

Minutes

LPCA Convention Business Meeting
February 22 – 24, 2008
Marina Village Conference Center
San Diego CA

Chair’s Report.....	4
Northern Vice Chair’s Report.....	8
Southern Vice Chair’s Report.....	9
Treasurer’s Report	10
Call to Order	11
Credentials Report	11
Adoption of Agenda.....	11
Lunch	12
Reconvene.....	12
Platform Committee.....	12
Item 1: Freedom of Expression	13
Item 2: Freedom of Expression	13
Item 3: Police.....	14
Item 4: Military.....	14
Item 5: Licensing Laws	15
Item 6: Government Monopolies.....	15
Item 7: Implementation	16
Elections.....	16
At-large Representatives (5).....	16
Election of Alternates (2)	17
Judicial Committee (5)	17
Platform Committee.....	17
Item 8: Judicial Plank	18
Item 9: Land Use and Public Policy	18
Item 10: Immigration.....	18
Item 11: Victimless Crimes	19
Adjournment	20
Call to Order	21

Credentials Report	21
Regional Delegates (2).....	21
Floor Nominations.....	21
National Committee Alternates (2).....	21
Floor Nominations.....	21
National Convention Delegates	21
Bylaws Committee Report.....	21
Proposal 1	22
<i>Bylaw 8: County Organizations: Section 3</i>	22
Proposal 2	22
<i>Bylaw 8: County Organizations: Section 6</i>	22
Proposal 3	22
<i>Bylaw 10: Finance and Accounting: Section 7</i>	22
Proposal 4	23
<i>Bylaw 23: Presidential National Convention Delegates</i>	23
Proposal 5	24
<i>Rule 11: Resolutions: Section 1</i>	24
National Delegates.....	25
Additional floor nominations.....	25
Presidential Panel Presentations	26
Karl J. Bray Award presentation	26
Presidential Candidate Straw Poll	26
1 st ballot results.....	27
Distributed results.....	27
Credentials Report	27
Bylaws Committee Report.....	27
Proposal 6	27
<i>Bylaw 3: Scope: Section 1</i>	28
Section 2	28
Proposal 7	28
<i>Bylaw 4: Definitions</i>	28
Endorsement of Candidates	30
Recognition of Convention Committee	31
Bylaws Committee Proposals	31
Proposal 8	31
<i>Bylaw 7: DUES SHARING</i>	31

Adjournment 33

Chair's Report

1.



Welcome Delegates!

5.

Last Year's Theme: Engagement

The LPC made extended efforts in 2007 to reach out to:

- county parties
- elected officials
- membership
- media
- like-minded organizations

2.



The Chair hereby appoints as Parliamentarian:

Kim Goldsworthy, P.R.P., C.P.

6.

County Visits



Riverside Meeting, January 2008
Attended by Southern Vice Chair Zander Collier

3.


Chair's Report

Kevin Takenaga

Libertarian Party of California
2008 Annual Convention of Delegates
Friday, February 22 – Sunday, February 24

7.

County Visits



Calaveras County, September 2007
Photo by Richard Newell, Northern Vice Chair

4.

2008 Convention



Welcome to "sunny" San Diego.

A big thank you to the Convention Committee!

8.

County Visits

- Alameda
- Butte
- Calaveras
- Contra Costa
- Marin
- Los Angeles
- Orange
- Placer
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara
- San Bernardino
- San Francisco

9.

LPC Sponsored Events

Monterey Mini-Convention organized by Lawrence Samuels

Southern California Leadership Conference organized by Zander Collier, S. Rowan Wilson with help from Joe Leibrandt

13.

California Freedom: A Makeover



- 1. New Editor, Thomas Sipos
- 1. New Layout Designer
- 1. New Newsprint Printer

10.

Election Night Party: Feb. 5



LPC at Centerfield's Sports Bar in Huntington Beach

14.

Operations Update



Beau Cain, Secretary has been working in the office full-time since Q3 2007.

Made substantial contributions to efficiency

11.

Election Night Party: Feb 5



SBCLP at Round Table Pizza in Upland. Joint event with local Ron Paul Meetup group.

15.

Engaging Volunteers



Special thanks to the SBCLP for their volunteer efforts over the past year!

12.

Membership Program



Bruce Dovner
Membership Committee Chair

Performing a top-down review of membership program

Building sophisticated financial model

16.

Elected Officials Outreach



Matthew Barnes is the
LPC Elected Officials Liaison

17.

Hon. Steve Cotrell



Current Nevada City Council Member & former Mayor

21.

Perry Political Software

- ↳ Offering it to all county parties
- ↳ Will help you obtain your registration data
- ↳ Will even offer to the paper campaigns for free

18.

Hon. Tom Tryon



Six-term County Supervisor seeking seventh term in Calaveras County
Longest serving Libertarian official in California

22.

The Future

19.

Hon. Norm Westwell



Serves on the Ocean View School District
Running for Reelection in November 2008
Endorsed by the LPC and LPOC

23.

Capitol Rally in Sacramento



Rally: Friday, April 11
from 3 - 5 PM

Laissez "Faire": Saturday, April 12

20.

City Commissioners

* **Debi Grand**, City of Stanton, Parks & Recreation
Commissioner

* **Don Patterson**, City of Laguna Niguel, Environmental
Review Board Commissioner

* **John Inks**, City of Mountain View, Chairman, Environmental
Planning Commission (PC)

* **Lawrence Baird**, City of Moreno Valley, Chairman, Moreno
Valley Traffic Safety Commission & Member, Accessibility
Appeals Board

24.

Special Event Coordinator for
Rally



Barbara "Joy" Waymire
Calaveras County

25.

June 2008 -- Proposition 98

- Executive Committee took a support position in December 2007

Gene Berkman, Chair of Riverside County is the Election Coordinator for the support of Prop. 98 and defeat of Prop. 99


29.

LPC Executive Committee




26.

Fundraising



- Signed a no upfront, commission-only contract with Allen Hacker
- Successful fundraiser of over \$450,000 for the Michael Badnarik for Congress campaign in Texas in 2006

30.



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

-- Margaret Mead

27.

Coffee Club T-Shirts



Based on "Rosie the Riveter" Available on cafepress.com

Stuart Smith, Designer
Thomas Sipos, Producer

31.

New Member Gaggle

All new LPC members:

Please join us at the break for a brief introduction to the Officers.

