

The May State Committee Meeting came to order May 27th, 2007 at 2:24 p.m. George Phillies, Dave Roscoe, Arthur Torrey, Bob Underwood, and Mary-Anne Wolf attended. Shirley Underwood was present interpreting for Bob Underwood. 5 committee members present is the minimum needed for a quorum.

There was a vote to accept the minutes as posted in the State Committee Private Business on the party web site, with the correction that "the meeting" would be clarified to read "The April State Committee Meeting", since it was better to refer to the meeting by its whole name, and that the version of this text would also be used in the next newsletter. There were 5 votes in favor of accepting this corrected version of the minutes and none against.

Chair, George Phillies, reported that Stephanie Woiciechowski has submitted her resignation from the State Committee and from the position of editor of the newsletter.

There was no treasurer's report, because Walter Ziobro was not present.

There was no report of status on the AT&T and Lynx expense.

There was no report from the web master, because Bill Hees was not present. Chair George Phillies reported that former LPMA member Jim Perry, who has breakfast with Muni Savyon, has agreed to talk with Muni about ownership of lpma.org, which Muni still owns.

Arthur Torrey, holder of the newly created office of Operations Facilitator, reported on preparations for upcoming Gay Pride participation. Mary-Anne Wolf will pick up material from Rob Powers on the night of Monday, June 4th, from Rob's home. We may need to mail the banners back to Rob after Rob moves to San Francisco, but the other material will not need to be returned.

George Phillies reported that Carol McMahon had told him that she had heard back from Gay Pride that our registration has been received.

Although Gay Pride has arranged to supply us with a tent and tables, George will pack a tent and tables just in case something goes wrong with that. Arthur and Mary-Anne will either collect George's tent and tables or return the tent and tables at the end of the day, since they are doing the later shift at the booth.

George Phillies and Arthur Torrey collaboratively presented information about the question of brochures intended to be passed out at gay pride. George had created an initial draft of a trifold brochure for this purpose. Arthur had introduced suggested improvements. George said that the previous solution to getting brochures printed had involved sending files electronically to Pip, which also had the lowest price local to where he lived.

Arthur made a motion that resources be allocated to print 1000 copies of the corrected brochure. Dave Roscoe seconded the motion. George clarified that the printing at Pip would be on cherry or hot pink paper, but did not agree that this needed to be a formal amendment to the motion. There were 5 votes in favor of the amendment, with the understanding that this brochure might also be

appropriate for events beyond the Gay Pride gathering if all 1000 copies were not used up.

Mary-Anne Wolf discussed that there will be an opportunity in September to make brochures available on the networking table at Eastern Massachusetts Pagan Pride, and there was a consensus that the brochures created for Gay Pride might also be suitable for distribution there, but no formal vote was taken.

George Phillies said that we should take along an Operation Politically Homeless display to Gay Pride, and that we have more than one which we can use.

George Phillies reported that Vans Warped Tour will happen on August 9th. We have space, and there was a consensus that we should invite other Libertarian parties to join us there, and that George should get in touch with them.

There was also discussion of the MassCann rally, or Hemp Fest, a gathering in favor of marijuana legalization which will happen in September. George Phillies said that we would need to send money in order to reserve booth space there. Arthur Torrey moved to allocation \$200 for our party to register. Dave Roscoe seconded the motion and there were 5 votes in favor and none against.

George Phillies also agreed to edit a brochure that Liberty for Massachusetts has, in favor of drug legalization, so as to make it suitable for the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts to use. (The overlap in membership between the organizations means there would be no problem with using LFM material.)

Arthur Torrey acknowledged that he still has yet to write to Dan Oakes, the Libertarian in prison, who had been discussed at the meeting the previous month. Arthur said he still planned to do this.

George Phillies pointed out that the scheduled time for our monthly June state committee meeting, the last Sunday in June, collides with the Porcupine Fest in New Hampshire, so George suggested that we skip the June meeting, and there was consensus that we should do so, although no formal vote was recorded.

