

Minutes of the August 2009 Regular Meeting State Committee of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts State Committee was held on August 9, 2009 at Tweed's restaurant in Worcester, Massachusetts. Present were committee members David Blau (chair), George Phillies, Arthur Torrey, Mary-Ann Wolf, and Steven Greffenius. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as amended.

Officer Reports

Treasurer: George Phillies delivered the treasurer's report:

Since the last meeting, the OCPF account received \$100 as two donations, and \$20.00 from two monthly donors, from which \$1.30 in Donortown Square fees will be deducted. The OCPF account now has in it \$2412.

The OCPF sub-accounts include:

- Fundraising \$686
- Candidates/Issues \$1320
- Administrative \$382
- Local Organization \$25

Since the last meeting, the FEC account has received \$285 in membership dues and donations, has had an appropriation against it of \$25.88 in reimbursements to Phillies for printing, and therefore has in it \$3931.

The FEC sub-accounts contain:

- Newsletter \$544
- Renewal \$398
- Volunteer \$414
- Fundraising \$209
- Candidate Recruitment \$303
- Admin & FEC Unallocated \$1852
- Candidates and Issues \$221

Membership: George Phillies delivered the membership secretary's report:

Ten July members expired.

Since the start of July, we have had 15 people join or renew.

We currently have 91 members.

We heard from one member who had wanted to renew by internet and could not find the donor button on the web page.

Operations: Arthur Torrey delivered the operations officer's report.

Webmaster: Mary-Ann Wolf delivered the webmaster's report.

Newsletter Editor: George Phillies delivered the newsletter editor's report.

Motions Passed in the Online Forum

Motion #1:

George moved that he be reimbursed for printing and mailing expenses, namely:

70 issues of the newsletter at 3 color and 7 monochrome pages at 4 cents per color page and 2 cents per black and white page \$18.20

10 1-page letters \$0.20

30 two-sided renewal forms \$1.80

one side color

50 two-page renewal letters

one side color \$3.00

26 x 2 page letter, color \$2.08

60 mailing labels \$0.60

Total 25.88

Motion #2:

George moved to appropriate \$200 from the FEC general and administrative fund to send renewal requests to members reaching farther back in time than we have reached thus far.

Working Groups

Convention: George led a thorough discussion of plans for the October 10 annual convention in Worcester. Discussed publicity, invitees, menu, speaker, and the annual meeting's agenda. Convention announcement and details to be published in the September newsletter.

Newsletter will contain proposed changes to the organization's by-laws, and RSVP card, and an invitation to pre-register.

George distributed these three platform planks to be considered for adoption:

PEACE

Libertarians support non-intervention in the affairs of foreign nations. Our foreign wars should end; our armed forces should be brought home from around the world. The Cold War is over; the vast military machine that the Cold War justified is no longer needed.

FREEDOM

Libertarians stand for protecting your Constitutional Rights, all of them without any exception or omission. There is no National Security exemption to the Bill of Rights. Politicians who ignore our Constitutional Liberties are the chief threat to our country.

OPPORTUNITY

America should be a land of opportunity for every citizen. Massive expansions of the Federal Budget and Debt are strangling those opportunities. We need massive cuts in government spending or our grandchildren will be crushed by their grandparents' wastrel extravagance.

Discuss these platform planks on the forum.

Other working groups with a brief update:

Audit and Compensation: Audit to occur in September.

Web Support: Locate the Donate button at the top of the website's home page.

Local Organization: Update on meet-ups.

New Business

LPMA's Legal Status and Name: Members discussed the legal status of our organization in light of state law. Also discussed was the organization's official name, and the name to be used in the organization's literature. The discussion resulted in four motions, to be presented for consideration at the state convention:

- #1) The formal name of the Organization, in the State Constitution and Bylaws, is changed to "Libertarian Association of Massachusetts".
- #2) The organization will as appropriate refer to itself in speaking to the Party as "the Libertarian Party" or "Libertarians".
- #3) The organization may informally refer to itself as "Massachusetts Libertarians".
- #4) The OCPF PAC will be renamed "Massachusetts Libertarian Political Action Committee".

Next meeting: The state committee will meet September 13, the second Sunday of the month.

The state committee meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.