

The State Committee met Wednesday, July 30 2008, at 7 PM at 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester.

Present were State Committee members David Blau, Carol McMahon, George Phillies, Art Torrey, Bob Underwood, and Mary-Anne Wolf.

The Agenda was approved.

Officers reported. LPMass and George Phillies through Phillies 2008 have spent over \$7000 on the ballot access drive. We have already recovered more than 13,000 valid signatures, so Bob Underwood will be on the ballot for U.S. Senate and the Phillies/Bennett team will be on the ballot for President and Vice President. Efforts are under way to replace Phillies/Bennett with Barr/Root. Bob was congratulated for getting on the ballot as our Senate candidate.

Membership is climbing. After eliminating several duplicate entries, the same person recorded with two different names, we are up to 113 members. The State Committee agreed that the people known to be life members be recorded as expiring in the year 99,999, and that people who may be life members and may be monthly pledgers be recorded as expiring in a year--we'll let them tell us if we made a mistake.

Webmaster Wolf reported on the impressive progressive improvements with the web pages. Discussion took place on where events should be announced. Changes in the front page were requested.

It was moved to add Mark Tashjian to the LPMass State Committee. He collected ca. 100 signatures for us, and appears to be a good person. Motion passed unanimously.

The date and location of the State Convention were discussed. October 18 appears to be a good day. We will re-use the site from last year, which has excellent parking, is readily accessible by interstate, and is not too expensive. Because he is local, Phillies will make arrangements.

The burning issue, namely the LNC call that we burn nominating papers, was discussed.

The LNC Political Director demanded that we burn nominating papers collected by Gary Fincher. We did not do so. The LNC Political Director severed LNC relations with at least three major itinerant petitioners for various reasons related to this. Art Torrey requested that we make a response, such as

a. Any person having possession of signed petitions should be instructed to avoid allowing Haugh, any member of the LNC, or any other person not known to be appropriately "vetted" to have access to the petitions.

b. Carol and any other SC members who have had dealings with Haugh or Fincher concerning this matter be requested to do all possible to document their interactions and or preserve relevant evidence such as e-mails, etc.

c. That a formal protest be made by the SC to LNC, Inc. about the actions of Haugh, both as a waste of LPMA time and resources, and his apparent solicitation of a crime. (This may be something that should also go before the LNC Judicial Committee?)

- d. That we do all possible to cooperate with the relevant legal authorities in the event that Mr. Fincher does pursue this matter
- e. We consider whether we wish to file any charges or take other legal action as a body.

After discussion, it was agreed that Phillies will draft a letter and, after review by the remainder of the Committee, send the letter to the LNC.

Possible uses of volunteers were discussed. Mary-Anne Wolf generated a substantial list of options, which appear in the newsletter we are collating this evening.

Bylaws amendment. As moved at the last meeting, it was moved by Torrey to add to:

Article IX. 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."

additional pieces saying

X.1.c Any person or entity that may legally give money to the LPMA may subscribe to the newsletter at any of the usual rates for members, without becoming a party member, and shall have the status of "subscriber".

X.1.d Any person or entity that may not legally give money to the LPMA may be given a free e-mail subscription to the newsletter if they so request.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Phillies asked to be reimbursed for printing and postage costs for Mass Liberty. The reimbursement rates are:

Two cents per black and white page

Four cents per colored page

A first class stamp per member issue mailed.

These rates, based on his using his Xerox Phaser 8560, are significantly less than rates available commercially, but appear to agree with known costs for paper and wax sticks, this being a wax printer. In response to questions, Phillies stated that based on reported page lifetimes for a Phaser not getting heavy use, the machine wear and tear is too small to compute. He is using real Xerox wax sticks, not second-source substitutes.

The motion to reimburse Phillies passed unanimously.