28.

Our Time is Now

\$16 billion dollar State deficit (and growing)

Crumbling two-party system

Surge in Libertarian interest

Northern Vice Chair's Report

1.

Northern Vice-Chair's Report

Richard Newell



Libertarian Party of California
 2008 Annual Convention of Delegates
 Friday, February 22 – Sunday, February 24

5.

Encourage Political Activism

- λ Getting involved in local politics
 - Attending city council meetings
 - Tabling and other outreach activities



JSA Convention
Jim Eyer



San Mateo College
Newell, Takenaga,
Harrison, Campbell



San Diego
Festival of the Arts
Donna Orlando



Marin
Car Wash Ban



Dom Bетро
"Home wrecker"

2.





Last Year's Goals

- λ Reach out to, and empower counties
- λ Increase real world political activity
- λ Help organize campus groups
- λ Improve member communications
- λ Build up strategic alliances
- λ Better response to inquiries; better use of volunteers
- λ Fundraising
- λ Smooth transition of The Libertarian Perspective to Dan Minkoff

6.

Campus Activities

- λ T.J. Campbell working to organize student Libertarian groups
 - Student meet-up held in Moss Beach late 2007
- λ Student activity at these campuses
 - Stanford
 - Cal
 - San Jose State
 - UoP

3.

County Visits



Kent Fowler and Ferdinand Choss
at Butte Meeting, May 2007
Attended by Northern Vice Chair
Richard Newell and Chair Kevin Takenaga



Calaveras County, September 2007
Attended by Northern Vice Chair
Richard Newell and Chair Kevin Takenaga

7.

LPC Sponsored Events

- λ Monterey Mini-Convention, organized by Lawrence Samuels



Speakers Anthony Gregory,
Dr. David Henderson,
and Mark Carbonaro

- λ Nevada/California LP meet-up in Reno
- λ Several Contra-Costa Saturday brunches set up by Kevin, Cam, myself

4.

County Visits

- λ Alameda
- λ Butte
- λ Calaveras
- λ Contra Costa
- λ Marin



- λ Monterey
- λ Nevada/Placer
- λ San Mateo
- λ Santa Clara
- λ San Francisco

Other County Activation Activities

- λ Merced
- λ Stanislaus
- λ Yolo

8.

The California Libertarian eFlyer



- λ Completely new look for email communications
- λ Mailing list has swelled to over 6500 email addresses

Use eFlyer to move self-identified subscribers "up the Ladder" – to become members, donors, and activists!

9.

Legislative Analyst Team

Members:

- ↳ Lidia and Michael Seebeck
- ↳ **Dan Minkoff**
- ↳ Richard Winger
- ↳ myself



Goals and Activities

- ↳ Analyse California legislative proposals
 - ↳ Short analysis of many bills; pick from those for longer analysis
 - ↳ Recommend LPC position
- ↳ If the LPC takes a position, the LPC may then:
 - ↳ Lobby directly for or against a bill (e.g., letter to committee or governor)
 - ↳ Generate a press release
 - ↳ Engage a strategic partner (e.g., get listed on their web site)
 - ↳ Use in member communications such as California Freedom or the eFlyer

SB1019



11.

More Misc Activities


- ↳ Graphics Design
 - Convention Banner, LPC Banners, bumper stickers
 - LPC Business Cards
 - Various Remittance forms
 - Some web site graphics
- ↳ Other member communications
 - Convention promotion
 - Pre-election mailing
 - Published fundraiser letter



10.

Other Activities

- ↳ Fundraising
 - Signed up several Coffee Club members
- ↳ Inquiries and Volunteers
 - Responding in more timely manner to web site inquiries
 - ↳ Attempt to respond within 48 hours
 - ↳ Delegating to county chairs in active counties
 - Making better use of volunteers
 - ↳ E.g., Terry Van Kirk: eFlyer graphics designer
 - ↳ The Seebecks: Legislative Team

12.

Future Goals

- ↳ Continue improving upon last years progress
 - Even more county visits
 - Move closer to activation of several counties
 - More real-world political action
- ↳ Recruit new eFlyer editor and ensure smooth transition
- ↳ Assist with membership and fundraising drives
- ↳ Election Year
 - Help achieve victory in several N. Cal. key races
 - ↳ Reelect Tom Tryon, Calaveras County Supervisor
 - ↳ Elect John Inks, Mountain View city council

Southern Vice Chair's Report

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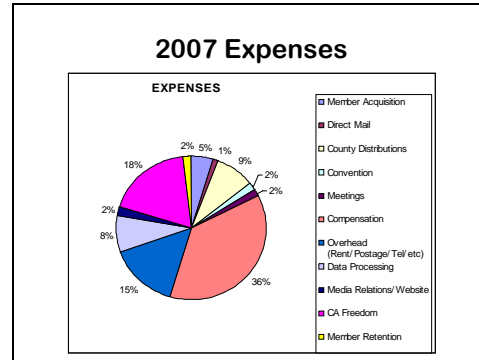
Treasurer's Report

1.

LPCA 2008 Convention

Treasurer's Report

5.



2.

2007 Income

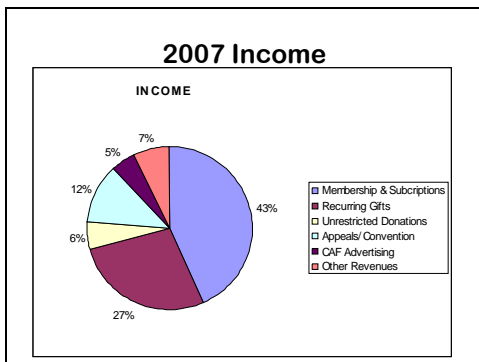
INCOME		
Membership & Subscriptions	33,631	43%
Recurring Gifts	20,886	27%
Unrestricted Donations	4,357	6%
Appeals/Convention	9,165	12%
CAF Advertising	3,863	5%
Other Revenues	5,485	7%
Total Income	77,387	

6.

