

# Minutes of ExCom Meeting Saturday & Sunday, March 18-19, 2000

As Approved

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## Minutes

### Location:

Date: March 18-19, 2000  
Time: Saturday 10am - 6 p.m.  
Sunday 9am - 3:00pm  
Place: San Jose Doubletree Hotel

### In attendance:

Officers:	Mark Hinkle	Chair
	Rodney Austin	Northern Vice Chair
	Sandi Webb	Secretary
	Eric Lund	Treasurer
At-Large Reps:	Lori Adasiewicz	Region 34
	Aaron Starr	Region 56
	Joe Dehn	Region 43
	Bruce Dovner	Region 66
Alternate At-Large Reps:	Elizabeth Brierly	ExCom Alternate #1
	John Scott Ballard	ExCom Alternate #2
Regional Reps:	Frank Manske	Region 1
	Brian Lee Cross	Region 30
	Steve Cicero	Region 37
Alternates:	Jeff Sommer	Region 1
	Jascha Lee	Region 43
Staff:	Juan Ros	Executive Director, LPC

Visitors: Steve Alexander, Cullene Lang

Absent: Ted Brown, LPC Southern Vice Chair, José Castañeda, At-Large Rep., David Larkin, Region 61

### Saturday, March 18, 2000

- 1. Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10 am.
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Add 8c under New Business: Newsletter from Region 1. Move budget (Item 4e(i) to last item of Old Business 6d. Agenda approved as amended.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:**
  - a) Nov. 21, 1999 ExCom Minutes. Approved
  - b) Feb. 19-20, Convention 2000 Minutes
    - i) Because the final draft of the Convention Minutes were not ready, they will be voted on by email ballot.
  - c) Feb. 21, 2000 ExCom Minutes.
    - i) Because of a request for inclusion of a discussion on the newsletter, the Feb. 21 ExCom Minutes will be voted on by email ballot.

### 4. Officers Reports

- a) Chair - Mark Hinkle

Mark Hinkle reported that he started the strategy session that we would be taking part in tomorrow. He reported that in the previous two weeks the party had received \$15,000 in major donor contributions, one of them was totally unsolicited. He reported that the pledge program was at an all time high but that we still had a significant problem trying to get the cash pledgers to pay. He stated that on paper we have over \$5,200 a month coming in but unfortunately that amount does not really come in. He pointed out that this was one reason we were trying to get the monthly pledgers to do it by credit card. He stated that we added over \$500 a month in monthly pledgers at the convention.

Mark briefly explained to the problems that have arisen over the use of the membership mailing list. Some discussion ensued over whether the agreement should be posted on the Web.

b) Northern Vice Chair - Rodney Austin

Rodney Austin reported that the LPC members in Mendocino County are adopting bylaws and electing officers next Tuesday. He reported that at the convention he met with several people and discussed how they might aid LPC legislative candidates in the area. Aid that was identified included web sites, cheaper access to walk lists and mailing lists, a common credit card portal that all candidates could use for donations, petitioning, legislative PACs, orientation for new candidates on what to expect while campaigning, polling services and issue papers. He noted that it was discussed that many of these things are provided and a list of Libertarian vendors would be given. He stated that the one thing that they agreed would be very helpful would be some type of templates of brochures. The brochure would be written and designed, except for spaces, for a particular candidate to place his/her picture, office of candidacy, and slogan or logo. He stated that there are a variety ways to do this from listing something on the web page to sending out examples.

Rodney reported that he was starting to work on the Summer Conference. He reported that he actually has two tentative agreements for speakers. A tentative date of the last weekend in August was mentioned but nothing was set. He stated that the conference would probably not take place at Wonder Valley. He stated that there were several different problems with people attending the last time, and the location would be moved.

c) Southern Vice Chair - Ted Brown

Absent.

d) Secretary - Sandi Webb

Sandi Webb reported that since the convention the ExCom had had two e-mail votes and the results of those votes were in the members' packets. She requested that members check over the previous minutes and make sure that all the roll call votes were recorded correctly and e-mail her with any changes.

e) Treasurer - Eric Lund

Eric Lund said that he had handed out two pages, a statement of activities and balance sheet. He stated that he had not received a bill from the hotel for the convention until the previous day. He reported that there were problems with the billing such as double billings. He stated that they also had not billed us for legitimate things that we did owe. He stated that he would be sending the hotel a statement of what he believes we should owe and request more back up on their billing. He stated that this amounts to about \$25,000. He pointed out to increase payables by that amount. He reported that the Balcom Group had not sent in some of the receivables that were collected at the convention until a few days ago.

Eric reported that on the statement of activities under dues we collected \$200 and only \$175 paid out. He stated that the report he got from Thea did not reconcile and he was not sure why yet.

