

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES--MARCH 22&23, 1975

I. First Session--Lynn Kinsky's house, March 22. 19 members attending.

--Executive Committee meeting called to order by Bill Westmiller, Chairman, at 1:30 p.m.

--Bill opened meeting with discussion on the "registration & fund raising drive" as contained in the prospectus sent by Bill to Execom members the week prior to the meeting.

--Sara Baase and Susan Love Brown, Execom members, spoke against conducting a registration drive. Among the points they brought out was their concern that if the registration drive failed badly, it might have a serious effect on the morale of the party membership and on the party's image with the public. They also expressed concern that if the party were to gain ballot status, the principles of the party might very well be compromised due to California law regarding recognized political parties. Such inter-party requirements as the signing of the "non-initiation of force" pledge and the present party structure would be expressly forbidden by law. Also, the party would have no way to stem the influx of persons of non-Libertarian values onto the party rolls. Sara and Susan favored the party conducting an initiative drive to place "none of the above" on the ballot.

--Ned Hutchinson, National Executive Director and visitor to the meeting, spoke in favor of conducting the registration drive. Among the things he mentioned was that many people, prominent and otherwise, would seriously consider joining the Party if the Party would seriously conduct a campaign to obtain ballot status. He said that many people feel disenchanting with current politics and are looking for a "party of principle." He added that if the party membership truly wants Libertarian ideals to play a major influence in American politics, state organizations must first achieve ballot status, and must assume such risks as often accompany recognized political parties.

--Earl Gottlieb, Execom member, brought out the point that it had been the decision of the 1975 Convention of the Party that the Party work to achieve ballot status this year, and that the Execom had no right or authority to set that decision aside.

--Dan Weiner, Execom member, spoke on the advisability of conducting "none of the above" initiative drive, with registration as a secondary effort.

--A concensus of opinion was asked by Bill Westmiller of all Execom members and visitors on whether the Party should conduct an all out effort to conduct the initiative drive or the registration drive.

--A ten minute recess of the meeting was called.

--Upon reconvening of meeting, a motion was made by Ray Cunningham, Execom member, to "support a registration drive, to support a registration and initiative drive together, or to support an initiative drive." Motion died from lack of a second.

--A Motion was made by Dave Bergland to "conduct an initiative drive to put "none of the above" on the Fall ballot and to distribute literature as well as other procedures to encourage registration and party membership." Motion was seconded and passed, (9-8).

--Dave Bergland spoke about possibilities of combining both initiative and registration drives with two-thirds of the available Party funds to be used for the initiative drive.

--Bill Westmiller read before the Execom an "agreement between the Libertarian Party of California and agent" for purposes of fund raising for the Party. Bill said he would prepare copies of the agreement and send to the Execom members for approval.

--A motion was made by Ed Clark for the Execom to agree in principle to the proposal to have fund raising contract between the Party and acceptable agents. Motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Ed Wolford to make David Sutton the Publications Director to replace Karl Bray. The motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Sara Baase to return the word "principle" to the "none of the above" section of the 1975 Libertarian Party of California Platform. Motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Ed Clark to allow the Party Chairman to create and purchase bumper stickers and buttons for the Party without consulting the Execom members. Motion was seconded and passed.

--The current National Party logos was approved by the Execom to be adapted as the new letter-head logos for the Libertarian Party of California.

--A motion was made by Dave Bergland that within the limits of available funds, the Party would subsidize Regional organizations up to 50% for basic costs of fees, and booths at conventions, fairs, etc, for purposes of promoting the "none of the above" initiative. Motion was seconded and passed.

--Bill Westmiller discussed the current status of the "Codel Suit" now pending in the State Supreme Court. The Codel Suit, if successful, would reduce the number of registrations or petition signatures required to allow a political organization to gain ballot status. A motion was made by Bill Westmiller for the Party to donate \$100 to the Codel suit for this quarter. Motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Bill Westmiller to donate \$100 to the "tax protest" day, 12 April, for purposes of literature and bumper stickers. Motion was seconded and passed.