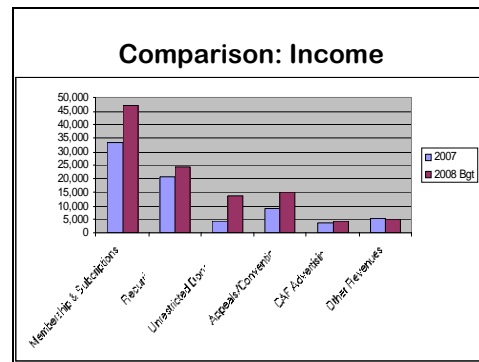
Comparison: Income

INCOME	2007	2008 Bgt
Membership & Subscriptions	33,631	47,170
Recurring Gifts	20,886	24,600
Unrestricted Donations	4,357	13,800
Appeals/Convention	9,165	15,000
CAF Advertising	3,863	4,200
Other Revenues	5,485	5,000
Total Income	77,387	109,770

3.



7.



4.

2007 Expenses

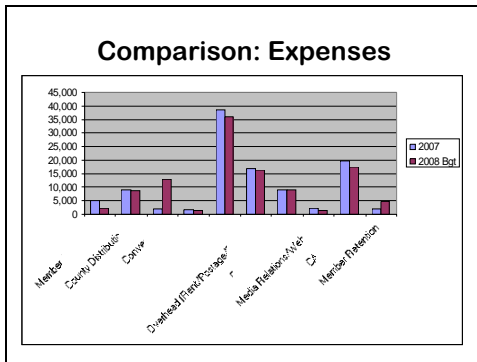
EXPENSES		
Member Acquisition	4,954	5%
Direct Mail	1,184	1%
County Distributions	9,122	9%
Convention	1,847	2%
Meetings	1,662	2%
Compensation	38,706	37%
Overhead (Rent/Postage/Tel/etc)	15,843	15%
Data Processing	8,856	8%
Media Relations/Website	2,225	2%
CA Freedom	19,508	18%
Member Retention	1,850	2%
Total Expenses	105,757	
Net Income	-28,370	

8.

Comparison: Expenses

	2007 Bgt	2008 Bgt
Meetings	1,662	1,400
Compensation	38,706	36,000
Overhead (Rent/Postage/Tel/etc)	17,027	16,185
Data Processing	8,856	8,856
Media Relations/Website	2,225	1,500
CA Freedom	19,508	17,460
Member Retention	1,850	4,800
Total Expenses	105,757	110,351

9.



12.

3 Income Sources

THREE LEGS

	2007	2008B	
Membership Dues	6,726	11,840	76%
Recurring Gifts	15,600	24,600	58%
Unrestricted Donations	4,357	12,000	175%

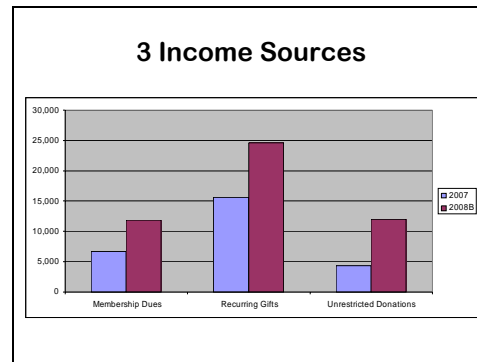
10.

2008 Budget Monthly

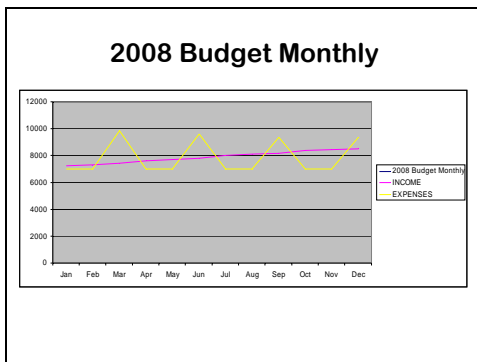
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
INCOME	7,257	7,337	7,437	7,617	7,717	7,797
EXPENSES	6,998	6,998	9,848	6,998	6,998	9,598

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
INCOME	7,997	8,107	8,167	8,357	8,447	8,537	94,770
EXPENSES	6,998	6,998	9,348	6,998	6,998	9,348	94,126

13.



11.



Call to Order

Saturday, February 22, 2008, 11:54 a.m.

Credentials Report

Kelly Barnes reported 73 registered, 73 attending, majority is 37, 2/3rds is 49

Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: Brown moved to adopt the agenda without time certain, Starr seconded.

Starr spoke against adopting the agenda without time certain.

Brown suggested listing amounts of time for items instead of actual times.

Barnes spoke against motion in order to cover all important items.

Sipos asked if we must end at 6 p.m., and asked if we might then move to extend.

Thomas clarified that the conference center staff will accommodate us if we decide to work late.

Hacker asked if extending will interfere with the banquet.

MOTION: McConnell moved to defer the motion in order to maintain the schedule.
Seconded and carried.

Lunch

MOTION: McConnell moved to recess for lunch and recalculate the times for the remaining business, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to table the item, which carried.

MOTION: The Chair entertained a motion to recess for lunch, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to recess for lunch carried at 12:03 p.m.

Reconvene

The Chair reconvened the business meeting at 1:56 p.m.

MOTION: Newell moved to remove the motion from the table and amend the motion “to adopt without time certain or Saturday, except to retain the time certain for adjournment for the banquet,” Which was seconded.

Newell spoke in favor, stating that the intent of the motion is to leave the agenda as published for tomorrow.

Starr argued that if we ran out of time today, we wouldn’t have elections that were scheduled for end of the day.

Brown spoke, stating that the motion would be for the remainder of agenda today would be certain, and we can move to move to next item. There are very few elections for only a few positions, so it shouldn’t take very long.

MOTION: Starr moved to substitute the motion, using the existing agenda, then begin elections at 3 p.m., which was seconded.

MOTION: Brown moved to amend Starr’s motion by saying that after the elections we return to the Platform Committee Report, if necessary, which was ruled out of order.

MOTION: Wiener moved the previous question, which was seconded and carried.

VOTE: The previous question carried.

VOTE: The substitute motion carried.

VOTE: The main motion carried.

Platform Committee

Brown presented the Platform Committee report.

Item 1: Freedom of Expression

In 8th paragraph, last sentence, change existing wording to:

“...and thus restrict the individual’s ability to express political views.”

MOTION: Wiener moved the previous question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion for the previous question carried without objection.

Item 2: Freedom of Expression

Insert a new 4th paragraph (keeping all others):

“Government authorities have been relegating protestors and demonstrators to so-called “free speech zones” purportedly for security reasons, but in reality to insulate officials from criticism. We declare that the entire U. S. is a free speech zone and that demonstrators have the right to publicly protest – as long as they are not violating private property rights.”

