

The Libertarian Party of California  
Executive Committee Meeting

Mailing Address:  
655 Lewelling Blvd. #362  
San Leandro, Calif.  
94579

Meeting Location:  
Long Beach, Calif.

(800) 637-1776

The Executive Committee of The Libertarian Party of California met on Sunday September 19, 1993 in Long Beach. The following are the minutes of that meeting.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Kim noted that the written Chair's report had been distributed, and allowed for questions and comments. There were none, and the report was accepted as written.

NORTHERN VICE CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Northern Vice Chair's report. George O'Brian informed Kim that he would not be present for the meeting, and that he did not have a written report to submit.

SOUTHERN VICE CHAIR'S REPORT

Gail asked that the Southern Vice Chair's report be deferred to Fundraising, since that is where her efforts have been directed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Under the Secretary's report, Kim noted that Secretary Ray Acosta was not present. Kim asked for the feeling of the Ex-Com concerning the length of the written minutes. The consensus was that Ray's transcription of the Ex-Com meeting is useful but is inappropriate as official minutes. Ray will be instructed that the official minutes will contain only the motions considered and their resolutions.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jon delivered the Treasurer's report, noting that continued austerity will be the way of life for some time. So far this year, we have paid off \$6,498 of the debt to the Regions. 1992 moneys are paid up to August 1992. Unfortunately, we are currently out of money, and will be unable to pay the September 1992 money this September. Jon asked us to note that there has been a significant reduction in expenses for the Newsletter. Jon also spoke about our membership: membership increased back to over 3,000 members as of August, but it decreased to 2,800 in September.

Kim asked Jon if he had copies of all of our contracts, as he is required by our By-Laws. Jon said that he has copies of the 800 contract and the Database contract, but he does not have copies of the 93 Convention contract. There is no contract yet for the Newsletter.

There was some discussion on an effort by LPLAC to generate money by contracting with a bank to create a Libertarian affinity credit card. The bank will need financial statements for the past 3 years. This led to discussions on who can legally enter into a contract with the bank. It was agreed to let LPLAC pursue the matter, and have LPLAC report to the Op-Com.

Cullene motioned that anyone submitting items to be considered by the Executive Committee, other than those items that are officially required, be paid for by the submitting party. Gail said that money spent by members for Libertarian purposes, but that is not reimbursed, should be reported to Hugh and Thea as a donation to the Party, and the expense recorded and tracked. The vote was 6 ayes, 2 nays, and 1 abstention. The motion failed to receive 8 ayes votes, so the motion failed. Kim promised to make an effort to generate less paper.

#### OPERATIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Kim submitted the Op-Com report in writing. Ted asked for a correction: Ballot Proposition 173 should be NO, and 174 should be YES. June noted an error concerning telemarketing and Liberty Bell. Cullene asked by what authority the Op-Com approved spending over a budget limit. Kim said that the By-Laws permit an overrun of any budget item, up to \$1,000. Jon said that the action to spend \$150 over budget is misleading, as there is no official "monthly" budget, only a yearly budget. Cullene said that the By-Laws that created the Operations Committee say that the Op-Com may not vote to change the budget. Gail said the By-Laws say that though the Op-Com may not change the budget, they may authorize expenditures for budgeted items, and that those budgeted items may exceed the budgeted amounts by no more than \$1,000.

#### DUES FOR PLEDGERS

Cullene motioned to adopt the policy and the notation on the renewal notice, that dues are included for pledgers or donors who give \$100 or more per year. Jon said that approval of the Op-Com report essentially accomplishes the same thing. Cullene said that she still wanted a vote on this motion. This motion will effectively reduce the revenue to the Party, and the Ex-Com should be aware of this, and approve this with a vote. Gail said that this policy has been approved three times in the last five administrations, and at no time has the policy ever been rescinded. The vote was 7 ayes, 1 nay, and 1 abstention. The motion did not obtain 8 aye votes, so the motion did not pass. Kim ruled that since this was current policy, failure to approve current policy did not mean rescinding of that policy, so the current policy will remain in effect.

