



LNC Meeting Minutes, May 31, 2004

To: Libertarian National Committee
From: Bob Sullentrup
CC: Joe Seehusen
Date: 5/31/2004
Re: May 31, 2004

Attendance

Attending the May 31, 2004 LNC meeting in Atlanta were members and officers: Michael Dixon, Lee Wrights, Mark Nelson, Mark Rutherford, George Squyres, Dena Bruedigam, Michael Gilson-deLemos, Aaron Starr, Joe Seehusen, Dan Karlan, Mike Fellows, M Carling, Adm. Michael Colley, Bill Redpath, BetteRose Ryan, Bob Sullentrup, Chuck Moulton, Rick McGinnis.

Alternates included Mike Fellows, Mark Cenci, Scott Lieberman, Mark Hinkle, Emily Salvette, Tony Ryan, Chris Farris and Tim Hagan.

The meeting commenced at 1:07.

On a point of order raised by MG, the Chair confirmed that the moment of reflection was of secular nature.

Credentials Report

Newly elected chair Michael Dixon clarified the methodology for numbering regions as follows:

- The region that includes Alaska shall be Region 1
- Established numbering will be applied to existing regions whose boundaries remain unchanged
- Other regions will be assigned the lowest available integer in the order received.

Not knowing this methodology beforehand, Bob Sullentrup offered a set of labels for the regions which reflected some of the characteristics of the collections of states which have assembled for the new term. This offer was met with immediate suspicion, which turns out to have been well founded. The labels were intentionally lame (Hoosier mama – you get the idea) to necessitate the creativity that would lead to better labels from the regions themselves.

The chair called upon Bob Sullentrup to report the formation of regions, representatives and alternates. Bob reported the regions but stated he had been unable to confirm their legitimacy based on the sum of the delegate percentages. Chris Farris performed the calculations to legitimize the regions from the delegation percentages in the table provided in delegation chair's manuals.

Louisiana remains an orphaned state. Arkansas has declared its intention in writing to the Secretary to stand independent of any region.

The chair on a point of order raised by MG confirmed without object a practice that Regions may appoint secondary alternates, advising the Secretary of the order of precedence.

| Region | States | Representative | Alternate |
|----------------|---|--|--|
| Region 1, East | Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey | Dan Karlan, New Jersey | Mark Cenci, Maine |
| Region 1, West | Alaska, Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado | Ed Hoch, Alaska | 1 st : Joseph Thompson Colorado 2 nd : Mike Fellows Montana |
| Region 2 | California, Oregon, Hawaii | Aaron Starr, California M Carling, California | 1 st : Mark Hinkle California 2 nd : Scott Lieberman California |
| Region 3 | Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky | Dena Bruedigam, Ohio | Emily Salvette Michigan |
| Region 4 | Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina | MG de Lemos, Florida | Chris Farris, Georgia |
| Region 5 West | Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas | Jeremy Keil, Wisconsin | Tony Ryan, Colorado |
| Region 5 East | Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania | Jim Lark, Virginia | Chuck Moulton Pennsylvania |
| Region 6 | Nevada, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Oklahoma | George Squyres, Arizona | Tim Hagan, Nevada |

Paperwork Check

Mike Dixon pointed out the contents of the LNC Welcome Packets: LNC Policy Manual, State Chair's List, Employee Manual and Strategic Plan.

Potential Conflicts of Interest.

Mike Dixon asked members to submit conflicts of interest in writing to the Secretary. Additional details are found in the Policy Manual, Section I.5 of on page 8. The policy is:

- A. *It shall be the affirmative responsibility of each LNC member, and each Party officer or employee, to disclose to the LNC in connection with the performance of their respective*

duties: (a) if such person's own economic or other interests might conflict with the interests of the Party in the discharge of such duties; or (b) if such person's duty to others might conflict with the interests of the Party in the discharge of such duties. Any such disclosure shall be made at the earliest opportune moment, prior to the discharge of such duties and clearly set forth the details of the conflict of interest;

