

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 9-20-2003

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA

September 20, 2003

Executive Committee Meeting

San Jose Doubletree, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose, CA 95110; Tel: 408.453.4000

1. Call to Order at 10:11 am

Officers:

PRESENT	Aaron Starr, Chair
PRESENT	Lawrence Samuels, Northern Vice Chair
PRESENT	Mark Selzer, Southern Vice Chair
PRESENT	Monica Kadera, Treasurer
PRESENT	Lori Adasiewicz, Secretary

Regional Representatives:

PRESENT	Ed Bowers, Region 61
PRESENT	Steve Cicero, San Diego
PRESENT	Mark Hinkle, Santa Clara
ABSENT	Bruce Cohen, Orange County
PRESENT	Frank Manske, East Bay
PRESENT	Terry Floyd (East Bay alternate)
TARDY	Joe Dehn (Santa Clara alternate)

At-Large:

ABSENT	Ted Brown
PRESENT	John Scott Ballard
PRESENT	M Carling
TARDY	Bruce Dovner
PRESENT	Dan Wiener
PRESENT	Rick Nichol (alternate)

2. Public Comments and Announcements

1. Scott Wilson of R-1 appeared and spoke about his desire to run Operation Breakthrough 3.0; requested ExCom endorsement and support, specifically access to prior OB information and finances. November 2004 Mt. Diablo Health Care District Election
2. Elizabeth Brierly introduced George Swenson of the Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association, who spoke about the mission of SVTA and an upcoming event on September 30, 2003 regarding electronic voting.

3. Approve Agenda

1. Added OB Support Committee Report after item 9g
2. Added LNC Report from M Carling as item 6f
3. Added Platform and Program appointments after item 8c

4. Consent Calendar - no items

5. Approval of Minutes

1. June 2003 meeting minutes were circulated by e-mail in July, a motion was made to approve those minutes, it was seconded, and the motion passed without objection.

6. Staff & Officer Reports

1. Chair - Aaron Starr
 1. Problems with the website, problems getting work done in the office.
2. Northern Vice-Chair - Lawrence Samuels
 1. Working on getting new leadership in place in the northern inactive regions. Judge Gray will speak in Monterey in January 2004, he plans to run for Senator.
 2. Created list of northern regions that are inactive. Discussion was had about the distinction between "active"/"inactive" and compliant/non-compliant.
3. Southern Vice-Chair - Mark Selzer
 1. Mark brought a video of a recent TV appearance regarding the recall effort. Did a show with Ned Roscoe. Set up Dean Cameron to speak at National and California convention. Mark's show is expanding to more and more counties: San Francisco, Santa Clara, Santa Rosa, almost in Sacramento.

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2. Hired a commission-based telephone solicitor to call people in Kern County.
4. Secretary - Lori Adasiewicz
 1. June Minutes were approved earlier.
 2. E-mail ballots are becoming problematic because people are not voting on three pending ballots. Circulated current votes, and asked people to vote and sign their names.
5. Treasurer - Monica Kadera
 1. Financial impact of the autodialer equipment and software that was purchased for \$5,000. Previous failure of motherboard, after three months of calling, there were no measurable results to justify continued expenditures. T1 was \$800/month. M Carling reported that he researched the software that we purchased, and determined that is poor software, and that there are better options available for free. Mark Hinkle reported U-Reach results in Santa Clara; for \$20/month, you can have the phone ring simultaneously on five different phones, and the recipient is notified that it is a U-Reach call, so then you can answer the phone appropriately. The amount that we could recover for the used autodialer equipment would not be more than \$2,000. We can decide to sell the equipment, or we can try to get the other software and trying the system again. Dan Wiener opined that the experiment may not have been given a fair chance, and that we should try to get it to work consistently.
 2. Proposed solution from Dan Wiener: would need to have a person available to answer calls, would need to get the equipment running consistently, big sticking point is the person to get system running well at a reasonable price. Purpose was to acquire new members.
 3. **Motion by Dan Wiener:** That LPC pay for 3 months of T1 line usage and to incur additional expenses to hire technicians to get the autodialer system up and running in order to continue the experiment for the rest of the year, to create the dialing lists and to come in on an occasional basis (average of 1x/week) to service the system. The system would route the return calls to Mark Selzer initially, and the LPC would establish a U-Reach system and would look for additional volunteers to field calls.
 - (1) M Carling made friendly amendment to replace "incur additional expenses" with "get price quotes"
 - (2) Voice vote occurred. Show of hands; **vote passed 9-3.**
6. LNC Representative Report - Joe Dehn
 1. Joe attended the September LNC meeting; M. Carling also the meeting as an observer. Report was posted online, and the draft minutes will be forwarded to the ExCom. National office staff has been rearranged drastically, almost the entire staff that was there 3 months ago are gone. Continuing debate on priorities, such as ballot access, Joe is discouraged with regard to our making all 50 states. Geoff Neale's plan for ballot access was passed by LNC, but Joe did not observe the commitment he deemed necessary to make it happen.
 2. Financial situation is significantly improved. They officially ended the period of financial exigency. The bills are paid, and the states are reportedly in receipt of the UMP payments. California is current with UMP receipts.
 3. Overall opinion is that the LNC is somewhat adrift.
 4. M Carling added that Geoff Neale nominated Mark Hinkle, LNC for the national platform committee voted him down 4-0. Joe Dehn submitted Gary Copeland's name pursuant to his request, and the LNC also voted him down. Gary received zero "yes" votes, 0-6.
7. Old Business
 1. Executive Committee Bulletin Board in lieu of E-Mail List - nothing happening, plan is to institute the Ikonboard. Discussion deferred to the website discussion.
 2. Region 33 Split - we can now formally recognize region 70 and 71. They have not compliance in regard to the ExCom requests. Region 33 was active, so we determined that the new Regions would also be active. Susan Marie Webber (R-71) has bimonthly meetings, and is very active with electronic voting fraud issues. R-70, Gene Burkman, may be meeting, but he has been advocating votes for non-Libertarians.
 3. Imperial County - Region 13. New Chair is Paul Valenzuela.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO HEAR NED ROSCOE: approved. Ned addressed the ExCom about how much fun he is having running for governor. Local media likes to report on local candidates, and the point is to share the ideas, not necessarily to get elected. He has been a libertarian since 1976, first registered to vote in 1999. Meeting a lot of people, going on Jay Leno with 80 other candidates. The minor candidates are meeting regularly - he's advocating for a running race down Capitol Mall among all the minor candidates. Mentioned the building-permit process as merely making real estate development more expensive and time-consuming process. Working on 10,000 stupid laws, the arrogance of the media, racial freedom, getting people to ask 'Am I free?' Limited evangelical experience, but is in favor of the low-key approach. Send a pallet of Libertarian Viewpoint to: Ned Roscoe, 4457 Park Road, Benicia, CA. Mr. Roscoe agreed to put them out in his 150 stores. Ned has his store managers coming up with card games, and is asking them "Do you want more taxes or less taxes?" and taking polling results through his registers. Will be at Saratoga HS debate on Wednesday, then in SF.