June motioned to adjourn the meeting due to lack of members. The vote was 3 ayes, 3 nays, and 3 abstentions. The motion did not carry, and the meeting continued.

Kim ruled that the Operations Committee's report be filed. Cullene motioned that the Ex-Com approve the Op-Com's report. Kim ruled that there were no actions in the report that required approval, and filing the report was sufficient. Cullene's motion was ruled out of order.

#### CONTRACT SERVICES COMMITTEE'S REPORT

##### THE 800 NUMBER

June reported on the Contract Services Committee. She has been working with Lysanders to electronically transfer the names of Californians who call the National 800 number, into our database, so that the names can be forwarded to the Regions, and we can avoid the cost of mailing these people an information package. So far, she has been unable to arrange for an electronic transfer, but Lysanders has agreed to manually input the names into our date base for \$0.25 per name. June recommended that we approve this expenditure with the understanding that she has not given up on the

electronic transfer. Cullene asked what percentage of the names supplied by National ever become members. June said it was no worse than any other list of potential members, but it takes multiple contacts to gain a member, and these names are first contacts. Cullene asked if we have recruited enough members through the National's contacts to justify the expense. June said it is not that easy to answer, on a one year basis, we probably lose money, but each name that we recruit, and then renews, will remain a member, and contribute \$25 a year. Gail asked June to ask the McLeans how much they would charge to enter the names into the database. June motioned that the Executive Committee authorize a change to the 800 number contract to allow an expenditure of up to \$0.25 per name for the entry or capture of National inquiry contacts into the State database, for distribution to the Regions with California 800 inquires, and any other purpose designated by this body. Cullene asked to introduce a substitute motion to research the possibility of electronically transferring the National names directly into the State database. Kim ruled that this motion did not qualify as a substitute motion, and asked Cullene to resubmit her motion later. Cullene objected that this expenditure would impact the budget, and that there were insufficient members present to authorize a change in the budget. June responded that these expenditures would be offset by the savings that would occur with the elimination of the mailing of the information packages. Cullene asked then that a vote on this motion be postponed until after a motion to cease mailing to the National inquiries passes. There was no objection to postponing.

June motioned to cancel that portion of the 800 number contract that calls for the contractor to mail information packets to the names provided by the National Party. The vote was 8 ayes, no nays, and no abstentions. (The Chair did not vote.) The motion passed.

On the vote for June's first motion, to authorized the \$0.25, The vote was 8 ayes, 1 nay, and 1 abstention; so the motion passed.

#### CONTRACT SERVICES COMMITTEE'S REPORT OVERSIGHT

June next discussed the oversight of Lysanders, the 800 number contractor. She said that there is a need to appoint a specific person to supervise the contractor to insure that we are in agreement with the contents of the information packets, that costs are kept under control, and otherwise insure that the contractor is performing up to the specifications of the contract. Kim suggested that the Contract Services Committee appoint one of their members to oversee the contract. June said that the Contract Services Committee feels that their appointed task was to write contracts, that they have accomplished that task, and should now disband. Jon said that he is concerned that the current contract does not have a dollar cap, or limit that the contractor can charge us. It is conceivable that there could be so many calls into the 800 number, that the contractor could present us with so large a bill that we could not pay. Cullene motioned that at least two weeks prior to each Ex-Com meeting, the Contract Services Committee send a dummy name to the 800 number, and report the response to the Ex-Com. Gail asked to amend the motion to substitute "800 Number Overseer" in place of "Contract Services Committee". As presently worded, the motion would imply that the Contract Services Committee should monitor and oversee all our contractors, and that this may be to large a task for that committee. June spoke against the

motion, saying that the creation of a dummy name was micro-management; we should appoint an overseer, and convey to that person our expectations of a well managed contract, and leave the overseer to satisfy our expectations. Jon introduced a substitute motion to appoint oversight committee chairs for all outstanding contracts. Cullene asked to withdraw her motion in favor of the substitute motion. There was no objection. The vote on Jon's motion was 9 ayes, and no nays. The motion carried.