- B. It shall be the affirmative obligation of any person making such a disclosure to provide the Secretary with a written copy of the disclosure statement. It shall be the further affirmative obligation of any person making such a disclosure to request that the Chair place reading of the disclosure statement on the agenda of the next LNC meeting and read the disclosure statement into the minutes of that meeting. Nothing in this section shall modify the requirements of Section 3 A to provide such a disclosure at the earliest possible opportunity.*
- C. No LNC member, Party officer or employee shall: (a) transact business with the Party unless the transaction is fair and equitable to the Party; or (b) use information gained in the discharge of Party duties to the disadvantage of the Party.*

- Michael Dixon reported he works with banks, non-profits and financial institutions
- Bill Redpath is the treasurer of the Center for Voting and Democracy, a 501-C3 organization
- Bill Redpath is the treasurer of the Real Campaign Reform, Inc. organization
- Bill Redpath is on the board of directors of the Citizens in Charge organization
- Jim Lark is on the board of directors of the Advocates for Self-Government
- Jim Lark is on the board of directors of the Institute for Health Freedom
- Mark Cenci is on the board of directors of Real Campaign Reform
- Rick McGinnis is a non-voting member of Ron Paul's Republican Liberty Caucus but NOT a member of the Republican Party
- Rick McGinnis is a member of G. Edward Griffin's new organization, Freedom Force International
- Since the meeting, R. Lee Wrights reported he is a board member of Freedom Ballot Access, <http://www.freedomballotaccess.org>, a non-profit dedicated to helping with ballot access.

The Secretary has not received any pre-existing written statements from the prior Secretary to carry forward. Accordingly, the Secretary requests all members of the report all potential conflicts of interest so that a complete basis may be established.

If the list above is complete, the secretary will accept the compilation above as the official written record to comply with the policy, provided the committee does not direct that written submissions from members are required.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda (standard font) was amended (*italicized font*) as follows:

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Call to Order | Monday May 31, 2004 | 1:00 PM |
| 2 | Moment of Reflection | | 1 Minute |
| 3 | Credentials Report | Secretary | 5 minutes |

| | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|------------------|
| 4 | Paperwork Check | Secretary | 5 minutes |
| 5 | Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest | | 10 minutes |
| 6 | Approval of the Agenda | | 5 minutes |
| 7 | Approval of the Minutes of Past LNC Meetings | | 5 minutes |
| 8 | Convention Committee Report | | 5 minutes |
| 9 | Chair's Report | | 10 minutes |
| 10 | Executive Director's Report | | 10 minutes |
| 10A | <i>Treasurers Report</i> | | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 11 | Legal Report | | 10 minutes |
| 12 | Presidential Campaign Report | | 10 minutes |
| 13 | Ballot Access Report | | 5 minutes |
| 14 | Strategy 3 Report | | 5 minutes |
| 14A | <i>Bylaws Committee (M Carling)</i> | | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 15 | Population of Standing Committee | | 30 minutes |
| | Executive | | |
| | Audit | | |
| | EPCC | | |
| | Convention | | |
| | APRC | | |
| | Program | | |
| 15A | <i>Schedule next meeting</i> | | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 15B | <i>(time permitting) Round robin, member goals</i> | | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 16 | Opportunity for Public Comments | | 10 minutes |

Mark Rutherford moved to accept the agenda as amended. MG seconded. Carried.

Approval of minutes of Past LNC Meetings

Page 3 of 17 of the minutes of the LNC meeting of February 21, 2004 in Austin noted the approval of the September minutes. That section should have reflected the December minutes in St. Louis.

Owing to this discrepancy, the group had declined to approve the minutes at the prior LNC meeting on May 27. Bob Sullentrop committed to check with Steve Givot to resolve the discrepancy and submit the revision at the earliest opportunity.