Eric stated that unfortunately the copy of the budget that had been passed the previous meeting was on his laptop computer and got erased. He stated that he had no paper copy as he had handed all of them out at the meeting. He was requesting that anyone who had one please give him a copy. Aaron Starr asked a few questions and suggested some alternate ways of reporting. The cost of the convention was discussed but Eric could not give a full accounting as yet. Joe Dehn asked if Eric could fill in some of the blank spots in the statement activity. Eric stated that he would have to drive it back to Sacramento to do that. He stated that all his records were at home. Joe pointed out that the report was confusing and meaningless without the information. Aaron stated that in the past when he was treasurer he had made educated guesses and corrected the report when more information was available. Eric stated that he could prepare the report any way the committee wanted. Bruce stated they he didn't need a lot of detail but that he would like to see an estimate of what debts we know we do have as well as income. Joe Dehn stated that he thought the report was fine as far as it went in terms of the treasurer's job of recording the books as of a particular day. He stated that what this committee needed to see though was a better picture of our current position. Discussion ensued as to how to accomplish this.

Brian Lee Cross brought up the question as to business reply envelopes (BRE) and their cost to the party. It was discussed whether we should continue using these envelopes and their effectiveness. Mark clarified that they are only used in the thank-you letters for Major Donors. One pointed out that most people put a stamp on them anyway. It was decided to do a test mailing to see their effectiveness and drop the business reply envelopes if it is found to be no better than a standard envelope.

f) Executive Director - Juan Ros

Juan Ros reported that as he had not given a report at the previous meeting, this report would be a little lengthier. Juan gave a summary of media contacts for 1999. He reported 36 news releases for 1999 as opposed to 24 the previous year. There were 40 media appearances in 1999 compared to 14 in 1998. He stated his goal is to have four news releases a month but that he was behind at this time because of the convention. He stated that there had been 15 media appearances in the previous two and a half months that included five interviews from the convention and nine interviews due to the primary election. Juan reported that he was starting a new program of tracking all media calls in a log.

Juan stated that his goals for 2000 were outlined in his written report.

- 48 news releases (average of four per month), each generating at least two media calls.
- Behind schedule on news releases (only seven so far), but media calls are on track (2.3 media calls per release so far).
- 50 media appearances (average of 4.5 per month).
- On track (current rate: over 5 per month)

He reported that very little was going on in Sacramento. He stated that he would like to find a legislator to codify the LPC bylaws. Juan reminded the ExCom that at this time we are under the Peace and Freedom Party's election code. Aaron stated that in the past he had written a bill that was carried by Assemblyman McClintock that never got out of committee. Joe Dehn stated that this has come up many times in the past and is always referred to as codifying the bylaws in the Election Code. He said that there was a real question of whether we want to do this or not. He said it is one thing to ask legislature to fiddle with the Peace and Freedom Party section as they are no longer a recognized party. That we could ask them to take a few things out that we didn't like but that to him is not codifying the LPC bylaws. Juan agreed to call it something else than "codifying the bylaws". It was decided that this should be left to a subcommittee.

Juan reported on LPC registrations stating that we were at 87,183 as of February 7<sup>th</sup>. Rodney Austin asked where that put us in regards to the number of registered libertarians needed for permanent ballot status. Juan said that the number was 87,000 and change, but that that number would change in 2002 after the fall election. Juan also reported on local election results stating that by his count we had 10 libertarians in nonpartisan elections and that County Supervisor Thomas Tryon won reelection. With respect to the year 2000 election goal of 200 candidates, we had 114 partisan candidates for the primary and we now have 113 due to a contested race.

Juan reported that he was unable to do much traveling to different regions due to the convention but that he was able to make one trip to Contra Costa County where he taped a televised debate over Prop. 13.

In Fundraising Juan reported that the third 1999 fundraising letter was one of our best performing letters, bringing in a net income of \$5,950.72. He stated that the goal was to do six fundraising letters this year but that national was doing a letter every month and there would be problems with scheduling. He stated that he wants to do three fundraising letters to the general membership and three to those who have contributed before. He stated that Mark and he had thought about doing a telemarketing campaign but that they would be changing vendors as there had been problems with the previous one. Fundraising at the convention was a lot less successful than he would have liked with \$4,671 in one time donations. He stated that he would mail to the Golden State Torch Club major donors. This is a quarterly mailings to those who donate \$1,000 or more. He would also try to get those who are just under the \$1,000 to perhaps bump theirs up to that amount.

Juan reported on his progress in finding a new office in the L.A. area and the cost involved in moving. The merits of changing the phone from the executive suites in Sacramento to a number in L.A. were discussed the major benefit being that we would now have a listing in the phone book in both places. It was discussed that Juan rarely used the office space that was available in Sacramento. He reported that the use of the Conference Room at the executive suites in Sacramento was dropped about six months ago and that all we were contracting with the business was mail forwarding and telephone forwarding at a cost of \$200 a month. It was brought up that our original idea was for Juan to move to Sacramento and open an office. He stated that this was no longer possible and that we would have to find someone else if we wanted the office in Sacramento. It was discussed that there was no particular reason to have an office in Sacramento over one in L.A. A 1-800 number was discussed rather than a local Sacramento number that would be forwarded to the L.A. office. This was found to be far more expensive than forwarding a local Sacramento number to L.A.

