



April 1, 2006
April 1, 2006
Executive Committee Meeting

As accepted, May 7, 2006

A regular meeting held at
Edward McKay Used Books & More in Fayetteville, NC

These minutes were e-mailed to: ecLPNC@yahoogroups.com, JudicialCommittee@LPNC.org, and affiliates@LPNC.org.

With Mr. Jacobson presiding and Ms Wilcox recording, the meeting came to order at 11:15 AM.

Members present: Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Wrights (by proxy – Bob Ritchie), Ms Wilcox, Mr. Vuchnich, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Irving, Ms Hogarth, Ms Gallivan, Allison Jaynes (by proxy – Mr. Irving), Mr. Pasotto and Mr. Smith (by proxy – Bev Wilcox).

Members absent: Mr. Powell.

Member resignation: Mr. Anders

Staff present: none

Guests: none

I. Opening

- A. Alex Vuchnich moved, and Beverly Wilcox seconded, that the resignations of Jim Pitts and Neal Anders be accepted. The vote was unanimous.
- B. The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of January 14, 2006 were accepted by consensus between meetings.
- C. The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of March 4, 2006 were unanimously accepted as presented by a motion from Beverly Wilcox and seconded by Alex Vuchnich.
- D. The agenda was amended to add one item to new business and was then accepted as amended.

II. Officer Reports

A. Chair

1. Mr. Jacobson reported that he attended the recent LNC meeting in Charlotte and appealed to them for funds to be used toward ballot access.
2. Work is continuing on organizing regions within the state. Mr. Jacobson is still looking for contact persons in the eastern and western parts of the state but was given several suggestions. He will follow up.
3. Mr. Jacobson attended the conventions of several counties.
4. Mr. Jacobson received his first itemized copy of the lawsuit attorney's monthly statement. He will gather copies of all the billing to date and make it available to each member of the Executive Committee and to members of the Lawsuit Committee, if requested.
5. Mr. Ritchie moved, and Brian Irving seconded, that Alex Vuchnich be named the Chair of the Lawsuit Committee. The voting was unanimous.

B. Vice-chair

NO REPORT

C. Recording Secretary

NO REPORT

D. Treasurer

1. Mr. Vuchnich reported that there is money available to make a payment toward legal fees
2. Mr. Vuchnich moved, and Mr. Irving seconded, that the budget be approved as presented. A motion to table until later in the meeting failed on a voice vote. Mr. Irving moved (on behalf of Ms Jaynes whose proxy he held), and Mr. Ritchie seconded, to table to a time uncertain. Voting in the affirmative: Lee Wrights, Beverly Wilcox, Bob Ritchie, Allison Jaynes, Rick Pasotto and Eric Smith; voting in the negative: Phil Jacobson, Alex Vuchnich, Brian Irving and Susan Hogarth; abstaining: Elise Gallivan. The motion passed.
3. Mr. Vuchnich moved, and Mr. Irving seconded, to approve the following sections of the budget – Fundraising - \$13,309, Management and General - \$2,555, Outreach - \$1,675 and Convention - \$3,840. For a total of \$21,379. The vote was unanimous.
4. Mr. Vuchnich moved, and Ms Hogarth seconded, to approve the following sections of the budget – Newsletter - \$1,410. The revised total is \$22,789. The voting was unanimous.

E. Newsletter Editor

NO REPORT

F. Outreach Director

NO REPORT

G. Ballot Access Director

1. Mr. Ritchie reported that he is trying to get all of the spreadsheet files of petition signatures to match with information from the county Boards of Election and the actual paper petitions.
2. The latest petition signatures turned in are almost entirely from a Guilford County mailing.
3. Paul Elledge has been an outstanding petition gatherer but will soon be moving out of the area and more volunteers need to be recruited in conjunction with the formation of regions as discussed earlier in the meeting.
4. Mr. Ritchie moved, and Ms Wilcox seconded, that the Executive Committee approve the following guidelines for the Ballot Access Petitioning Committee:
 - a. The purpose of this committee is to develop and implement a ballot access petitioning drive to restore the Libertarian Party's place on the North Carolina ballot.
 - b. The powers and duties of this committee shall include: recruiting and managing volunteer petitioners; hiring and managing paid petitioners; conducting fundraising to defray the cost of petitioning, to include fundraising letters and paid advertisements; publicizing the petition effort through op-eds and news releases, paid advertisements, letters-to-the-editor and participation in public events, and; other activities as approved by the Executive Committee.
 - c. The Ballot Access Director shall be chair of this committee and may appoint additional members.

The voting was unanimous.

A recess was called at 12:30 for lunch and then the meeting resumed.

H. Press Secretary

1. Mr. Irving noted that he attended the House Select Committee on Governmental Ethics and Reform.

I. Membership Secretary

1. Ms Hogarth reported that she is still working on eTapestry as a record-keeping tool.
2. Ms Hogarth reported that the new post office box has been successfully opened in Raleigh. She and Alex Vuchnich will be key holders. The new address is PO Box 28141, Raleigh.
3. Over \$400 has been realized from an e-mail solicitation that was sent to an available list.
4. Ms Hogarth will continue to work on a process by which membership can be validated.