 4. Website Overhaul - Bruce Dovner has been developing a new voter registration website. Joe Dehn indicated that he will not make changes in response to a single person, and he has not had the time or the interest in participating in the redesign. He will make minor

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changes as needed, but would prefer not to do the UMP calculations or maintain the membership list. M Carling has been working on a membership database - has developed a database of registered voters, electoral district information consolidated with the membership database. This database is engineered to produce an automated routine to make UMP calculations. He has been producing UMP reports for July and August - spending about 5 minutes per report. M will be responsible for the next UMP report. Should be complete in the next month or so with all the functionality that the LPC wants.

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY ELIZABETH BRIERLY RE: CA FREEDOM: Elizabeth explained that Trever Barker can not continue to do the paper on a volunteer basis, so there are a couple alternatives. Balance between getting paid versus loyalty to LPC as part of the compensation. Muffet Brown is working toward graphic design certificate (due to complete in and has already earned a print production certificate. Muffet passed around her resume and some samples, and stated that her area of expertise would be layout. She uses Quark Express, and said that was industry standard. Offered a low rate as a student to do layout, work with Walton Press and Elizabeth Brierly. Would need to get the masthead from Trever. Aaron made motion to increase budget by \$2,000 so that we can negotiate a solution.

5. Membership Acquisition - LPC will be doing direct mailing to registered libertarians. Will cost more to send a mailing than what they will make during the first year. Jarret Wolstein, of Hometown Marketing, was introduced to the committee. Financial arrangement is that we pay him \$2,000 to write the letters plus 30% of the net, which will include the \$2,000. Paul Sebalic is paid only for fund raising, but he has not been in touch, so there is no money coming out of our coffers. Target is to get people who have voted in the past two elections but have never been a member.
8. New Business
 1. Presidential Candidates for March Primary - Secretary of State will put people on the ballot, which amounts to a beauty contest, but the LPC decides who the candidates are. We have 150-120 days before the primary, the LPC needs to submit a list in accordance with Election Code section 6720 et seq. Two people actively campaigning: **Gary Nolan** and **Michael Badnarik** (campaigning only to libertarians); there are two others have filed, but no one has heard of them.
 1. **MOTION:** That we recommend that the secretary of state add **Gary Nolan** and **Michael Badnarik** to the ballot, plus any additional candidates that the Operations Committee might approve. **Voice vote was had, and the motion passed.** John Ballard and Bruce Dovner abstained.
 2. Credentials Committee Appointments - Aaron suggested: **Steve Cicero**, Elizabeth Brierly, John Ballard, **Terry Floyd**, and Rick Nichol. Elizabeth was not ready to commit to the committee. Rick was uncertain about his ability to commit to attending, and thus declined. John Ballard also declined. For now, motion to appoint Steve Cicero and Terry Floyd, and they can add staff the committee. Voice vote was held and the motion carried. Steve Cicero was made chair.
 3. Bylaws Committee Appointments - Aaron suggested: M Carling, Mark Hinkle, Bob Weber, Lori Adasiewicz, Aaron Starr. Seeing no objection, those five were appointed. M Carling was made chair.
 4. Platform Committee Coordinator Appointment - Nominations: Ted Brown, Dan Wiener (Dan objected), Wayne Nygren. The platform committee coordinator will work with all the members of the committee selected by the regions. Wayne's name was withdrawn because no one confirmed that he would be willing to be coordinator. Ted Brown was made coordinator.
 5. Program Committee Chair Appointment - Nominations: Bruce Dovner. No objections were heard, and Bruce was made Chair of the Program committee.
 6. Status of regional compliance with submitting certified bylaws and certified lists of officers -