Revisions to the minutes of the May 27 meeting include:

- Jeremy Keil's name was misspelled on the bottom of page 1

- M Carling was present at the meeting but missing from the list
- On page 4 under action items, for the purposes of these minutes, the LNC, not the auditor, complemented Rod Severson's work
- In the succession of representatives from California under the Credentials section, Dr. Lieberman took Mark Hinkle's slot and M Carling took Dr. Lieberman's second alternate slot. Mark Hinkle remained as LNC rep but moved from junior to senior rep in that region. Joe Dehn, not Mark Hinkle, vacated his representation.
- Under Ballot Access for West Virginia, signatures was misspelled.

The committee approved the 5-27-04 minutes as amended. Lee Wrights was the lone vote to disapprove the minutes, preferring to have had additional time for review to spot more corrections.

Action Item: Bob Sullentrup

Convention Committee Report

Geoff Neale reported that all fixed costs for the convention had been covered "10 days ago". Since May 21 therefore the convention was operating off of incremental economics. Food costs, budgeted to increase 25% over Indianapolis but feared to reach 35%, looked to be no more than 32%.

Had registrations matched the 610 at Indianapolis, convention profits were project to have been \$7.5k. Geoff's estimate at the end of the convention was a possible \$20k. Moreover, the Atlanta accounting scheme reflects a 10% charge back (a give back of sorts) of convention revenues to staff to begin to recover the costs of their efforts.

Over 1100 people purchased events, though this number includes some people who, after changing their minds, purchased an additional event. Those people would have been counted as two purchases while someone who made up his mind in advance and purchased the same set of events initially was counted as one.

Geoff recommended the LNC consider some group independent of the Party to manage the convention as a means avoiding BCRA complications.

The LNC moved unanimously to commend the tireless and masterful work of Nancy Neale to bring this smoothly run, handsomely profitable and memorable convention replete with the drama of bona fide horse races to a successful conclusion.

Chair's report

Mike Dixon reported he had met directly with the presidential nominee within the preceding 24 hours and broached a wide variety of topics with him including campaign organization and plans as well as other issues. He got answers to his many questions directly from the candidate and anticipated a splendid working relationship with enormous potential for the Party in the weeks and months to come.

Executive Director's Report

Joe Seehusen distributed his summary report and asked the members to read it through for completeness.

Joe raised an immediate concern in staffing for the anticipated post-convention interest in the Party and its ability to satisfy inquiries and requests.

Joe committed to drafting a 'heads-up' list for priority items the LNC should address including the staffing concern just mentioned.

Joe recognized and expressed his appreciation for the hard work and dedication of staff members including Rod Severson, George Getz, Dianne Pilcher, J. Daniel Cloud, and Jessica Wilson. Jessica in turn recognized Neno Wilson, Andrew Bradley, Ananda Creager, Andrew Bradley, Chris Corman and Paul Westerberg.

MG recommended New Hampshire as a prospective convention site owing to its selection by the Free State Project.

Action Item: Joe Seehusen to draft “heads-up” items

Treasurer’s Report

Mark Nelson presented handouts containing the 2004 budget and YTD financials with comparisons and asked for feedback on the information content and format. Mark plans to focus on these documents as a means of monitoring and assessing financial performance.

MG commended Mark on his work and suggested the forms include some kind of comments box to supplement the tables of numbers with notes and commentary.

The purpose of Mark’s handouts was to identify the format and content that will form the basis of financial reporting and analysis he plans to make available for this term.

Legal Report

Bill Hall reported that he, Joe Seehusen, Mike Dixon and the Badnarik campaign will meet in the near future to set expectations and practices for coordinating, interacting and defining responsibilities.

Bill further clarified the meaning and importance of “executive session” . First, an executive session is a mode of discussion and should not be confused with the executive committee. Discussions in executive sessions cannot be repeated at the risk of waiving attorney-client privilege and affecting the discovery process in litigation that allows documents and materials to be revealed.

Bill maintains a separate e-mail list for this purpose. When he has utilized this list, he has prominently displayed “executive session” in the title and elsewhere, and indicated the content is not for extended circulation. The term “privileged and confidential” will also appear.