J. Political Director

NO REPORT

K. Webmaster

1. Ms Gallivan reported that she has updated county contact information, has added events to the website as appropriate and has posted the newest Tarheel Libertarian.
2. All information on the national website has been updated.
3. Ms Gallivan reported that she has been having difficulties getting the electronic forms working for convention registration and awards voting but hoped to have the forms working very soon.

III. Committee Reports

A. Convention

1. Registrations are running very light. There may be a variety of reasons.
2. There will be sections of the convention set aside to discuss the direction of the party, as measured by where limited party funds should be allocated. There will be a presentation by each of several people, with each addressing the advantages of a particular focus. The plan at present is to offer information regarding the following pursuits:
 - a. Lawsuit only,
 - b. Petition drive only,
 - c. Both activities with the lawsuit being the higher priority,
 - d. Both activities with the petition drive being the higher priority,
 - e. Outreach
 - f. Candidates, and
 - g. Other

This plan is still in the discussion stage and will be fine-tuned as the convention dates get closer. Volunteers are needed to promote each of these causes.
3. Plans are still under ways to raise money for ballot access during the convention.

B. County Affiliate Affairs

NO REPORT

C. Small Business Owners

This committee will be removed from the agenda.

D. Policy Manual/Past Practices

NO REPORT

E. Legislative Agenda

NO REPORT

F. State Fair

1. The contract for the next fair has been received and will be signed and returned with partial payment.
2. Discussion of involvement in the next Dixie Classic Fair will be held at the next EC meeting.

G. Finance Committee

NO REPORT

H. Platform and Statement of Principles Committee

1. Mr. Jacobson reported that one item is ready for action by the convention and an ongoing discussion regarding the Statement of Principles.

IV. Old Business

A. Electronic Voting

1. Motion by Susan Hogarth on 3-7-06: I move that we appropriate \$3,000, to come from funds pledged to mailing and ballot access, and the general fund if necessary, to dedicate to a seed mailing fund which Brian Irving and Susan Hogarth will jointly administer. Voting in the affirmative: Phil Jacobson, Lee Wrights, Alex Vuchnich, Bob Ritchie, Brian Irving, Susan Hogarth, Elise Gallivan, Allison Jaynes,

Rick Pasotto and Eric Smith; voting in the negative: no one, and abstaining: Beverly Wilcox, John Powell and Neil Anders.

2. Brian Irving moved, and Bob Ritchie seconded, that the results of the electronic voting be accepted as presented. The motion passed on a unanimous vote.

B. Inclusion in political debates

TABLED

C. Discussion – info packets for referrals

This item will be removed from the agenda.

D. Discussion ad update – Fundraising letter

1. The first portion of the fundraising letter went out in the mail on Tuesday March 28th.
2. A better process will be used for Phil's signature on future mailings.
3. The next mailing will go out in two weeks.

V. New Business

A. Discussion – Summary of Discussion – Work Session of 3-4-06

1. Alex Vuchnich moved and Susan Hogarth seconded, that the report regarding the work session held at the close of the last Executive Committee be accepted, with corrections. The vote was unanimous.

The following is said report:

At the March 4, 2006 LPNC Executive Committee meeting the committee, meeting as a committee of the whole, identified these goals:

Short-term Goals

- ?? To regain ballot access by passing HB 88 in its original form in the 2006 short session of the General Assembly.
- ?? To raise \$40,000 in funds to pay for legal fees related to the lawsuit by December 31, 2006.
- ?? To raise \$60,000 to pay for paid petitioners for the ballot access petition drive.

Mid-term Goals

- ?? To regain ballot access for the 2007 elections by collecting 104,000 petition signatures by March 1, 2007.
 - o Sub-goal – to obtain the balance of petition signatures through volunteer efforts.
- ?? To eliminate or reduce North Carolina's ballot access requirements by passing a bill similar to the original HB 88 (if the bill does not pass in the 20066 session).

Long-term Goals

- ?? To obtain sustainable ballot access by winning the lawsuit.

Assumptions

- ?? We need 104,000 raw signatures needed at a verification rate of 70% to yield approximately 70,000 valid signatures.
- ?? Approximately 40,000 raw signatures collected to date. Leaving 64,000 raw signatures to obtain by March 1, 2007.
- ?? \$60,000 raised for paid petitioners at an average cost of \$1.50 per signature will yield approximately 40,000 more signatures.
- ?? Assuming that the drive is 100% paid petitioners, 24,000 raw signatures will need to be collected through volunteer efforts by March 1, 2007.
 - o To the extent that petitioning incentives can be used in lieu of regular paid petitioners the average cost per raw signature can be minimized to as low as .50

cents a signature. If all signatures were collected via this effort we could yield approximately 120,000 raw signatures, 56,000 more than we need.

- o The likely case will be that we will need a combined effort between these two and we can strive for an average rate of \$1.00 per signature which will greatly reduce the amount of non-paid volunteer signatures we will need to complete the drive.

B. Action – Resignation of John Powell

1. Alex Vuchnich moved, and Susan Hogarth seconded, that the resignation of John Powell as Political Director, via the attendance requirement of the party by-laws, be accepted. The vote was unanimous.

C. Other New Business

1. Alex Vuchnich moved, and Susan Hogarth seconded, that we approve the expenditure of any funds that are received for a designated purpose, for that purpose. The vote was unanimous.

VI. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.
- B. The next meeting will be May 7, 2006 in Burlington, 30 minutes after the close of the convention.