Starr asked if the committee considered undesirable effects allowed by the wording, which Brown denied.

Lieberman asked if the Governor’s office was a free speech zone.

The question was raised whether the phrase “would include entire U.S.” includes territories and military installations. Brown pointed out that military bases are restricted areas.

Segalla spoke against the proposal, if the protest is meant to disrupt proceedings, Libertarians should object.

MOTION: Kallender moved to add a period after “protest” and delete the remainder of the sentence, which was seconded.

MOTION: McConnell moved to correct the split infinitive from “...to publicly protest...” to “to protest publicly.” A standing second passed.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question on the split infinitive, which Maden seconded.

VOTE: The motion to the previous question carried.

VOTE: McConnell’s motion to correct the split infinitive carried.

MOTION: Starr offered to substitute “we oppose policy of relegating protesters and demonstrators to a so-called free speech zone purportedly for security reasons, but in reality are used to insulate officials from criticism.” A standing second passed.

Starr discussed how the substitute motion eliminates the problem presented by the second sentence. Takenaga ruled that the motion to substitute isn’t germane, and is out of order.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question.

VOTE: The motion to move the previous question passed.

VOTE: The motion to add a period after “protest” and delete the remainder of the sentence failed.

MOTION: Starr moved to adopt an alternative plank, “We oppose the policy of relegating protesters and demonstrators to so-called free speech zones purportedly for security reasons but in reality are actually used to insulate officials from criticism.” A standing second passed.

VOTE: The motion carried.

MOTION: Marbry moved to amend, “but which in reality are used”, which was seconded.

Dann raised a point of information regarding the correct use of the words “that” and “which”, and the motion was restated; “We oppose the policy of relegating protesters and demonstrators to so-called free speech zones purportedly for security reasons but which in reality are actually used to insulate officials from criticism.”

VOTE: The motion to amend “...but which in reality are used...” carried.

Item 3: Police

In 2nd paragraph, first sentence, add at end:

“...notably the recent trend to overuse the taser...”

Dekker spoke against the motion because technology soon will render the wording obsolete.

MOTION: Eyer moved to change the wording to “...and other weapons...”. A standing second failed.

Weber spoke against the motion, and suggested that this might be better adopted as a resolution rather than as a plank in our platform.

Starchild spoke for the amendment.

Segalla spoke against the amendment.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The main motion failed, prompting a call for division.

VOTE: Division did not garner a 2/3rds vote, and the proposal failed.

Item 4: Military

Replace 1st paragraph with:

“We oppose the deployment of any of the Armed Forces of the United States, active or reserve, beyond the borders of the United States, absent a formal declaration of war by Congress.

McConnell spoke in favor of the amendment, pointing out that the California National Guard is part of the national armed forces.

Starr spoke in opposition to the language of the proposal because if read literally it would prevent U.S. Navy ships from disembarking from U.S. ports.

Wiener spoke against the proposal because it exceeded the bounds of California jurisdiction.

Starchild spoke for it because of the universality of the principle.

Mark Hinkle spoke in favor of the proposal.

Graham spoke against the proposal.

MOTION: Collier moved to close debate, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close the debate carried.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the proposal failed.

Item 5: Licensing Laws

In 1st paragraph, second sentence, add at end:

“...including laws requiring persons holding certain public offices, such as judge or Attorney General to be lawyers, sheriffs to be law enforcement officers, or county treasurers to be certified public accountants.”

Weber spoke against the proposal because of the misapplication of pseudoscience by unqualified holders of public office.

MOTION: McConnell moved to amend, changing “certain” to “elected”. A standing second passed.

VOTE: The motion to amend the language carried.

Segalla spoke in favor of the amended proposal. Government licensed professional is more likely to be unqualified.

Starr spoke against the amended proposal. If the person wasn't in elected office, would he have the same opinion?

Mark Hinkle spoke in favor of the amended proposal, asking if anyone present had a bad haircut from a government licensed barber.

Weber spoke against, suggesting that this was inappropriate for the platform. We shouldn't tell the government how it should be run.

Castaneda spoke against the amended proposal. There should be some qualifications for some elected officials.

Starchild spoke for the amended proposal.

Antman spoke in favor of the amended proposal, citing Dr. Ruwart's presentation.

MOTION: A motion to close debate was seconded

VOTE: The motion carried.

VOTE: The main motion as amended carried.

Item 6: Government Monopolies

At the end add:

“...or to open a casino.”

VOTE: The motion to adopt the proposal carried.

Item 7: Implementation

Replace with:

“Recalling the observation of abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison that ‘gradualism in theory is perpetuity in practice,’ the actions called for in the planks that follow are to be taken as quickly and efficiently as possible without interruption or delay, unless otherwise stated.”

Starchild spoke for the amendment.

McConnell spoke for the amendment, to clarify language.

Segalla spoke to agree with the thought, but questioned whether the entire plank was meaningless. Language about implementation in the Platform will not make processes more efficient.

Barnes spoke in rebuttal to Segalla’s point, citing the appropriateness of stating our intentions clearly.

Darby called for the orders of the day.

VOTE: The motion to adopt the proposal carried.

The Chair called for a 10-minute recess at 3:02 p.m..

The delegates reconvened at 3:14

Elections

At-large Representatives (5)

Page 17 Rule 14: Election of At-large Executive Committee Members

Starr raised a point of information, asking Chair Takenaga what qualifications he expects of the candidates. Takenaga referred the body to his Chair’s Report.

Brown raised a point of information, asking who are the expiring ExCom members. Takenaga identified them as Matthew Barnes, Bruce Dovner, Mark Johnson, Chuck Moulton, and Jesse Thomas.

- Maden nominated Rob Power.
- Floyd nominated Starchild.
- Samuels nominated Selzer.
- Shannon nominated Matthew Barnes.
- McMahan nominated Campbell.
- Campbell nominated Bresson.
- Collier nominated Thomas.

MOTION: Hacker moved to close nominations, Dann seconded.

VOTE: Takenaga closed nominations without objection.

Recessed to tally votes for 10 minutes at 3:46 p.m.

Tellers Collier and Newell counted 74 ballots.

Matthew Barnes	62
Jesse Thomas	59
T.J. Campbell	49
Rob Power	46
Eric Bresson	39
Mark Selzer	37
Starchild	29

Election of Alternates (2)

- McConnell nominated Starchild.
- Maden nominated Selzer.
- Cain nominated Waymire.
- Collier nominated Orlando.