Bill addressed a question about personal financial liabilities. The Party maintains director’s liability insurance of \$2M. However, as long as Committee members act prudently and within their fiduciary responsibility, no harm should ever come about.

Lee Wrights commended Bill Hall’s work and termed him a hero.

Presidential Campaign Report

Considering it was a little over a day since the selection of our presidential nominee who, along with his campaign manager Fred Collins, had been very busy, the report was at a high level with details pending.

As Fred Collins addressed the group, candidate Badnarik was taping an interview with WAGA, the Fox affiliate in Atlanta for rebroadcast in Austin. There had been nine interviews in the previous 25-26 hours, with two being for TV interviews and seven print.

Fred Collins is busy putting an organization together and is seeking the support of membership to provide a scheduler, volunteers for data entry, coordinators of one sort or another and grassroots support.

An item not part of these official minutes, but included here for opportunity and expediency is:

One such event scheduled prior to the convention and awaiting the presidential and vice presidential nominees is the brainchild of Jim Lark's: a Cardinals-Cubs game on Saturday, July 10, 12:20 start at Busch Stadium in St. Louis. George Bush threw out the first pitch on opening day at Busch, and we are working on securing the same privilege for Michael Badnarik. (Candidate Badnarik spoke with organizer Bob Sullentrup on June 1 and personally confirmed his interest in showing up) . Chair Mike Dixon and treasurer Mark Nelson are expected. 50 tickets were in hand (right behind home plate and high up but actually excellent value and vantage point) and half are gone. Contact Bob Sullentrup for more information.

Fred has raised \$20 almost "by accident" even before he has begun to apply his lapel-grabbing or other techniques.

Either Fred Collins or Mike Dixon said the Libertarian Party would utilize staff to the amount allowed without violating laws. Regardless of who said it, the remark stood as an apparent consensus. Fred wants to buy media with direct and immediate benefit, and not divert funds to gain ballot access and then buy media. "We will spend what we raise", he said and will focus on TV, not any other medium.

There is a general concern that Michael Badnarik does not have a drivers license, a situation that warrants some kind of remedy, safeguard or explanation. The situation will be "fixed", Fred asserted, or he would walk away from the campaign.

Contact information: campaignmanager@badnarik.org or go to www.badnarik.org

Fred pledged the Badnarik campaign would coordinate activities and work well together with the campaign of Vice Presidential nominee Richard Campagna.

Ballot Access

Bill Redpath noted the current behemoth of ballot access fights, Texas, was successful though challenging and we are "all but certified." The Greens and Reformers have not been successful there. Ralph Nader is suing to be on the ballot, but wants the same set of laws facing independents as parties. Accordingly, Nader's suit will likely not help the LP. Texas was unusually tough with universities tossing petitioners, something unheard of before, and police running people off what was clearly public property. These are issues we will need to address.

In West Virginia we are targeting 19000-20000 natures where we need 13000. We await the results of the gubernatorial deadline on May 10, and still have some time before the August 2 presidential deadline.

These states should be able to complete their ballot access drives independently: VA, TN RI, NJ, MN LA, IA, AR and possibly NH.

Three large states that need large numbers of signatures include IL, PA and NY. The Illinois deadline is June 21 and can be met with 6-7k signatures per week. After Illinois is complete, then Connecticut will likely follow.

In Oklahoma we have gathered over 20000 signatures and filed a lawsuit for access. Chances are good for a favorable outcome.

South Dakota is certified for ballot access with over 8000 signatures.

Maryland is finished and we await word on the outcome.

Several states require 5000 or fewer signatures and include AL, CT, DC, ND, ME, and KY.

Bill estimates we will need \$40-45k each month in June, July and August to secure ballot access, or a total of roughly \$125k.

All told, 18 states are still outstanding for ballot access.

Strategy 3 report

George Squyres expressed his delight in the delegates having approved the recast platform planks en masse.

Dan Karlan noted that in no previous convention had the delegates proceeded through all of the platform report and gotten so deep into amendments from the floor. The final count of amendments numbered for reference purposed at the secretary's table reached 22. Dan commended the fine work of the Platform Committee.

