

Executive Committee Meeting 24 January 2009

Presiding: Chair Barbara Howe

Recording: Recording Secretary Stephanie Watson

Other Committee Members Attending: Paul Elledge, Brian Irving, Phil Jacobson, Rick Pasotto, and Chris Spruyt

Also Attending: Susan Hogarth (Outreach Director), and one other LPNC member

CALLED TO ORDER at 11:13 AM by Howe

Agenda reviewed, modified, and accepted as modified.

Chair Report

- Barbara Howe present and reporting
- Howe described the upcoming LP leadership conference the final weekend of February and encouraged EC members to attend.

Vice-chair Report

- There is not currently a Vice Chair.

Recording Secretary Report

- Stephanie Watson, present, reported that the November minutes needed to be reassembled because of a lost file.

Treasurer Report

- John Caveny was absent, but offered a report as follows:

::BEGIN SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORT::

Treasurer's Report, Libertarian Party of North Carolina  
January 23, 2009

Account Balances

GENERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$ 3,813.82
FEDERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE:	\$ 953.89
LAWSUIT FUND BALANCE:	No longer maintained as a separate figure
EXPENDITURES (2008):	\$ 16,000.00
SINCE SUIT WAS BEGUN:	\$ 32,735.00

We received a total of \$6,985 in December, including a loan of \$6,000 from Tom and Barbara Howe designated toward the lawsuit expenses. The only expenditure in December was a payment of \$6,000 to the attorneys. We have received \$710 so far in January. The only expenditure this month was a deposit for the convention.

A final report was presented to the SBOE in early January, closing the 2007/2008 biennial election cycle. A new two-year cycle began January 1, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Caveny Treasurer

::END SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORT::

- Howe indicated she would get some additional information about payouts from the LPNC to her for her loan payoff, and from her to the attorneys' office.
- Watson asked for some line-item clarification from one report to another when they differ between reports.

#### Membership Secretary Report

- Jason Bateman was absent and did not send a report, though indicated that he would post a report online.
- Pasotto indicated we need membership numbers to determine delegate allocation.

#### Webmaster Report

- Rick Pasotto present and reporting
- Pasotto reported some of the changes in the registration numbers by county and passed around a current list.
- Pasotto is ready to set up convention registration as soon as the Convention Committee has details ready to submit.
- Pasotto indicated that he had not yet posted any blog links from the website, but he was working on putting a calendar on the site including the ability for local affiliates to post meetings and events. Irving and Pasotto discussed putting out a call for people to submit their blog links for posting, and Watson encouraged the vetting of the blogs to be sure they are political or libertarian commentary as opposed to those that include personal, non-related topics.
- Howe requested some sort of revision to the option for \$0 on the "Join" webpage.
- Convention notification ideas were expressed with concern that the newsletter announcement requirement in the bylaws may not be possible to meet. Committee members agreed without objection that Irving has permission to send out a one-page newsletter to all paid members about the upcoming convention.

#### Communications Director Report

- Brian Irving present and reporting
- Irving sent out an op ed to the News and Observer with regards to some of Governor Perdue's appointment of a task force on public financing of gubernatorial elections.
- Irving, Hogarth, and Howe discussed the need to get the membership lists updated.

#### Outreach Director Report

- Susan Hogarth present and reporting

- Hogarth reported that she responded to inquiries about organizing county affiliates.
- Hogarth expressed a concern about the gun shows in NC being biased as to which events allow political parties to have booths. Discussion followed about why the party is restricted at the fairgrounds in Raleigh and not in other locations.
- Hogarth indicated that the Triangle Resource Fair event at UNC in Chapel Hill was a low-traffic event but that we did get one contact for the mailing list.
- Watson encouraged more Libertarians in NC to write and contribute personal testimonies on specific issues that can be used on outreach literature.

#### Campus Affiliate Affairs Report

- Joy Elliott was absent and did not submit a report.

#### Lawsuit Committee Report

- Barbara Howe present and reporting
- Howe offered the viewing of a copy of the appellates' brief that was filed January 21, 2009, and she indicated she would post a PDF form online for later view. She explained that the State has 30 days to file their brief.
- Jacobson indicated wanting a copy of the trial transcript, and Howe said she would post the electronic copies online. Pasotto inquired whether it could be posted at the website, and Jacobson indicated that the information therein was public so that it should not be an issue.

#### Bylaws Committee Report

- Phil Jacobson present and reporting
- Jacobson reported updating the bylaws Yahoo! group with those who indicated wanting to be on the committee.
- Jacobson accounted that six proposals were posted to the committee for review, and that the group had selected Hogarth as the chair for the committee.

CALLED TO RECESS at 12:22 PM by Howe (for ordering Lunch)

CALLED TO ORDER at 12:27 PM by Howe

#### Convention Committee Report

- Barbara Howe present and reporting in lieu of Mike Munger
- Howe reported that the convention was scheduled for April 17-19 at the Quality Inn in Burlington, which was formerly the La Quinta Inn.
- Munger subsidized to be able to get speaker Michael Cloud for the convention.
- Howe explained that the prices will be the same as the previous convention, but there were still some open plans about where to hold the banquet.

