



October 29, 2005

Executive Committee Meeting

As Accepted

A regular meeting held at
518 West in Raleigh, NC

These minutes were e-mailed to: ecLPNC@yahoogroups.com, JudicialCommittee@LPNC.com and the County Contact list.

With Mr. Hill presiding and Ms Wilcox recording the meeting came to order at 12:00 PM.

Members present: Mr. Hill, Mr. Wrights, Ms Wilcox, Mr. Vuchnich (by proxy – Phil Jacobson), Ms Hogarth, Mr. Pitts (by proxy – Lee Wrights), Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Irving, Mr. Norman (by proxy – Phil Jacobson), Mr. Powell (by proxy – Thomas Hill), Ms Gallivan, Mr. Anders, Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Pasotto and Mr. Smith.

Staff present: none

Guests: Paul Elledge, Steven Hilton and Barbara Howe

I. Opening

- A. After the addition of Item E – Discussion - pledge cards, Item F – Discussion – recording votes and G – Discussion – info packets for referrals, all under New Business, Brian Irving moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. The motion passed without objection.
- B. Brian Irving moved, and Eric Smith seconded, that the written reports submitted by Executive Committee members and the Executive Director at the Oct. 2 Executive Committee meeting [be] included as attachments to the minutes of that meeting. After detailed discussion the voting was Lee Wrights, Jim Pitts, Bob Ritchie, Brian Irvin, and Eric Smith voting in the affirmative; Beverly Wilcox, Alex Vuchnich, Susan Hogarth, Richard Norman, John Powell, Elise Gallivan, Phil Jacobson, Rick Pasotto; voting in the negative; and Thomas Hill and Neal Anders abstaining, the motion failed.
- C. Susan Hogarth moved, and Eric Smith seconded that the detailed minutes of the October 2nd meeting be accepted as presented. Phil Jacobson moved and Lee Wrights seconded, that this motion be tabled. Thomas Hill, Lee Wrights, Alex Vuchnich, Susan Hogarth, Jim Pitts, Richard Norman, John Powell, Neal Anders and Phil Jacobson voted in the affirmative; Bob Ritchie, Brian Irving, Rick Pasotto voted in the negative and Bev Wilcox, Elise Gallivan and Eric Smith abstained. The motion to table passed.

II. Staff Report

- A. Mr. Hill gave the following report in the absence of Sean Haugh, due to illness:
 1. Mr. Haugh passed on a request that the tapes of meetings that he has missed be made available to him. The request was denied.
 2. The state has until November 14th to respond to our complaint but 30-day extensions are common. An extension should be expected.
 3. The case will probably not be heard until after January 1, 2006.
 4. Sean has a list of things to be done regarding the suit and is working on that list.
 5. Sean is working on reducing costs by utilizing volunteer participation.
- B. Several members of the committee raised questions regarding the donation from the Madame Justice PAC. Rick Pasotto moved, and Susan Hogarth seconded, that the Chair be directed to express to the attorney the concerns of the Executive Committee regarding the appropriateness of the PAC money and that the attorney be directed to make a written response. The vote was unanimous.

The Chair called for a break for lunch at 12:55.

III. Officer Reports

A. Chair

1. Mr. Hill reported that he has received a check for \$1,000 from Mr. Ritchie. This is double Mr. Ritchie's original pledge, for county affiliate petition signatures.

B. Vice-chair

NO REPORT

C. Recording Secretary

- I. Ms Wilcox asked that future motions be made in writing to ensure the quality of the minutes.

D. Treasurer

1. Mr. Vuchnich sent the following report:
 - a. Bank balance as of 10/2705 was \$9,064.
 - b. Accrued liabilities: \$6,000 consisting of \$5,000 for accrued legal expenses and \$1,000 for ED commission. These are estimated reserve amounts in line with the \$5,000 operating reserve that we are trying to maintain (unpaid legal bills as of 10/2705 are approximately \$2,500 (this is included in the \$5,000 accrual above)).
2. Brian Irving moved, and Rick Pasotto seconded, that discussion of the Treasurer's report be tabled until there is actually a treasurer present. The vote was unanimous.

E. Newsletter Editor

1. Ms Hogarth reported that because the newsletter issues have been running toward the end of the bi-monthly period, she has cancelled the September/October issue and will issue the next Tarheel Libertarian after the elections in November.

F. Outreach Director

NO REPORT

G. Ballot Access Director

1. Mr. Ritchie reported that 1,214 signatures have been collected in Guilford County.
2. 1,653 signatures were gathered from the state fair.
3. Mr. Ritchie is still looking for suggested methods to gather more signatures and reiterated the importance of this project.

H. Press Secretary

NO REPORT

I. Membership Secretary

1. Mr. Norman sent the following report:
 - a. As of October 5, 2005, the National data dump reports that we have 462 dues paying members. When and if the zero dues plan goes into effect, I expect that their report may include all present and past members - - currently that number is 2,582.
 - b. The NIDUS project is on hold until National gets their database dump situation stabilized. Robert Kraus reported that they too are preparing the National database for the Zero dues policy and it does not make a lot of sense to the NIDUS team to expend a lot of effort to deal with the interim changes. According to Robert, "We do not anticipate having the dump in a final form until January so that we can communicate any changes well in advance."
 - c. Alex and I have been investigating web-based solutions for combining membership, dues, pledges, accounting and mailing lists in one application. While we have found several that will handle one or more of these chores well we have yet to find one that will do them all. Further, while costs are low (or even free) with a total list of 500 or fewer member they climb as membership grows. For example, e-Tapestry (www.etapestry.com) is free for 500 members and basic services; it costs over \$150/month with 15,000 members and a few upgraded services. While our "dues paying" membership would allow us to use the free version, our "registered Libertarian" membership would place us in the \$150/month version. Granted, that is not an immediate concern after our recent de-certification, but it will be once we obtain party status

again. Of course, we aren't necessarily obligated to track those who are not "dues paying" members, it would be advantageous for us to do so.