 1. **Region 3** - Noncompliant region. Motion was by Lawrence Samuels made to inactivate, seconded by M Carling. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 2. **Region 12** - Noncompliant region. Motion was made by Lawrence Samuels to inactivate, seconded by Mark Hinkle. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 3. **Region 17** - Noncompliant region. Motion was made by Mark Hinkle to inactivate, seconded by M Carling. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 4. Region 20 - Noncompliant region. Lawrence stated that they have not had elections, but that he had been in contact with Eleanor there. Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 5. **Region 23** - Mendocino - Noncompliant region. Motion was made by M Carling to inactivate, seconded. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 6. Region 29 - Nevada, submitted officers, but no bylaws. Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 7. Region 28 - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 8. **Region 31** - Placer - No elections, no bylaws. Motion was made by Mark Hinkle to inactivate, seconded by M Carling. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 9. **Region 35** - Noncompliant. Motion was made by Mark Hinkle to inactivate, seconded by Steve Cicero. The committee voted to deactivate the region. Passed without objection. **DEACTIVATED**
 10. Region 37/San Diego - deactivation deferred as Steve Cicero promised to come into compliance.
 11. Region 39 - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 12. Region 40/SLO - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 13. Region 42/Santa Barbara - Selzer stated that they were active, but they are not in compliance. Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.

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14. Region 43/Santa Clara - Joe refused to certify the results, so the regional ex com voted to certify the results, and Aaron accepted it as valid.
 15. Region 44/Santa Cruz - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 16. Region 45/Shasta - Compliant, but not yet active. Lawrence indicated that they were working toward becoming active.
 17. Region 47/Siskiyou - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 18. **Region 50/Stanislaus** - No elections since 1991. Dan Wiener moved to deactivate, seconded. Passed without objection.
DEACTIVATED
 19. **Region 53** - Noncompliant. M Carling moved to deactivate, Hinkle seconded. No objection and the region was deactivated.
DEACTIVATED
 20. Region 62/LA West - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 21. Region 64/LA Central - Mark says that they have officers and plan to adopt model bylaws. Active/noncompliant.
 22. Region 67/LA San Gabriel - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 23. Region 68/Antelope Valley - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 24. Region 70/Western Riverside - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
 25. Region 71/Desert Area Libertarians - Active but noncompliant, Deactivation deferred to give the region a second chance to comply.
7. Webmaster's log of those accessing the online membership database - Bruce Dovner and M Carling discussed the duties that a webmaster owes to a corporation for which he maintains a website. M Carling indicated that the industry standard is to keep documents for a minimum of three years. Dan Wiener indicated that the LPC has to identify the purpose of getting the information and then overcome the problem of getting them from Joe Dehn. Aaron indicated that we need to know from a customer service standpoint whether the website is serving our regions, and also to determine that a region is sending notices to their members as support for not deactivating them.
9. Committee Reports
1. Membership - Dan Wiener: no report
 2. Membership - Terry Floyd: still working on electronic voting fraud
 3. Member Communications - Joe Dehn: absent
 4. Fund raising - Mark Hinkle: no report
 5. Legislation - Mark Hinkle: SB 1024 gives chair of the party the power to cancel CCC elections. Santa Clara county - working with Brad Clark to see if we can get legislation to prevent late filing of papers.
 6. Legal - Lori: only one request, which is pending.
 7. Events Planning & Oversight - M Carling: Pending legal approval of contract, Hinkle passed out convention report.
 8. OB Support - M Carling: report made re: database, OB software wasn't ready soon enough to do much with it this year, plus cash flow problems, we deferred OB to 2004.
 9. Infrastructure - Steve Cicero: no report
 10. Awards & recognition - Bruce Cohen: absent
 11. Volunteer & Staff Development - Frank Manske: no report
 12. Candidate Recruitment - Ted Brown: absent, report submitted by e-mail.
 13. Candidate Training - John Ballard: showed Recall sign, working on data entry.
 14. Media Relations - Edward Bowers:
 15. Visual Presentaton - Rick Nichol: no report
16. Voter Registration - Bruce Dovner: Check out website at www.lpc.org; addressing program and voter registration all in one.
17. Program Committee - Bruce Dovner: see above.
18. Style - Rob Rob: report submitted by e-mail.
19. Audit - vacant: no report; M Carling moved to appoint Dave Hollist to the audit committee. Aaron is going to call more people.
10. Next Meeting: December 20, 2003
1. Southern California location to be reserved by Aaron.
11. Future Meetings
1. Post-Convention:
12. Adjourn at 4:48 pm.