#### CONTRACT SERVICES COMMITTEE'S REPORT THE NEWSLETTER

Next there was some discussion on the Newsletter contract, and whether we have a signed contract with Mike Hodges. Kim said that he forwarded to Mike a blank sample contract. June wanted to know why Kim went around the Contract Services Committee. Kim said that Mike said that he was having difficulty preparing a proposal, so Kim, acting as a friend, and not as Chair, prepared a contract using the Pat Wright Newsletter contract as a model. What Mike has returned to the Party is a bid, not a contract. Gail said that there has never been a signed contract with Mike Hodges, and that Mike has been operating on an agreement made with the Pat Wright Executive Committee; that agreement was what Kim recently sent to Mike. Gail said that Mike told her that he received it, agreed with it, and sent it back to Kim. Kim said he received it. June asked that the Contract Services Committee be given a copy. Kim said that copies had been distributed to all Ex-Com members.

Cullene spoke on her views on what the contract oversight committee should be responsible for: Either the Contract Services Committee or the Contractors should report to the Ex-Com on matters of finances and the quantities. Contract Oversight should report on the Quality of the Contractor: Is the newsletter effective, Is the 800 number responding in a timely manner, do the packets mailed out reflect the image and views of the Party. June said that Oversight should also be called on to make the tough judgment calls, for instance, should the 800 number contractor also be mailing out information packets to names gathered by activists at local events.

Jon motioned that the Ex-Com instruct Lysanders not for mail out information packets to anyone other than those individuals who call the 800 number, as per Section 2.3 of the contract. June asked to amend the motion to say that all future request for the mailing of information packets to names not obtained from the 800 number must be explicit, and that there not be any standing requests for responses for any particular type of external lists. Jon said he would except the change as a friendly amendment. After some discussion, it was decided that the 800 contract, as written, provided sufficient flexibility, and that the Ex-Com could instruct Lysanders to stop mailing out information packets to names obtained from non-800 number contacts without a motion. Jon withdrew his motion.

#### APPOINTMENT OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES THE NEWSLETTER

Kim asked that the body appoint overseers for all contracts. Already appointed for the Convention Contract are Gail Lightfoot and Jerry Collette. Dick Venable was nominated as overseer for the Newsletter. Dick was present, and was asked to express his views to the Ex-Com. Dick said he would first develop an editorial policy that would set the image and tone to meet the expectations of the Ex-Com. Such a policy would spell out what the Ex-Com expects of the newsletter. With a written policy, his task would

then be to work with the Publisher/Editor to insure that the paper was meeting this policy. Cullene said that historically, the Ex-Com has given free reign to the newsletter editor for editorial content. Gail said given the inexperience of the editor, and the negative feedback experienced by the Ex-Com, she would not object to the development of a policy for editorial content. Dick said that it would not be his intent to censor articles, but to encourage the newsletter to develop articles consistent with policy. Part of the policy would be for the newsletter to seek out articles of interest to the libertarian community, to educated non-libertarians on the aims, and goals of the Party, to solicit membership in the Party, and to raise funds for the Party. June asked Dick how such a policy would deal with issues such as Vicky Valis running for office as a Libertarian, or the fact that certain Libertarians in Sacramento do not like other Libertarians in Sacramento. Dick said that it was his view that such articles should not appear in a general newsletter, but could appear in some other newsletter of more limited distribution, say to activists and office holders. Cullene said that with the current funding limits, the Ex-Com has effectively made the newsletter a paper of limited distribution; but that our membership needs to know, in a non-sensational manner, what the current controversies are. The newsletter should be explaining why there is a difference between Sacramento members. Cullene motioned that the appointment of a newsletter overseer be postponed until the Ex-Com can hear from Mike Hodges. The vote was 1 aye and 7 nays, the motion failed. Kim asked for a vote on the appointment of Dick Venerable to the position of Newsletter Oversight Committee Chair. The vote was 8 aye, no nays and 1 abstention.

#### OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES

##### DATABASE

Kim asked for nominations for Oversight Chair for the Database Contractor. June suggested that Steve Alexander was the effective overseer of the Contractor. Kim disagreed and said that Steve only makes program changes, and does not report to the Ex-Com. Kim nominated Jon Petersen since, as treasurer, he is most impacted by the quality of the Database Contractor. Cullene suggested that an overseer for this contract may not be necessary; WithEase should be directed to produce an narrative quarterly report on their quality. Cullene volunteered to serve as Database Oversight Chair. She was accepted by a vote of 8 ayes, no nays, and 1 abstention.

#### OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES

##### THE 800 NUMBER

Kim asked for nominations for Oversight Chair for the 800 Number Contractor. Jon volunteered. He was accepted by a vote of 9 ayes, no nays, and no abstentions.

Kim asked all oversight chairs to have a written report available for all members of the Ex-Com, prior to the next meeting.

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Kim asked for the report from the membership committee. Pat Wright was not present, but he submitted his report and a proposal in writing. Kim distributed a summary of Pat's report. There followed a lengthy discussion on the merits of fund raising and/or membership recruitment. June motioned to reject Pat's request due to lack of specificity and no indication of specific content (test marketing). Gail said that the motion may be unnecessary, if Kim would convey to Pat the Ex-Com's concerns and wishes. June agreed and withdrew her motion. Kim said he would talk to Pat to see if

he could submit a more specific proposal.

#### NEWSLETTER STATUS REPORT

Cullene asked for a suspension of the rules to allow the Ex-Com to question Mike Hodges. Cullene and June told Mike that the budget would only allow an expenditure of \$850 per bi-monthly issue; his most current proposal asks for \$1,150 a month. June also said that not enough Ex-Com members were present to authorize an increase in the budget, even if the Party had sufficient funds. Mike explained that he had no problem working within the new funding structure, and that he would modify his latest proposal. Gail asked that the modification be worded carefully so as not to limit the newsletter to bi-monthly forever. Under the current bi-monthly schedule, we have published a September issue; there will be a November issue, and then a January issue. There was a lengthy discussion on how the Party could get sufficient funds to go back to a monthly newsletter, that included asking the Regions to forgive or defer the State debt. Jon was asked to clarify our current cash flow situation: Jon said that there is currently sufficient income to pay the Regions their 1993 dues, pay our contractual obligations, and fund a \$850 bi-monthly newsletter. There are insufficient funds to continue to payback the 1992 debt to the Regions and/or to increase funding to the newsletter, unless fundraising increases above its current level. Kim asked Jon: assuming that the debt to the Regions did not exist, are there sufficient cashflows to fund a monthly newsletter at \$850 a month. Jon said no, there are not sufficient funds, however, if we had not had to payback that portions of the debt that we did payback, we would have had sufficient funds. Jon said we currently have about \$1,800 in the bank, with about \$1,300 in bills to pay. Mike's modified bid reads as follows: "This bid is to publish a newspaper for the Libertarian Party of California. The name of the publication will be Liberty Bell. The frequency of publication will be bi-monthly. The size will be a minimum of 8 pages. Number of copies produced: 4,000 minimum. Cost per issue: \$850." All other items of the contract remain unchanged, except for the addition of a new clause which states: "This bid is subject to re-negotiation of quantity printed, cost per issue, and/or frequency of publication, by the end of February 1994." June, speaking as the Contract Services Committee, asked that Mike's bid be considered as a motion submitted by the Contract Services Committee for approval by the Ex-Com. Cullene asked where in the contract the Ex-Com had control of the quality of the paper. It was suggested that wording be added to the contract to the effect that the Ex-Com had appointed a Newsletter Oversight Committee to represent Ex-Com's interest in quality. June asked for language for contract cancellation. Kim asked that the bid be accepted or rejected as written. June objected, saying that what we have is a proposal, but not a contract. She volunteered to re-write the proposal as a contract, and then the Ex-Com could vote it up or down. Kim agreed, and asked for a vote on accepting Mike's bid as a proposal to be developed into a contract. The vote was 7 ayes, no nays, and 2 abstentions. Since 8 votes are needed to act, Mike's bid was not accepted, and the Ex-Com does not have a contract with its newspaper publisher. Those who abstained were asked if there were any language changes in the bid that could be made to develop a contract. Cullene said that she is unhappy with the job the current publisher has done, and does not feel that any contract language will change this. Eric agreed with Cullene. Kim explained that since the motion failed, the status quo remains, and that is that Mike Hodges can produce a bi-monthly newsletter for us for no more than \$850 per issue, but we have no contract.

#### FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Gail reported on fund raising. Gail previously distributed a report on fundraising activities. A fundraising letter went out to all past contributors to the Party, a press release was published three times in Liberty Bell asking for donations. Liberty Bell response was poor, possibly because there were no business reply envelopes in the paper. Renewal letters also contain a letter from Kim and/or Jon, asking for a contribution. On other plans for fundraising, Gail proposed the following: on our renewal notices, there should be a letter from the Chair, explaining the advantages of continuing with the Party, mailed out prior to the renewal notice; we should mail a copy of Liberty Bell to all the names in the LPC database; we should solicit money for the registered Libertarians; we should develop some way for the Regions to print articles or newsletters in Liberty Bell at no cost, in exchange for debt forgiveness; we should create a new fundraising committee composed of current major contributors, and they would solicit from the membership. Gail is also working with Nathaniel Brandon to put on a seminar in November. (Nathaniel has re-registered and become a Libertarian again.) June asked if it would be possible to develop a list of celebrities who are Libertarians. Ted asked for discretion on this because many young celebrities are reluctant to make their libertarianism known to the liberal media.

#### PLATFORM COMMITTEE'S and LEGAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Ted reported on the platform and the legal committees. Both committees are currently inactive. Platform will become active around the first of the year, when the Regions select their representatives to the Platform Committee. On the Legal Committee, Ted apologized for having an Insurance Adjuster instead of a lawyer to head up the Legal Committee. Ray Hindrickson is our legal counsel, but there has not been a need to contact him on any legal matters. We do have a few lawyers who are dues paying Libertarians, and they have been available in the past for their specific expertise. Cullene asked Ted to check on the status on the judgment the Libertarian Party has on John Carr. Ted said he would check with Jack Dean.

#### STYLE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Kim asked for a report from the Style Committee. Ray Acosta was not present, so Kim asked the Ex-Com what the status was of the Platform and the By-Laws. Ray has told Kim that the By-Laws are up-to-date, and copies have been distributed to all Ex-Com members. All the revisions have been made to the Platform, and a draft copy has been distributed to all Ex-Com members for comment. Jon disagreed, saying that the By-Laws are not correct. Gail said that the By-Laws were distributed in draft earlier this year, that all the changes were complete. Jon said no, he had sent Ray further upgrades, and that they do not appear in the most current document. Cullene said that she made all the changes that were authorized by the 1993 Convention, plus upgrades submitted by Ray. Jon said that his changes involved corrections to the 1992 By-Laws. Cullene said she has completed the changes to the Platform, and that Ray has distributed the copies marked Draft. So far, she has not received any upgrades. Kim asked that a new Style Committee be formed consisting of Jon and Cullene, and that they finalize the By-Laws and the Platform before the next Ex-Com meeting. Jon said that once the By-Laws are set, he would insure that copies were mailed to all Region chairs.