J. Political Director
NO REPORT

K. Webmaster
1. Ms Gallivan reported that she has been busy updating different sections of the web site.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Convention
(This report was given out of order so that the Convention Chair, Barbara Howe, could leave the meeting.)
1. The 2006 State Convention will be held at the Best Western on Huffman Mill Road in Burlington.
2. The total rental-charge for meeting space will be \$400 with no minimum room rental units needed.
3. The dates for the convention are May 5, 6 and 7.
4. Lee Wrights moved, and Phil Jacobson seconded, that Barbara Howe be authorized to sign contracts related to the event and that Thomas Hill issue a check for any necessary deposit. The vote was unanimous.
5. Ms Howe wants all members to know that there will be a fundraising auction and that items will be needed for this convention event.

B. County Affiliate Affairs
NO REPORT

C. Small Business Owners
NO REPORT

D. Policy Manual/Past Practices
1. Barbara Howe has agreed to put a policy manual together if each of the Executive Committee members will send her a brief description of their understanding of their job.
2. Ms Howe will send a reminder to the committee members regarding this project.

E. Legislative Agenda
1. Mr. Irving reported that future discussion in the committee will center on issues of eminent domain.

F. State Fair
1. Ms Hogarth reported that on top of the 1,600 plus signatures, there were also voter registration forms filled out and a large number of contact cards filled out.
2. The fair expenses came in under the \$400 budget. The final amount is not known.
3. The set up used at the booth can be made available for other events throughout the year with some advance notice.
4. The Guilford County College Libertarians were commended and thanked for all the work that they did manning fair booths this year.

G. Finance Committee
NO REPORT

H. Lawsuit Funding Committee
1. Ms Hogarth reported that she has not been able to find five people to populate this committee.
2. There are presently three members for this five-member committee: Susan Hogarth, Bob Ritchie and Barbara Howe.
3. Several people have volunteered to do other things but not to serve on the committee.
4. Organizational activities and planning are still being pursued.
5. Mr. Jacobson moved, and Mr. Smith seconded that the Chair direct the Executive Director to coordinate with the Lawsuit Funding Committee regarding the lists of individuals and groups where the

Executive Director has already made contact to avoid duplication. Those voting in the affirmative: Thomas Hill, Beverly Wilcox, Alex Vuchnich, Susan Hogarth, Bob Ritchie, Richard Norman, John Powell, Elise Gallivan, Neal Anders, Phil Jacobson, Rick Pasotto and Eric Smith; voting in the negative: Lee Wrights, Jim Pitts and Brian Irving. The motion passed.

V. Old Business

A. Electronic Voting

NONE

B. Inclusion in political debates

TABLED

C. Discussion of Bylaws, Platform, Statement of Principles Committees

1. It was determined that there should not be a Bylaws committee (wrong year) but that the Platform and Statements of Principles Committee needs to be populated and this issue will be moved to the "committees" list.
2. Phil Jacobson has volunteered to be the provisional chair of the Platform and Statement of Principle Committee.

D. Lifetime Membership plaque to Michael Badnarik

1. Ms Wilcox reported that the plaque has been ordered but has not been received.

E. Follow-up – Greensboro bulk mail permit

1. Many concerns were raised but no one on the Executive Committee has any answers so the Chair will request a report from the Executive Director regarding this permit

F. Issues of Ballot Access

1. This item has been removed from the agenda

G. Meeting Schedule

1. Beverly Wilcox made a list of all meeting dates from the present meeting though the meeting at the close of the next State Convention, as follows: December 10, 2005, January 14, 2006, February 25, 2006, April 8, 2006 and at the close of the convention.
2. Ms Gallivan will post this list to the LPNC site and ask if there is any interest in hosting a meeting. It will be understood that meetings will not all be held in the same area of the state.

A brief recess was called at 3 PM

VI. New Business

A. Discussion – re-examine Executive Director's contract

1. After discussion this issue was removed from the agenda with no action taken.

B. Discussion – policy for proxy voting

1. Rick Pasotto moved, and Eric Smith seconded, that effective immediately it be the policy of this Executive Committee not to accept current members of either the Executive Committee or the Judicial Committee as proxy holders for Executive Committee members. Those voting in the affirmative: Beverly Wilcox, Susan Hogarth, Rick Pasotto and Eric Smith; those voting in the negative: Lee Wrights, Alex Vuchnich, Jim Pitts, Bob Ritchie, Brian Irving, Richard Norman, Elise Gallivan, Neal Anders and Phil Jacobson; those abstaining: Thomas Hill and John Powell. The motion failed.

C. Discussion – petitioning alternatives

1. Paul Elledge announced that he is willing to gather petition signatures at a charge of 50¢ per signature, which is approximately ¼ of the price that has been paid in the past.
2. The Mecklenburg County Chair has set up a contest to get petition signatures in his area.

3. Beverly Wilcox and Eric Smith each pledged \$100 toward a fund to pay Paul Elledge for petition signatures that he turns in to the state party at a rate of 50¢ per signature.

D. Discussion – Statewide Coalition Against Forced Annexation

1. After discussion and explanation this issue was removed from the agenda

E. Discussion – Pledge Card

1. After discussion and explanation this issue was removed from the agenda

F. Discussion – Recording Votes

1. This issue was withdrawn from the agenda

G. Info Packets for referrals

1. Brian Irving moved, and Neal Anders seconded, that this issue be tabled until the Outreach Director attends an Executive Committee meeting. The vote was unanimous.

VII. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.
- B. The next meeting will be December 10th in Rockingham County under the direction of Eric Smith.