George will be working to provide the "Atlanta Platform" including recast and amended planks in the near future.

Going forward, George expects 15 planks can be rewritten for approval at the 2006 convention, and in 2008 more. By that date George expects to be closing in on a completely cogent and coherent platform.

George requested a website to collect comments by party members on platform planks. Accordingly, George moved that the executive director direct the webmaster to construct a website to handle the work of building this website. The committee approved.

MG moved to retain George Squyres as the strategy champion. George was reelected without opposition.

Bylaws Committee

M Carling distributed a written report listing suggested changes to the bylaws to be distributed to members at the next bylaws committee meeting.

M also noted that the Bylaws Committee did not issue a report to the convention.

Population of standing committee

Mike Dixon named the standing committees as follows:

- Executive Committee
- Audit Committee
- EPCC Committee
- Convention Committee
- APRC Committee
- Program Committee

The process calls for the LNC to name the chairs of these committees and the chairs to populate them with members.

The Executive Committee consists of four officers and one or more others. Its function is to create the budget and nothing else.

Lee Wrights moved to keep the Executive Committee at 7 people; Mark Nelson seconded, and the motion passed.

Nominees included:

BetteRose Ryan
Jim Lark
Aaron Starr
Mark Rutherford
MG de Lemos
George Squyres
Bill Redpath

A secret ballot elected Mark Rutherford and Bill Redpath outright. BetteRose Ryan and Aaron Starr tied for the third slot.

The LNC decided without objection to accept both BetteRose and Aaron onto the committee but make the Chair a voting member only in the case of a tie.

The Audit Committee selects and supervises an auditor.

The EPCC Committee devises the employment contract with the Executive Director and evaluates performance.

The Convention Committee collects and evaluates information from the prior convention and arranges the next.

The APRC Committee (Advertising and Publications Review Committee) ensures advertising, announcements, publications and releases conform to the Statement of Principles.

The Program Committee embellishes 10 platform planks and directs the public's focus to them as a means of highlighting the political initiatives of the Libertarian Party. The work product of the committee is submitted and approved.

[Dan Karlan recorded this portion of these minutes while the secret ballot for Executive Committee was being tabulated]

The Chair proposed the following Chairs for the corresponding Committees, with these individuals responsible for populating their respective Committees:

- Audit – M Carling
- EPCC – Mark Rutherford
- Convention – Mark Cenci
- APRC – Lee Wrights
- Program – MG de Lemos

The Chair was unable to appoint these individuals without objection.

The group moved to accept them and put the matter to a vote.

A motion to divide partitioned the question into ones involving the Audit Committee versus the other five.

Half of the divided motion passed: the five were approved as assigned above.

The Audit appointment debate concentrated on the validity of the chair of that committee being on the LNC.

The other half of the divided motion passed.

[end of Dan Karlan's record]

Mark Cenci, chosen as Convention Committee Chair, will report on feedback of the Atlanta event.

M Carling was elected chair of the Audit Committee.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the LNC is scheduled for August 14-15 with location to be a major city in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio or Kentucky apart from Indianapolis or Cincinnati.

Mark Nelson moved for August 14-15 and the item passed.

Dena Bruedigam was appointed to choose a city. By fortuitous coincidence, the Cleveland Indians happen to be in town that weekend playing Minnesota in case anyone had not noticed. Detroit will be on the road.

Public Comments

Mark Selzer, CA, introduced his project for educational videos. He provided a hand-out and requests \$500 for continued development. He is seeking no ruling now. Visit www.libertarianalternative.org to watch them.

Jerry Bloom, MI, commented on putting in vetting process.

Bonnie Scott, NY, recommended the LNC purchase a module to make Raiser's Edge data web accessible. Mike Dixon confirmed the intent, but lamented the constant refrain he had continually heard about that matter was always "we'll purchase that in 6 months."

Richard Winger, CA, reported a June 11 court date in Oklahoma City for ballot access in that state.

Adjourned at 4:05