- Theme ideas were contributed to Howe to be part of the considered ideas by the committee, and Howe promised to get those decisions made and information to Pasotto soon for appropriate promotion.
- Howe described some preliminary plans for the agenda for the convention.
- Howe encouraged those wanting to contribute any further ideas to send those to Howe or Munger

CALLED TO RECESS at 12:36 PM by Howe (for eating Lunch)

CALLED TO ORDER at 1:15 PM by Howe

## OLD BUSINESS

(1) Tabled item: Communications Director and Webmaster job descriptions:

MOTION brought the issue off the table by Howe

- Irving mentioned that we established procedures but have not followed through with them with regards to ensuring that the current webmaster submit a written description of his position.
- Irving submitted a written job description that was revised since the previous discussion, primarily because of concerns about the wording expressed at the last EC meeting.
- The EC members in attendance voted to accept the descriptions as modified, which read as follows:

::BEGIN COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR AND WEBMASTER JOB DESCRIPTION::

The Communications Director shall be responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the overall media and public information program of the LPNC, including the party's newsletter and website. Duties will include:

- \* editor of the Tarheel Libertarian;
- \* producing news releases, fact sheets, position papers, issue papers, and other Party publications and outreach materials;
- \* responding to news media queries;
- \* producing articles, information, and updates to the contents of the LPNC website.

The Webmaster shall be responsible for the website presence and access.

::END COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR AND WEBMASTER JOB DESCRIPTION::

MOTION PASSED unopposed.

(2) Open Political Director position:

- Howe mentioned that she was supposed to talk to a couple of individuals about the position, but stated that she had not yet done so and would before the next meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

(1) The Liberty Agenda of North Carolina:

- Irving submitted a written copy of the proposed "Liberty Agenda of North Carolina" encouraging the LPNC to endorse the item in correspondence with the liberty agenda recently adopted by a group of legislators in the NC General Assembly.
- Irving encouraged the EC to pass the agenda today so that he could put out a press release promptly following.
- Minor wording changes were applied to the item with agreement.
- EC members in attendance voted to accept the item as follows:

::BEGIN LIBERTY AGENDA TEXT::

The Liberty Agenda for North Carolina

We, the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, present this agenda for action to the 2009 General Assembly.

1. End forced annexation and stop private property seizure under the power of eminent domain by amending the state constitution.

Forced annexation and the seizure of private property for ostensible "public purpose" is a violation of fundamental rights of all Americans. Forced annexation is not about providing services, or controlling growth. Forced annexation is about money. Communities should only be annexed with their consent. No government, at any level, should have the power to take or seize private property for any purpose, without the express consent of the owner and without just compensation.

2. Improve public education through school choice and competition.

It has become fashionable to bash public education rather than sincerely seek ways to improve it. There are many good things happening in North Carolina education, and the path to continued improvement is to foster choice.

The problem is that anyone who proposes thinking out of the box when it comes to education is beat over the head with the supposed public school mandate in the state constitution.

This selective devotion to constitutional principle is curious, since the legislature freely ignores other parts of the constitution, including the part that says 'all elections shall be free, fair, and open' by restricting the right of people to vote for anyone other than Democrats and Republicans.

3. Restore free, fair, and open elections to North Carolina by removing barriers to ballot access.

North Carolina has one of the most restrictive ballot access laws in the

nation. These barriers are specifically designed by the Democratic-Republican duopoly to restrict the people's freedom of choice, preventing independent and third party candidates from getting on the ballot. Elections laws also are used to restrict free speech, by limiting how much an individual can contribute to the candidate of their choice. The people should have the unregulated and unrestricted right to vote for and support candidates of their choice.

#### 4. End all corporate welfare and subsidies.

Economic incentives and subsidies, more properly called corporate welfare, are an immoral tax on individuals for the benefit of corporate profits. Recent news reports that the Dell computer company may sell their three-year-old Winston-Salem plant, built with nearly \$300 million in corporate welfare, demonstrate that corporate incentives are ineffective as well as immoral.

#### Conclusion

Ending property theft by government, improving education, ending corporate welfare, and restoring fair elections are only our top four issues, the beginning. The ultimate goal of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina is to reduce the size, scope, and power of government at all levels and on all issues, and consistently oppose any increase in the size, scope, and power of government at any level, for any purpose.

::END LIBERTY AGENDA TEXT::

RESOLUTION ADOPTED unopposed.

#### (2) Mecklenburg County affiliate reformed:

-- Pasotto reported that he officially recreated the Mecklenburg County Libertarian Party and passed around a copy of "The Constitution and Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County, NC," and the list of its new officers: Chairperson Canrad F. Harvey  
MOTION: Pasotto moved to accept the Libertarian Party of Mecklenburg County, NC, as an recognized affiliate of the LPNC based on the submission of its constitution and bylaws.  
SECOND: Phil Jacobson  
MOTION PASSED unopposed.

#### (3) Filling vacancies on the EC:

-- Howe explained that the Vice Chair and two At-large positions were vacant, and that there was only one more EC meeting before the state convention before the election of new officers.  
-- Howe expressed that it was too conflicted to consider filling the vacant at-large positions because of lack of publicity on the matter.  
-- EC members in attendance discussed whether to consider filling the vacant Vice Chair position, consulting the current bylaws to

confirm whether the Chair or other committee members could appoint another individual without election to serve temporarily as Chair in the absence of the elected Chair.

MOTION: Brian Irving moved to open the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

SECOND: Paul Elledge

MOTION FAILS 2 votes to 4

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

-- The next meeting is set for 11:00 AM 7 March 2009 in Greensboro at the Lone Star Steakhouse on High Point Road.

-- Following meetings will be schedule after officer elections at the state convention.

MOTION: Stephanie Watson moved to adjourn

SECOND: Chris Spruyt

PASSED (no opposition)

CALL TO ADJOURN at 2:15 PM by Howe