

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 2:31 PM Ann Reed <aefallonreed@gmail.com> wrote:

To the Libertarian Judicial Committee:

The Libertarian Association of Massachusetts (LAMA) State Committee's "closed meeting" of January 10, 2022, had barred attendance by all non-committee members. Those barred would include any and all of the some 45 petitioners the committee proceeded to "expel" in the course of that meeting (along with two of its own members, also petitioners.) Further, before entering closed session, the state committee had not convened in open session first to take a roll call vote and to state an official reason for the closed session.

Therefore, I, among untold others, do not and cannot recognize the so-called mass "expulsion" as actual or valid, as I do not consider the meeting itself to have proven "legal," as entered, nor its failure to allow for due process owed the petitioners excusable.

I had not been a signer of the petition, but rather simply a LAMA member (and Worcester County affiliate vice chair) who often attended state committee meetings and had "shown up," approximately two minutes early, for this particular (Jan. 10) Zoom meeting as well.

"The host has removed you from this meeting," is the electronic message I received upon attempting to enter (via the Zoom link provided), with neither an explanation furnished me nor opportunity to observe who was or was not present for the meeting, how many in attendance, or the reason for the unexpected and immediate "closed door."

In my many years of firsthand experience involving meetings of various official committees, it had become my firm understanding that propriety dictates that closed or "executive" sessions must be preceded by a committee's convening openly, or "publicly," a roll call vote taken, and recitation of an official reason for entering closed session.

Prompted by a sense of shock and concern over the absence of any such protocol observed to be practiced for that January 10 meeting - and deducing that the meeting's instant exclusivity had been employed as part of a state committee-level plan for dealing with the petition submitted by the so-called "47" - I immediately took a screenshot of the electronic message (See ATTACHED), the hour of which was automatically timestamped at 8.29.46 PM. (Monthly state committee meetings were, as had been this one, normally scheduled for 8:30 pm.)

In ensuing months, as I (being a non-petitioner and therefore allowed normal admittance to subsequent state committee meetings) went on to act as a sympathetic voice on behalf of the 47, repeatedly advocating for their LAMA memberships to rightly be returned to them. My last such attempts, which failed, were made at the microphone of the annual "old" LAMA's state convention held on April 23.

The next day, I attended the April 24 Convention of the exiled membership, where I was (following an unexpected and unsolicited nomination) elected to its state committee of nine.

After lengthy observation, made over a period of months, of the considerable and conscientious efforts of "the 47" leadership to pick up where the old LAMA state committee had left off - having

persisted in arguably spoiling its own standing, while I had, meanwhile, futilely advocated for reconciliation - I have come to truly and morally believe in the merit and legitimacy of the libertarian leadership incarnated by the exiled members (and formally established at their February 26 special Convention.)

Nevertheless, the fractured and segregated nature of the Libertarian party in Massachusetts remains, in my opinion, unsettlingly problematic, yet solvable - if the issue can be fully and duly “heard” by the Libertarian National Committee, and any other Libertarian body at all capable of engendering benevolent justice, long overdue, in this pressing matter.

So, I urge the Judicial Committee to please decide in favor of not upholding the LNC chair’s decision to resist lending attention to the Massachusetts matter.

Respectfully submitted, and to the best of my knowledge,
Ann Reed

ATTACHMENT: Cropped screenshot of a timestamped screenshot that includes an electronic printed message (contained within a small window) bearing the heading “Update Available,” in bold black type, and, in red print, reading “The host has removed you from this meeting.” (The small window also includes presumed numerical coding as well as text that seems to be related to product technology.)

