

Executive Committee Teleconference
May 28, 2013

Status: Approved June 26, 2014

Mr. Neale called the meeting to order at 9:03 PM (all times Eastern).

Executive Committee members in attendance: Geoff Neale (chair), Lee Wrights (vice-chair), Tim Hagan (treasurer), David Blau (secretary), Bill Redpath (at large), Dan Wiener (Region 4), Jim Lark (Region 5S). Other LNC members listening: Mark Hinkle (at-large), Norm Olsen (Region 1), Dianna Visek (Region 6), Gary Johnson (Region 7). Non-LNC members in attendance: Carla Howell (LP executive director), Alicia Mattson (NV).

The meeting was called to discuss the outcome in the lawsuit Reeves et al. v. Wagner et al. (regarding which party leads the legitimate Oregon affiliate).

Mr. Neale asked for input from the EC regarding whether the ruling requires any LNC action. Dr. Lark asked whether LNC counsel has reviewed this opinion; Mr. Neale indicated that had not occurred. Mr. Blau explained the procedural posture of the lawsuit, and provided an interpretation of the opinion.

In response to a question by Ms. Visek about what action (if any) to take, Mr. Wrights suggested that we should forward the opinion to our counsel for review and advice. Mr. Neale explained that our Bylaws clearly state that we have a responsibility to protect our trademark insofar as we permit affiliates to use it, that we can have only one affiliate per state, and that the only action we can take against affiliates is disaffiliation, although he expressed a desire not to take that action. He asked that the minutes reflect that he proposed disaffiliation of Arizona in 1999. Ms. Visek asked what fallout occurred from that disaffiliation. Mr. Neale opined that the state party recovered adequately, while Dr. Lark noted that there were several lawsuits and Arizona did not place Harry Browne on the ballot in the following presidential election.

Mr. Neale will convey the opinion to LNC counsel, and he recommended that the EC take no action at this time. Mr. Neale expressed his belief that no executive session was needed. There was consensus for his opinion. No action was taken by the EC.

Mr. Wrights moved to adjourn. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.