VOTE: Takenaga closed nominations without objection.

Orlando	55
Selzer	31
Starchild	30
Waymire	16
NOTA	1

Judicial Committee (5)

Bylaws, Page 8.

4:23 p.m. Brown conducted nominations.

- Moulton nominated Antman
- Brierly nominated Hacker
- Dovner nominated Carling
- Starr nominated Wiener
- Hinkle nominated himself and spoke
- Selzer nominated Nichol

Brown closed nominations without objection

Hacker	55
Wiener	53
Nichol	49
Antman	47
Hinkle	42
Carling	32

4:45 p.m. Southern Vice Chair Collier assumed gavel

Platform Committee

Brown resumed presentation of the Platform Committee report.

Item 8: Judicial Plank

In item “T”, change last word from “judge” to “court.”

MOTION: A motion to accept was seconded

VOTE: The motion to accept the proposal as presented passed

Item 9: Land Use and Public Policy

Add new “H” and re-letter others accordingly:

“H. the abolition of any restrictions on property owners’ right to operate cellular phone blockers, provided that such blockers do not interfere with cellular phones beyond the property owner’s premises.”

Sipos explained about legal impediments to cell phone blockers.

Starr spoke against the proposal because of the specificity of the plank.

Segalla spoke against the proposal because it complicates our documents.

Carling spoke against the proposal, citing a choice between active and passive technological devices that can block cell phone signals, some of which can interfere with other people’s use of cellular devices, and some which don’t.

Weber spoke in favor of the proposal because of its simplicity and its alignment with libertarian principles.

Dekker spoke against the proposal, citing the effectiveness of passive-technology Faraday cages.

Hinkle spoke in favor, citing that currently the law produces no victim and the law is unnecessary.

Castaneda spoke against the proposal to prevent multiple specificities in our documents.

Sipos spoke in favor of the proposal, noting that the proposal allows the market to decide which technology to adopt.

Pyeatt asked if a Faraday cage would allow cell phone signals through windows. Dann answered Pyeatt’s question by saying that unscreened windows would allow signals to pass into and out of a caged enclosure.

Starr spoke of negative externalities.

Collier noted no further debate and called the question.

VOTE: The motion to adopt the proposal failed.

Item 10: Immigration

Add new section H:

“H. oppose the construction of a fence or wall along the U. S. border with Mexico, just as we oppose all artificial barriers between nations.”

MOTION: Carling moved to amend, striking all language after the word “Mexico”, which a standing second supported.

Starchild spoke against the amendment.

MOTION: Weber moved to strike everything after “U.S. border,” which was seconded.

Hacker spoke in favor of the amendment, noting that we should not discriminate regarding which border we wish to blockade.

Castaneda spoke for the substitute motion.

Carling spoke in favor of the Weber amendment to Carling’s amendment.

MOTION: Antman called the question on Weber’s amendment, which was seconded

MOTION: Maden called the question to strike all language after “U.S. border”.

VOTE: The motion to call the question passed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

MOTION: Starr moved to delete the plank. Collier ruled the motion out of order, requiring suspension of the rules.

Starr appealed the ruling of the chair.

Brown spoke in favor of the chair’s ruling.

Hacker noted that convention rules require completing the report before assuming new motion.

VOTE: The chair’s ruling was sustained.

MOTION: Wiener moved to amend the present wording to replace “U.S. border” with “California border,” which was seconded.

Wiener spoke in favor of his amendment because LPCA Platform should deal with California issues, and leave national issues to the LNC.

Pyeatt spoke against the proposed amendment because the language might imply borders with other states.

Barnes spoke against the amendment, citing that California is part of the U.S.

McConnell moved to call the question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to call the question failed.

VOTE: The motion to accept Wiener’s language failed.

VOTE: The main motion called for division. 40 were in favor, 20 were against, and the motion passed with exactly 2/3rds in favor.

Item 11: Victimless Crimes

In section F, after comma, change to:

“...or restricting the rights of individuals who have not violated anyone’s rights.”

MOTION: Kallander moved to amend the language to "...or restricting the rights of individuals for actions that have not violated anyone's rights," which was seconded.

VOTE: Kallander's motion to amend the language passed.

MOTION: Starr moved to remove language after "otherwise legal acts". Collier ruled the motion out of order. Starr appealed the ruling, which was overturned. McConnell seconded Starr's amendment.

MOTION: Starchild moved to amend the amendment by adding some specific language "such as wearing certain colors." Collier ruled the motion out of order because the body struck that language.

Hinkle spoke against Starr's amendment, noting that the item becomes vague without context.

Jones spoke against Starr's amendment.

MOTION: Wiener called for the orders of the day.

VOTE: Starr's motion to amend by truncating the proposal failed.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the proposal as amended by Kallander passed.

MOTION: Brown moved to suspend the rules to extend for 15 minutes, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to extend time for 15 minutes failed, and the orders of the day prevailed.

Adjournment

Chair Takenaga assumed the gavel and adjourned the business meeting for the day.

Call to Order

February 24, 2008, 9:40 a.m.

Credentials Report

Kelly Barnes reported 80 delegates registered, a majority of 41, and 2/3rds majority of 53

Regional Delegates (2)

Floor Nominations

Chair Takenaga closed nominations without objection.

Mark Hinkle	34
M Carling	33
Rob Power	28
Starchild	17
Write-in Herb Peters	1
NOTA	1

The LPCA's Regional Delegates for 2008 are Mark Hinkle and M Carling.

National Committee Alternates (2)

Floor Nominations

Chair Takenaga closed nominations without objection.

Chair Takenaga recessed the business meeting for voting and tallying for 10 minutes at 10:30 a.m.

Chair Takenaga reconvened the business meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Scott Lieberman	44
Dan Wiener	38
Starchild	27
Darby	1

The LPCA's National Committee Alternates for 2008 are Scott Lieberman and Dan Wiener.

National Convention Delegates

MOTION: Starchild moved to suspend the rules, seconded, to consider a change to amend the bylaws, which was seconded. Bylaw 14 Section 2, reworded so that it's wording is exactly the same as Section 3, with the exception of the word "Platform Committee" is replaced with "Bylaw Committee"

VOTE: Starchild's motion to suspend the rules failed.