Membership secretary, Dave Roscoe, presented the following report:
LPMA/LPUS database summary for 04/28/2007

Libertarian Oath

total

signed not signed both

Subscribers

LPUS/UMP, in MA: 0 0 0

LPMA only, in MA: 134 2 136

UMP EXTENDED in MA: 90 8 98

Subtotal: 224 10 234 *

LPMA/LPUS database summary for 05/27/2007

Libertarian Oath
total
signed not signed both

Subscribers

LPUS/UMP, in MA: 0 0 0
LPMA only, in MA: 133 3 136
UMP EXTENDED in MA: 89 9 98

Subtotal: 222 12 234 *

Subscribers, LPMA
only, outside MA: 6 1 7 *

Other MA contacts.
last contact age

0 to 6 months: 78 236 314
6 to 12 months: 87 69 156
12 to 24 months: 247 504 751
24 months and up: 2247 11288 13535

Subtotal: 2659 12097 14756 *

Total: 2887 12110 14997 *

Basic members: 2659

Other items:

I retired my failing HP printer. I have been working on getting the membership card forms to print on one of my new printer. I'm trying to do it using some of the database and mail-merge capabilities of OpenOffice.

There was discussion of the need to better decode the data from recent contacts, and the Membership Secretary said it was on his "To Do List".

We need someone to handle the newsletter for this month. George Phillies will do one issue.

George Phillies reported news on Political Facilitator Carol McMahan, that she has given notice of

resignation from her day job. She is now building up her Herbalife business, and also spending more time on George Phillies's presidential campaign.

George Phillies has also asked webmaster Bill Hees for a separate topic for meetings and socials, in effect a special place for announcements and calendar entries, so that people know where to find this information without it getting buried.

In memory of his previous function as Vice Chair, the Chair confirmed that he has a pulse.

These minutes show the most recent draft of the by laws as circulated subsequent to the State Committee meeting by email. What is recorded in the minutes differs from the original draft in 2 respects.

There was a vote of 5 in favor and none against to remove the bylaw that restricts membership of the State Committee to American citizens. Arthur Torrey had moved this and Dave Roscoe had seconded it.

A motion was passed at the State Committee meeting amending the section of the Bylaws dealing with contracts that extent beyond the term of office of the State Committee. It was specified that the committee would review the text by email afterwards, to ensure that the amendment had been correctly set down by the Chair.

Article. The State Committee

The State Committee carries on the Party's business between State Conventions. The purpose of the State Committee is to do work toward the Party's political objectives by providing an organizational structure that will:

1. Recruit candidates and help libertarians to run for office;
2. Organize and support local and topical libertarian groups;
3. Perform non-electoral political acts, e.g., referenda, lobbying, and litigation;
4. Recruit members, helping them to do politics;
5. Educate the public on libertarian political directions;
6. Create circumstances favorable to attaining the Party's Objective, as by supporting the creation of politically-effective legally-independent PACs, 527 organizations, and nonprofit or for-profit organizations;
7. Raise and spend money to do its work; and
8. Perform needed internal operations.

Article. Responsibilities of State Committee Members

- 1) Members of the State Committee are elected at the annual State Convention, to hold office until the end of the next annual State Convention. Between State Conventions, the State Committee may elect additional Members to fill vacancies or to expand its size.
- 2) Each Member of the State Committee has one vote on all motions before the State Committee, except as specified under the Section on the Audit and Compensation Working Group.
- 3) Each Member of the State Committee shall diligently seek to attend all State Committee meetings.

- 4) Each Member of the State Committee will work diligently with all other Members to advance the interests of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts. Each Member as a condition of continued Committee membership agrees to be an active member of at least two Working Groups.
- 5) Each Member of the State Committee shall disclose in writing to the full State Committee any and all conflicts of interest.
- 6) Members who fail to perform their responsibilities as specified in this Article may be sanctioned by the State Committee. By 2/3 vote, the State Committee may expel one of its own members from the State Committee.