--The preliminary 1975 budget, as prepared by Dan Weiner, Treasurer, and Bill Westmiller, Chairman, came next under discussion. Due to the Execom's decision to conduct the initiative drive instead of the registration drive, discussion centered upon revising the preliminary budget to accommodate the initiative drive.

--A motion was made and seconded that Dave Bergland be elected Initiative Drive Chairman with responsibility for the funds, literature approval, regional coordination, etc, for the initiative drive. Motion passed.

--A motion was made to designate those funds under "public relations" of the preliminary budget for the first quarter to the Campus Coordinator. Motion was seconded and passed.

--Further consideration of the preliminary budget ^{was suspended} until 8:00am the next morning. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting until the next morning at 8:00am. Motion passed.

II. Second Session-Brays Restraunt, March 23. 15 members attending.

--A detailed report was given by Lynn Kinsky, Execom member, on the Santa Barbara-Goleta school board election held recently. Lynn and Ruth Sutton had both been candidates for that election.

--Dave Merrick, Execom member, gave a report on the Santa Clara city council election for which he was a candidate recently.

--It was announced that Charles Barr would be running for Los Angeles city council to fill the vacancy left by Bob Stevenson who recently died.

--Bill Westmiller opened discussion of the new format of the Caliber. He asked that all regional chairmen be sure to send regional reports no later than the 3rd Saturday of the month. Discussion ensued both for and against the new format of the Caliber.

--A motion was made by Ed Wolford to keep the new format without changes. Motion failed through lack of second.

--A motion was made to keep the new format except to change it from horizontal to vertical. Motion was seconded and passed.

--Lynn Kinsky gave a report on the upcoming May or June issue of the Reason magazine which is to be a special financial issue. A motion was made to have the Party order 100 copies of that issue to be distributed to the regions. Motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Ed Clark to elect Mike Morrison the "Platform Coordinator." The purpose of this designated office is to allow regions and individuals to prepare planks for next year's Convention, throughout the year instead of just during the Convention. The Platform Coordinator's task will be to hold meetings of the Platform Committee at various times of the year for the purpose of studying proposed planks. The motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made to allow the Chairman discretion in allocating funds to the Platform Coordinator for correspondence expenses of the Platform Committee. Motion was seconded and passed.

--A motion was made by Ed Wolford to rescind last year's Execom decision to determine regional boundaries of Los Angeles County according to zip-codes. Motion was seconded and failed.

---A motion was made to adopt zip-coded regional boundaries of the Los Angeles County with the stipulation that old members may retain their membership in the original region. All members, current and future, may designate if they choose which region their dues monies will go. Motion was seconded and passed.

--The preliminary budget came once again under discussion. Dave Bergland gave his financial estimates for the initiative drive, costs of brochures, literature, press releases, the setting up of store front displays, fairs, conventions, etc. He said that the initiative drive could prove very effective in bringing in funds to the Party.

--Dan Weiner presented a revised preliminary budget which took into consideration the switch from a registration to an initiative drive. After discussion and minor changes it was moved and seconded that the preliminary budget be accepted as this year's budget. Motion passed.

--A motion was made by Sara Baase that one-half page of the Caliber be set aside for advertizement. Motion was seconded and passed.

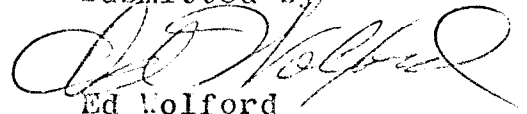
--A motion was made to have Party Secretary responsible for sending copies of Execom meeting minutes to all Execom members. Motion was seconded and passed.

--May 31-June 1, was determined to be the time for the next Executive Committee meeting. The place is to be determined at a later date.

--A motion was made by Ed Wolford to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

--Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Submitted by


Ed Wolford
Secretary

12 April 1975