Bylaws Committee Report

10:56, Mike Seebeck

Proposal 1

Passed.

This proposal would clean up and clarify language regarding county central committee candidate endorsements for partisan elections. This proposal would not impact non-partisan elections.

Bylaw 8: County Organizations: Section 3

County central committees shall conduct their business in any manner they choose consistent with these Bylaws and national Bylaws, ~~particularly in that county central committees may not endorse any candidate who is a member of, or otherwise affiliated with, another political party for public office in any partisan election.~~ County central committees may endorse only those candidates for public office in any partisan election whose political party affiliation is either "Libertarian" or "Decline to State".

Proposal 2

Passed.

This proposal would amend Bylaw 8, Section 6, to correct a technical oversight from 2007's change in the Bylaws regarding delegate selections.

Bylaw 8: County Organizations: Section 6

A county is deemed as having selected its officers ~~and convention delegates~~ only if an election notice has been mailed to the members at least thirty (30) days but no more than sixty (60) days in advance of the election. The election notice must also be sent to and received by the Party Secretary at least thirty (30) days in advance of the election. Such notice shall specify the reason for the meeting and a time and place reasonably accessible to its membership. An election must be held every year. The results of the election must be reported to the Party Secretary within fifteen (15) days after the election. Any member of the central committee of that county may challenge the legality of an election by bringing the issue before the Judicial Committee. The Executive Committee may declare a county inactive if it fails to hold county officer elections in accordance with this section.

Proposal 3

Passed.

This proposal would remove the word "audit" which seems to engender members invoking \$5,000 audits by CPAs by renaming the Audit Committee to the Financial Standards Committee.

Bylaw 10: Finance and Accounting: Section 7

The Executive Committee shall select ~~an Audit~~ Financial Standards Committee during the first three months after a convention. The ~~Audit~~ Financial Standards Committee shall review the financial records and processes of the Party and report at each subsequent Executive Committee meeting and at the next state convention.

Proposal 4

Passed

This proposal is intended to increase attendance by California delegates at national conventions, and to correct the language.

Bylaw 23: Presidential National Convention Delegates

Section 1

Delegates to the national ~~nominating~~ convention shall be selected at the state convention preceding the national ~~nominating~~ convention. The procedures in Rule 1213 shall be used for such election.

Section 2

After the state convention has selected delegates, the Executive Committee shall request the County Central Committees to ~~may~~ fill any vacancies in the delegation prior to the deadline for reporting the names of delegates to the national party.

Section 3

Sections 6760 through 6798 of the California Election Code are superseded.

MOTION: Starr moved to amend to revert to the original recommendation in Section 2, which was seconded.

Carling spoke in favor of the amendment to the proposal because the proposal as presented violates LNC Bylaw.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question.

MOTION: The motion to the previous question carried.

VOTE: Starr's motion to amend by reverting to the original language in Section 2 carried.

Starr spoke in favor of the main motion because the changes would help the state Party fill delegate vacancies for the national convention.

Casteneda spoke against the main motion because delegates at the national convention should be those who self-appoint rather than being chosen by the Executive Committee.

Weiner spoke in favor of the main motion because these changes will not override the existing process, leaving the Executive Committee to fill only those slots that are left available after floor nominations are completed.

MOTION: Starchild moved to replace the wording so that the Executive Committee cannot pick and choose delegates to the National Committee. [Starchild's amendment as stated: "The Executive Committee shall fill any remaining vacancies of delegates to the national convention on a first come-first served basis with names of any members who apply who are LPCA members in good standing."]

MOTION: McConnell moved to extend time for 5 minutes, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to extend time for 5 minutes carried.

Starchild's motion was seconded.

MOTION: Updegraf moved to amend as follows: "...the Executive Committee, after soliciting and accepting nominations from the county central committees may fill vacancies in the delegation prior to the deadline for reporting the names of delegates to the national party," which was seconded.

Carling spoke against the proposal because the language is hastily crafted with less than one minute to consider.

MOTION: Barnes moved to extend time 5 minutes, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to extend time failed.

VOTE: Starchild's motion failed, and Barnes called for division.

VOTE: Division showed that Starchild's motion to replace the wording of the proposal failed.

VOTE: The proposal as amended by Starr passed.

Proposal 5

Failed.

This proposal indicates when resolutions expire. Currently it is open-ended. Resolutions can be renewed annually at conventions.

Rule 11: Resolutions: Section 1

All resolutions expire at the start of the next convention. Adoption of a resolution shall require approval of two-thirds of the votes cast, but not less than a majority of all delegates registered.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking whether this resolution would affect resolutions passed at previous conventions. Takenaga replied that it would affect all previous resolutions. Barnes then asked if there is a list of resolutions under consideration. Takenaga replied that we do not, but that they're all recorded in previous minutes.

Wiener spoke for the resolution because resolutions are not intended to bind future conventions. Longer-term measures are for bylaws. The proposal intends to remove any ambiguity.

Brown spoke against, stating that the proposal addresses a problem that doesn't exist.

Starr spoke for the proposal, pointing out that in 2003 the body resolved to support the recall of Governor Gray Davis, which is irrelevant today. The proposal clarifies that resolutions must be revisited annually.

Maden spoke against the proposal, asking if a resolution such as the 2004 resolution to support same-sex marriage until such time as government gets out of marriage would expire at the beginning of each convention and need to be re-adopted each year.

Barnes spoke for and against the proposal.

Weber spoke in favor of the proposal, stating that the Consent Calendar provides a standard process for renewing resolutions annually.

Starchild spoke against the proposal, stating that if a resolution is passed that would bind a future convention, it's out of order. Sunset clauses can take care of such decisions.

Wiener spoke for the proposal, noting that some resolutions in the past were labeled "standing resolutions," which is improper and not binding. The proposal doesn't repudiate previous resolutions.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to move the previous question passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the proposal failed.

National Delegates

MOTION: Starr moved to suspend the rules to approve the ballot as presented, because there were fewer nominees on the ballot than the 142 delegates allowed. Which was seconded.

Secretary Cain announced that Dave Ruprecht is listed twice, and that Bruce Dovner isn't listed although he had requested to be.

Chair Takenaga called for a motion to suspend the rules to add 10 minutes to consider National Convention delegates.

MOTION: Orders of the day were called, but Chair Takenaga observed that there is business pending.

MOTION: Hinkle moved to suspend the rules to add 10 minutes for considering National Convention delegates.

