

## Minutes of the Meeting of April 29, 2008

The meeting came to order at 7 PM at the home of George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester. Members present were David Blau, Carol McMahan, George Phillies, David Roscoe, Bob Underwood, and Mary-Anne Wolf. Minutes of the prior meeting had been approved and appear in the May Newsletter.

### Officer Reports:

**Membership Secretary.** David Roscoe reported that membership had dropped from the last month, and was now 94. This will be Dave's last meeting with us. After 17 years of heroically faithful service, sometimes under difficult circumstances, he has found other interests in his life to which he is now advancing. He transferred to the Party three huge boxes of documents, paperwork, envelopes, and other material, and described which materials were in the boxes. The State Committee agreed that checks will continue to go to Carol McMahan, while returns will now go to George Phillies. We continue to need a Membership Secretary. Phillies will continue to print mailing labels for the newsletter. By unanimous vote the State Committee resolved:

Be it resolved, that the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts State Committee extends its profound gratitude to David Roscoe for his 17 years of faithful service, sometimes under difficult circumstances, to the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts.

**Editor:** A cooperative effort of the Outreach Working Group prepared and printed the May issue of the newsletter, which the committee will now staple, fold, label, samp, and seal.

**Political Facilitator:** Bill DiScipio ran for Selectman in Wakefield, and finished fourth out of five in a race for two positions. Appreciation for Bill's hard work on behalf of liberty was expressed. Political Facilitator Carol McMahan reported that she will be moving to Connecticut at the end of the year. Records in her basement will be transferred to other members of the State Committee.

**Webmaster:** The Donation button is now up on the web site. A volunteer form will be up so soon as certain software issues are fixed. George Phillies is offering a free copy of the .RTF file of either of two of his novels to anyone who donates to the State Party. A statement about the difficulties with the LPMA.org URL has been placed on the LPMA web site.

**Treasurer:** Walter Ziobro has indicated that with his new circumstances, namely a wife and daughter, his time is increasingly limited, and he would not be averse to being replaced as Party Treasurer.

**National Convention:** Jim Casarjian-Perry of Billerica has asked to be appointed as a delegate. He was asked if he will support the Libertarian Party Presidential candidate, and he answered that he will. By unanimous vote he was appointed to our National Convention delegation.

**Ballot access.** Petitioners Paulie Cannoli and Jim Casarjian-Perry were both present. Nominating papers are being reprinted to deal with a technical issue in the last printing. Carol McMahan and Art Torrey have offered to work as contractors, serving as paid petitioners on the same basis as our

other paid petitioners. This rate is the same \$1.50 per signature being paid to other petitioners. Of this money, half is being paid by the National Committee, and roughly half of the remainder is being paid by the Phillies 2008 campaign. The Committee voted 4-0 (McMahon and Phillies abstaining) to approve this proposal.

Phillies distributed the state-approved certification form for our Presidential electors and U.S. Senate candidate. He noted that the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office had been extremely helpful and positive in getting us these forms. These forms must be approved by the local Town Clerk's office.

Phillies reported on the ballot access challenge. We have about 75 days to collect signatures, given that papers must be sorted and shipped off to town clerks. That means we need to collect about 200 signatures per day. With currently known paid petitioners and volunteers, we should be able to meet this challenge. We have been approached by a peitioning form in Worcester about collecting, a \$1.70 per signature.

A motion Amending the Bylaws by adding a new Article "Memberships and Subscriptions" was reviewed section by section and approved unanimously. We now have electronic memberships. This appears to be Article X.

#### Article X. Memberships and Subscriptions

1. a. The State Committee may by majority vote set the dues for any category of membership or subscription.

b. To join as a member, a person must be an American citizen or a person lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States, must reside in Massachusetts, and must provide the state committee with their valid mailing address in Massachusetts.

c. Persons who reside outside Massachusetts may not be members, but may subscribe to the newsletter.

d. All memberships expire on the last day of a calendar month.

2. The categories of membership, their annual dues, and the services provided to members in that category are defined below. All members, regardless of category, are equally members in the sense of the Party Constitution, Article I.

a. Dues for a Paper Mail member are \$25 per year. A Paper Mail member is sent a printed copy of each issue of the newsletter by US Mail.

b. Dues for an Electronic Mail member are \$15 per year. An Electronic Member is sent a copy of each issue of the newsletter via electronic mail in PDF (Portable Document Format). To qualify for electronic mail membership, the member must supply an email address that is capable of receiving the newsletter.

c. Dues for each Additional Household Members are \$5 per year. An Additional Household Member must at the time of joining live at the same address as a current Paper or Electronic Mail member. Additional Household Members are not sent the newsletter in paper or electronic form. The expiration date for the Additional Household Member is the same as it is for the associated Paper or Electronic Mail member.

d. There shall be no category of non-dues-paying membership.

3. The State Party may from time to time send additional notices or items to some or all members. In doing so, it may use any transmission medium appropriate to the notice or item. In cases of exigency, the State Committee may by majority vote authorize alternative delivery methods to deliver the newsletter.

4. All members shall be sent a timely individual notice of each State Convention.

5. Non-member subscriptions to the state newsletter may be purchased for \$25 per year for paper-mailed subscriptions or \$15 per year for electronic subscriptions. Non-member subscribers are not members.

6. Members may at their request be transferred between categories of membership.

a. Paper membership to Electronic membership - The member's Expiration Date shall be extended by 1/2 the number of months remaining in the current membership, rounding down.

b. Electronic membership to Paper membership - The member's Expiration Date shall be reduced by 1/2 the number of months remaining in the current membership, rounding up, but in every case the member will be sent at least one paper issue of the newsletter.

c. Additional Household membership to paper membership: The Member receives a full year membership, but pays only \$20 for the first year's dues.

d. Additional Household membership to electronic membership: The Member receives a full year membership, but pays only \$10 for the first year's dues.

e. Combining individual memberships to Individual plus additional household: (i). If needed, convert each membership to the one type desired (Electronic or Paper mail) as specified above. (ii). Add the remaining lengths of the two memberships together to determine the new expiration date of the combined membership.

7. Members are responsible for informing the Membership Secretary of address changes in a timely way.

8. The State Party interprets the phrase "member of the National Libertarian Party, as defined by the Libertarian National Committee charter and bylaws," to mean that the person has signed the membership pledge of the National Party, in the form extant on the date of adoption of the State Party Constitution.

9. Donation extensions to membership: Each person donating \$100 or more shall be given a one year extension of their membership, with an additional one year extension for every \$100 donated, with the upper limit that a membership shall not extend more than 5 years into the future. Persons making a monthly pledge contribution to the state party of \$10 or more shall be given a one month extension of membership for each month of contributions.

#### STANDING RULES

1. In setting dues for each category of membership or subscription, the State Committee shall regularly confirm that the amount paid more than covers the marginal cost of the membership or subscription.

The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.