Article. Restrictions on the State Committee

1. State Committee funds may only be spent after authorization by the State Committee. Authorizations are by majority vote of the Committee. The State Committee uses the calendar year as its fiscal year.
2. Obligations. To make a contract that persists more than three months beyond the next Regular State Convention, the State Committee must sequester enough money from the Treasury to pay the full cost of the contract. The State Committee may not vote to sequester in total more than 15% of the State Committee's funds to pay contracts. Whenever, as a result of changes in account balances, more than 15% of the State Committee's funds are sequestered, the sequestered funds remain so, but no additional funds may be sequestered. If money is raised to pay for a project, and is sequestered to pay for that project, that money when sequestered does not count against the 15% limit.
3. Rules of Order. All State Committee Meetings are run under Roberts' Rules of Order unless specifically otherwise provided.
4. Neutrality. State Committee funds and employees may not be used to support candidates for election to the State Committee.
5. Employment. State Committee Members may not be paid for their work for the State Committee. They may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses if the State Committee approves funds for the purpose. Firms owned by State Committee Members may do business with the State Committee, but the State Committee or its designees shall demonstrate to the Membership that the State Committee is paying no more than normal commercial rates.
6. Suspension. The State Committee may not suspend the By-Laws.

Article. Suspensions. The State Committee may by 2/3 secret ballot vote of the entire State Committee expel a person from membership in the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts. An expelled person must receive a 2/3 secret ballot favorable vote from the State Committee to rejoin.

With respect to new business:

Arthur Torrey raised the issue of what we might hand out at Pagan Pride. Ideas about the environment, or freedom to raise one's children in one's chosen religion (or without religion) were

considered. Mary-Anne agreed to find out what else beyond the networking table we can do.

Arthur Torrey raised the issue of the lobbying in favor of internet taxes. He recommended a position statement saying that we are opposed. He volunteered to draft one, and Mary-Anne Wolf volunteered to proof read it.

Arthur Torrey reminded George Phillies of the need to discuss a standing rule of how the State Committee can decide things by email when they need to be decided without a meeting. George promised to write a proposed standing rule and circulate it, and this is what he sent to the State Committee after the meeting:

Voting by Electronic Means

The State Committee may conduct business by electronic mail. A member makes a motion by sending it by email to every member of the state committee, and by posting the message to the designated thread on the State Committee pages of the LPMASS.ORG forum. Once made, a motion may not be amended. Members of the s\State Committee have one week from the date of posting to vote on the motion. If all members of the State Committee vote before the week has elapsed, the motion is passed or defeated immediately. A 2/3 affirmative vote of the full State Committee is needed to pass a motion.

George Phillies said he had not heard of anyone from our party running to replace Meehan. Nor had anyone else.

George Phillies proposed that we blend our state convention with a New England Regional Libertarian Party meeting. Would would invite all Libertarian Presidential candidates who had made financial disclosures and had filed with the FEC to attend. We would also as the Libertarian National Committee if they would like to do candidate training. We would try to videotape the event and display it on Youtube. After some discussion, it was agreed that we would invite Libertarians from New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, as well, understanding that they might not want to attend because of the distance.

Arthur Torrey moved that George should talk to the appropriate state chairs, and Mary-Anne Wolf seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted that he do so.

There was discussion of whether having by-laws that make it possible to disaffiliate a local chapter could be abused by an evil state committee, and whether we needed to have any rules about whether local affiliates should use "Libertarian Party" in their names, but no votes were taken to change anything as a result.

George Phillies said that some by-laws need to be put in place in time for the party convention, and that he would draft them.

Arthur Torrey moved, and Dave Roscoe seconded that we adjourn at 4:07 p.m. and it was unanimously voted to do so.