VOTE: The motion to suspend the rules to add 10 minutes to consider National Convention delegates carried.

Additional floor nominations.

- Bruce Cohen
- Bruce Dovner
- David Kocot
- Art Olivier
- Donna Orlando
- Jill Stone
- Kristi Stone
- Jesse Thomas

MOTION: Starr moved to suspend the rules to accept the list as amended, which was seconded.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion for the previous question passed.

VOTE: Starr's main motion to accept the list as amended passed.

MOTION: McConnell moved to recess until 2:15 p.m.

VOTE: Takeanga asked to recess without objection.

Presidential Panel Presentations

LPCA Business Meeting reconvened at 2:34 p.m.

Karl J. Bray Award presentation

Jack Dean presented the 2008 Karl J. Bray Award for outstanding activism to Monterey County LP's Lawrence Samuels.

Chair Takenaga called the business meeting to order at 2:48 p.m.

Presidential Candidate Straw Poll

MOTION: Wiener moved to suspend the rules to conduct the presidential straw ballot by allowing delegates to rank their preferences, and subsequently make the raw voting data publicly available, which Starr seconded.

VOTE: Wiener's motion to suspend the rules to conduct the presidential straw poll with ranked balloting passed.

Wiener spoke in favor of his motion because it will provide more information about how the California delegates vote right after the presidential panel presentation.

Moulton spoke in favor of the motion provided the rankings produce a winner who will be invited to speak at the LPCA rally in Sacramento.

Darby spoke against the motion because an unscientific sample cannot be made scientific. Darby noted that the plural of "anecdote" is not "data".

Casteneda spoke against, because we should have one clear winner rather than ranked results that could be interpreted as winning in various ways.

MOTION: Brown moved to amend Wiener's motion by adding, "...however the winner of the first-place ranking is the winner of the straw poll."

MOTION: Starr moved to substitute Brown's amendment, except to say that we'd use IRV to determine the winner, which was seconded.

MOTION: McConnell moved the previous question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to the previous question carried.

VOTE: Starr's motion to substitute Brown's amendment carried.

VOTE: A voice vote carried.

MOTION: The result of the vote prompted a call for division.

VOTE: The call for division showed that the motion to substitute carried.

VOTE: The main motion as amended carried.

Hacker spoke against the motion because of the lack of time remaining for unfinished business.

Wiener spoke in favor of the motion, sympathizing with Brown’s desire to declare a winner, so that delegates can express their opinions, the data can be published, and anyone afterward can examine the results and draw their conclusions.

MOTION: Carling called for the orders of the day.

MOTION: Barnes moved to suspend the rules, which was ruled out of order.

VOTE: Wiener’s main motion as amended failed.

MOTION: The result prompted a call for division.

VOTE: Division showed that the motion carried.

1st ballot results

Root	20
Kubby	12
Paul	12
Phillies	8
Burns	3
Ruwart	2
Kwiatkowski	2
Smith	2
Jingozian	1
Gibby the Cat	1
NOTA	1

Distributed results

Root	31
Kubby	21

Credentials Report

Matthew “Boomer” Shannon reported 76 delegates, a majority of 39, and a 2/3rds majority of 51

Bylaws Committee Report

Northern Vice Chair Newell assumed the gavel at 3:15 p.m.

Proposal 6

Failed.

This proposal would clearly define the scope of Party activities.

Bylaw 3: Scope: Section 1

The Party shall endeavor to elect Libertarians to state and local office within California. The Party may also support or oppose changes to California law.

Section 2

The Party shall conduct its activities primarily within the state of California. Any Party activities taking place outside of California must be coordinated with and approved by the state or national Libertarian Party organizations having jurisdiction over the areas affected.

Mike Seebeck addressed the proposal.

Starchild spoke against the proposal, observing that the proposal seems to be an attempt to too narrowly define what the Party can and cannot do.

Starr spoke in favor of the proposal, noting that although the Party may want to do everything, it may not be able to do everything well, and that the Party should focus on electing candidates to office.

Hacker spoke against the proposal, observing that this would restrict LPCA members from supporting candidates for federal office.

MOTION: Brown moved to amend the proposal, changing the words “state and local” to “public,” which was seconded.

Holtz spoke to both versions of the proposal.

MOTION: Newell asked to call the question, which met with no objection.

VOTE: The motion to call the question passed.

VOTE: Brown's motion to amend by changing “state and local” to “public” passed.

Barnes spoke against the proposal because it would restrict the Party’s future flexibility.

MOTION: Hacker called the question, which Brown seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close the debate carried.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the proposal failed.

Proposal 7

Failed.

This proposal would simplify membership recruitment and effectively lift a barrier to people giving the Party money, while keeping the higher standard for those put in positions of trust and responsibility. It allows a person to be a central committee member (county or state) without signing the Pledge.

Bylaw 4: Definitions

C. Certification: “I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.” Certification shall be required to be ~~a member of the state central committee~~ any of the following:

A. An Officer of the state Party.

B. An Officer of a county Party.

- [C. A member of the Executive Committee.](#)
- [D. A member of the Judicial Committee.](#)
- [E. A member of the Platform Committee.](#)
- [F. A member of the Program Committee.](#)
- [G. A National Committee Regional Representative or Alternate.](#)
- [H. A delegate to the state or national convention, or](#)
- [I. A candidate for public office to receive the Party's endorsement.](#)

Starchild spoke against the proposal, opining that the proposal would make the Party less firmly ideological.

Collier spoke in favor of the proposal because he wishes the LPCA to engage the body politic without using the non-initiation of force as a pillory to discourage membership.

MOTION: McMahon moved to amend to add “member of the Bylaws Committee...”.

MOTION: Holtz called the question.

VOTE: Motion to call the question passed without objection.

Hinkle spoke against the proposal addressing two issues, the first to dramatically increase the Party's membership. He noted that during his tenure as Chair the party grew from about 2,000 members to over 6,500 members, and that was with the pledge. The second issue is about any potential member's misunderstanding of the pledge. He observed that the Party doesn't need members who can't understand or who don't wish to abide by the pledge.

Dovner spoke in favor of the proposal, which would retain all decision-making power in the hands of those who signed the pledge, without barring others from joining the Party and perhaps even serving in office at the county level.

Starr spoke in favor of the proposal, noting that the current requirement for members to sign the pledge is similar to preventing donors from giving the Party money.

