to question

Resolution passes as amended.

Convention adjourned by the Chair at 4: 25 pm

Mary Buzuma

Convention Secretary

Libertarian Party Candidates Nominated at Convention or Caucus who appeared on the 2020 ballot

State Board of Education

William Hall
Richard A. Hewer

Michigan State University Board of Trustees

William Tyler White

University of Michigan Board of Regents

James Lewis Hudler
Eric Larson

Wayne State University Board of Governors

Jonathan Elgas

Michigan Supreme Court Justice

Kerry Lee Morgan
Katherine Mary Nepton

Representative in Congress

Dist. 1 - Benjamin Boren
Dist. 2 - Max Riekse
Dist. 4 - David Canny
Dist. 5 - James Harris
Dist. 6 - Jeffrey Depoy
Dist. 8 - Joseph Hartman
Dist. 9 – Michael Saliba
Dist. 11 - Leonard Schwartz
Dist. 14 - Lisa Lane Gioia

State Representative

Dist. 1 - Gregory Creswell
Dist. 27 - Gregory Stempfle
Dist. 28 – Frederick Horndt
Dist. 35 - Timothy Yow
Dist. 37 - James Young
Dist. 39 - Anthony Croff
Dist. 63 - Rafael F Wolf
Dist. 64 – Dr. Norman Peterson
Dist. 104 – Jason Crum

Antrim County

Mancelona Twp. Trustee - Donna Gundle-Krieg

Benzie County

Homestead Township Clerk - Frank Pelky

Cheboygan County

Treasurer - James Johnson
County Comm. – Dist. 3 - Andy Evans
County Comm. – Dist. 7 - Dana Carver

Grand Traverse

Blair Township Trustee - Cory Dean
Long Lake Township Trustee – Thomas Bosch

Jackson County

Grass Lake Twp. Trustee - Andrew Wrenbeck

Kent County

Sheriff - John Stedman
Clerk - Jamie Lewis
Drain Commissioner- Alex Avery

Macomb County

Dist. 1 - Deidre Griffith
Dist. 13 - Matt Saliba
Armada Township Trustee - Jim Fulner

Manistee County

County Comm. Dist. 7 - David Holmer

Muskegon County

Fruitport Twp. Parks Commission - Richard Riekse

Oakland County

County Executive - Connor Nepomuceno
Commerce Township Supervisor - Bruce Jaquays

Otsego County

County Sheriff - Joseph Charles

Ottawa County

County Clerk/Register of Deeds – Mary Buzuma

Wayne County

County Prosecuting Attorney – Daniel Ziemba
County Register of Deeds - Richard Secula
County Comm. – Dist. 4 - Loel Gnadt
County Comm. – Dist. 11 - Jami VanAlstine
County Comm. – Dist. 12 - Andrew Chadderdon
County Comm. – Dist. 14 - Wesley Crouse
Plymouth Township Trustee - Joseph LeBlanc

Nonpartisan endorsement

Scotty Boman – Detroit Community Advisory Council
– Dist. 4