#### PAC COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Kim reported on the PAC Committee: Jerry Douglas has not been able to find a replacement to head up the PAC, so he will prepare the legal reports required in December.

#### PUBLICITY and PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Kim asked for a report from the Publicity and Public Relations Committee. Mark Sweeney was not present, but had previously told Kim that he had nothing to report. Kim said that he had a proposal called "Operation Coattail" that he sees as a 1994 tactical goal. Bob said he could see nothing that would impact the Ex-Com, and if Kim wished to pursue it he should. Kim asked for funding to cover mail, phones and paper. Jon said that we could not change the budget, but that there were funds under Campaign 94 that Kim could use. Cullene said she was concerned that while the initial investment was low, subsequent commitments would require large expenditures. Kim said that at that point, we would still have the option of spending a much or as little as we wished.

#### CAMPAIGN 94 COMMITTEE REPORT

Ted reported on Campaign 94. Bob Weber suggested that we draft Ed Clark to run for Governor in 1994. Dick Grider issued a public letter to Ed asking him to run, but Ed said he was not too interested. As an alternative, Dick Grider is available as our Governatorial candidate. There is a possibility that Republican/libertarian Tom McClintock may challenge Pete Wilson for the Republican nomination. Dick has said that if McClintock wins the Republican nomination, we should consider not running a Libertarian candidate. If we nominate Dick, and McClintock wins over Wilson, Dick may want to drop out of the race. Gail said we probably will not have a lot of money for the 1994 campaign, so our candidate should not be someone who will not require a lot of money; she suggested that Ted run for Governor because his last name is Brown. Ted said that he is working to get as many Libertarian candidates as possible. Richard Burns, from Northridge, has agreed to run for Attorney General. For the Senate, Dick Bodie is agreeable to run as a paper candidate, but Ted would like to get another candidate, and have a primary run off.

Jon submitted a written report on the Nat-Com. There were no questions.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### RENEWAL FORM

Under old business, Kim discussed the new renewal form, and some modifications regarding releasing names and telephone numbers. Kim also discussed methods of printing the forms: one alternative is to simply substitute the new form for the old, and continue. Kim proposes that the new forms be produced as pre-printed computer pin-feed forms, so that names and addresses can be printed by the computer, rather than have someone paste labels on them. The Ex-Com said they would only agree if Kim could show a savings over the current method. Cullene asked Kim if the renewal form is not finalized, to insure that the form could use a window envelope, and to remove the dashed line that implies the renewing member should cut there.

##### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Kim has also revised the membership form, and asked for comments. There were no comments.

#### NEW BUSINESS



#### INITIATIVES

Kim presented a California Civil Rights Initiative that is gathering signatures, to prohibit State mandated racial quotas in State agencies, and asked if we wished to support it. June motioned that the Op-Com be authorized to support the measure in the name of the Party, provided nothing suspicious about the sponsoring organization is uncovered. Ted said he would try some information on the sponsoring organization. There was no objection.

#### 1995 CONVENTION

Kim said that Pat Wright has proposed hosting the 1995 Convention in San Diego. Cullene said there will also be a bid coming from Alameda County for the 1995 Convention in Oakland. Gail said that tradition requires that the 95 Convention be held in Northern California. Jon volunteered to write an ad, to be placed in Liberty Bell, soliciting bids from interested parties, to host the 95 convention.

#### HETERODOXY MAGAZINE

Heterodoxy magazine has requested our mailing list to solicit subscriptions. The magazine appears to be devoted to fighting against Political Correctness on college campuses. Kim noted that the By-Laws require a two-thirds approval to provide our mailing list to non-libertarian parties. Cullene motioned that this matter be postponed until Kim could go back to Heterodoxy and get specific details. Bob offered a substitute motion that the LPC offer Heterodoxy Magazine mailing labels at our cost plus \$0.01 per name. Such labels would include dummy names to insure one time mailing. There were two objection to this motion, so Bob