Holtz spoke against the proposal, citing the authority of the pledge, David Nolan, who said that the purpose of the pledge is to disassociate from those who would use violence to overthrow the government.

Kocot spoke it's annoying, time consuming and sometimes embarrassing to explain the pledge to prospective members.

MOTION: Collier moved to close debate, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close the debate failed.

Moulton spoke in favor of the proposal, with respect to David Nolan's definition of the pledge, citing also Ayn Rand and Murray Rothbard's definitions of libertarianism. As well, there are many people who want more liberty and less government, who don't agree with the pledge, and he wishes the Party to open itself to them.

MOTION: Barnes called the orders of the day, and time for the item ended at 3:45.

VOTE: The motion to adopt Proposal 7 failed.

Endorsement of Candidates

Chair Takenaga assumed the gavel at 3:48.

The following list indicates the delegates who moved to endorse which candidates for what offices, all of which passed without objection.

Brown: Thomas Tryon, .Calaveras County Supervisor

Seebeck: Susan Marie Weber, Palm Desert City Council

Maden: Phil Berg, 8th Congressional District

MOTION: Hacker moved to amend to include all LP candidates for Congress, which Pyeatt seconded.

Brown spoke against the amendment because we won't know who our candidates will be until March.

VOTE: Hacker's motion to amend to include all LP candidates for Congress failed.

Harrison: Kevin Peterson, 12th Congressional District

Darby: Mark Hinkle, California 27th Assembly District

Floyd: Jim Eyer, U.S. House of Representatives District 9 Alameda County

Barnes: Mike Mendez, 61st Assembly District

Brown: Jill Stone, 29th State Senate District

Dann: Mike Benoit, 52nd Congressional District

MOTION: Hacker moved to extend time for 10 minutes

VOTE: Hacker's motion to extend time for 10 minutes passed without objection.

Kocot: Paul Darr, 43rd Congressional District

Campbell: John Inks, Mountain View City Council

Orlando: Jesse Thomas, 39th State Senate District

Newell: Norm Westwell, Trustee, Oceanview School District, Huntington Beach, Orange County

Eyer: Camden McConnell, 7th Congressional District

Jay Jones: Herb Peters, 35th Congressional District

Jill Stone: Alan Pyeatt, 29th Congressional District

Starchild: Pamela Brown, Congress 40th Assembly District

Brown: Steve Myers, 21st State Senate District

Brown: Thomas Logan, 24th State Assembly

Brown: Maureen Keedy, 59th State Assembly

Power: Peter Fyfe, 12th State Assembly

Eyer: Ted Brown, 26th Congressional District

Herb Peters: Marty Swinny, 51st Assembly District

Hacker: Brian Holtz, 14th Congressional District

Bowers: Colin Goldman, 23rd State Senate District

Jay Jones: John Kling, 54th Assembly District

Brown: Ernst Gasteiger, 46th Congressional District

MOTION: Collier moved to close nominations.

MOTION: Hacker moved to extend time for 5 minutes for resolutions, which was seconded.

Recognition of Convention Committee

MOTION: McMahon moved to thank the convention committee.

MOTION: The question was called.

VOTE: McMahon's motion to thank the convention committee carried without objection.

Bylaws Committee Proposals

Proposal 8

Passed.

MOTION: Barnes moved to suspend the rules to consider Bylaws' Proposal 8.

VOTE: Barnes' motion carried.

MOTION: Call for division

VOTE: The call for division carried.

VOTE: Division showed that the motion carried.

This is a dues-sharing proposal designed to better capture the costs of acquisition and renewal of memberships on behalf of the state or counties involved.

Bylaw 7: DUES SHARING

The state or county Party organization that acquires a new state central committee member shall receive the first year dues. ~~Each active county central committee shall receive 60% of subsequent year dues attributable to the state central committee members and associate members associated with that county party. Dues shall be distributed to any active county central committee upon request, or whenever the total amount owed to the county central committee exceeds \$50. If a member has lapsed for over one year, they will be considered a new member upon resumption of dues payment. The state or active county central committee which processes a renewal shall retain 60% of that year's dues. Dues sharing shall be distributed to any active county central committee or to the state on a quarterly calendar basis.~~

MOTION: Barnes moved to amend, but was interrupted by a point of information, and time ran out

MOTION: Barnes moved to suspend the rules to extend time for 15 minutes for debate.

VOTE: Barnes' motion to extend time 15 minutes carried.

MOTION: Barnes moved to amend the proposal by deleting the first added sentence, and the phrase "...or active county central committee..." which was seconded.

Barnes spoke in favor of his amendment, stating that the intention of his amendment is to prevent contention between the state and county Parties in determining the active or lapsed status of a member.

Hinkle asked for a ruling from the Chair about which entity gets the share of dues from a member in a county without an active Party.

Starr explained existing policy on allocating funds to inactive counties that become active is to offer the newly active county Party seed money equivalent to 12 months of their share of dues for the members currently in that county.

MOTION: Starchild moved to substitute saying "LPCA Executive Committee shall send active county parties a monthly list of members in their counties whose members are up for renewal, upon receipt of which the county central committee shall either send each of the members listed a renewal letter, or shall send payment to the state party sufficient to cover the cost of sending renewal letters to those members," which was ruled out of order.

Starr spoke in favor of passing the main motion, noting that the Party lost \$28,000 last year and currently has only \$13,000 in the bank, and passing this motion would be fiscally sane for the county Parties.

MOTION: Hacker called the question on the amendment, which was seconded.

MOTION: Barnes motion to amend the proposal failed.

MOTION: Hacker called the question on the main motion, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to call the question carried, which prompted a call for division.

Antman spoke against the proposal, observing that as the proposal is amended, there's no indication of how to allocate annual renewals.

Dovner spoke in favor of the amended proposal, stating that whichever entity, county or state Party, that processes the renewal, is the entity that retains the 60% share of the renewal.

Time for debate ended.

A call for quorum revealed at least 39 delegates present.

MOTION: Starchild's motion to suspend the rules to extend time for debate died for lack of a second.

VOTE: The main motion to adopt the proposal carried, which prompted a call for division

VOTE: Division showed 40 in favor, 9 opposed, and the proposal passed.

Adjournment

MOTION: Brown moved to adjourn.

VOTE: Brown's motion to adjourn passed without objection at 4:28 p.m.