Juan reported that he had guest lectured at UCLA.

## **5. Standing Committees**

### **a) Audit Committee**

Steve Marsland was unable to attend the meeting. The report will be postponed until July 4, 2000 meeting.

## **Lunch**

## Strategy Session

Steven Alexander started off the strategy session by asking Paul for introductions of the ExCom members and that each of us describe not only why we are on the ExCom but also what we do for a day job. A great deal of time it was spent discussing how to strategize.

Meeting called back to order by Mark Hinkle at 4:06pm.

### 4f Executive Director - Juan Ros (Continued)

Juan Ros finished his report on the 2000 Convention.

Income: \$42,830

Expenses: \$50,342.79

Net: (\$7,512.79 )

Notes:

- Hotel charged LPC \$3,000 per contract for not meeting room pickup. Room pick up was 229 for the weekend. (Minimum was 314 room nights.)
- Hotel invoice contains \$1,471.03 in disputed amounts.
- Balcom's final invoice and final printing invoice not received yet. Expenses do not include printing such as bylaws and platforms.
- Expenses do not include printing of programs. Expenses do not include preparation of " I pledged " buttons.

Juan reported that the convention had 194 attendees who bought a package. He reported that the Balcom Group did not keep track of those delegates who did not buy a package. The Balcom Group estimated that there were approximately 60 people in this category. Juan stated that he would have a more complete and detailed report at the next ExCom meeting.

Aaron Starr asked how much of the \$50,000 was spent in 1999. Juan stated that everything under promotion, a substantial amount of the Balcom Group's management fee and Juan's site visit expenses were accrued in 1999. Aaron clarified that this came to less than \$12,000.

There was discussion over the cost of speakers and the problems that Juan incurred in their travel expenses. Juan stated that he wound up having to bring in more people from out of state than he would have liked. Juan stated that the cost of audiovisual was higher than expected because of the presidential candidate's debate but that the overall cost of audiovisual was less because Liberty Tapes brought their own equipment.

Juan stated that because of the nature of our group, hotels and conventions are very expensive. He stated that we are very room intensive, needing large spaces for our convention and many break out rooms for our speakers but we have very few people staying at the hotel. He stated that normally a group that needed this much space would have around 1000 people.

Aaron Starr asked Juan what he would do different next year for the convention. Juan stated that he would probably not send out a "save the date" card, using the newsletter instead. He said he would not send out the exhibitor prospectus as that was a total failure. He said that we had room for 20 exhibit tables and we had only six. He said he would probably not have as many speakers next time.

Aaron Starr commented that he very much enjoyed this convention and wondered if there had been a survey form for people to fill out asking for their comments on the convention. Juan stated that that was just one of those things he had not had time to do.

Rodney Austin asked how many attendees there were at the convention that actually stayed at the Doubletree Hotel. Juan answered that there were 194 paid attendees and 229 room nights. He said that he would have to go back through the records to see how many actual people that represented and he doubted if that information was even given by the hotel. Aaron Starr asked if there was perhaps some special premium that could be offered to get people to book room nights. Mark Hinkle stated that he had expected the Doubletree Hotel in San Diego to check with the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, where last convention was, as to how many room nights were booked at that convention. He said that the numbers that the Doubletree in San Diego had put down were quite a bit higher than he had expected. Juan stated that he had actually gotten the San Diego Hotel to revise their numbers downward.

Rodney Austin stated that although it would be nice to make money on a convention that is not its purpose. He further stated that he did not think the success or failure of the convention should be judged solely on how much money it made or lost. He stated that although we should avoid losing a lot of money this convention was a success because we were able to accomplish the things we were there for. He stated that he thought Juan had done a good job even if he could do a better one. Juan mentioned that there were all lot of first-time attendees at this convention. He said that it was in the range of 20 to 25%. There was discussion over whether conventions in the past made or

lost money. Mark stated that it was all over the map depending on who ran the convention and where it was. Juan said that he did believe a convention should at least break even, even if it doesn't turn a profit.

Joe Dehn commented that the goal of the National conventions is of course to at least break even but the last one in 1998 had a significant loss. He said it doesn't show on the books because of credit given by the hotel. He said that the fact of us losing \$7,000 is not out of the experience of others running a convention of this size. He said that some of the states have good attendance with less-expensive one-day conventions. He didn't know if that would be possible for California because of the size of our state. He said that because of the size of our state people have to travel long distances anyway and would probably not care to come for just one day. He suggested that perhaps what we might look at was some type of regional convention (in terms of northern or southern) perhaps in the spring or fall. This would be something to give those who cannot afford \$300 for a major convention to go to. He said this would be something between a major convention and the local Dinner Club. Juan said this was a good idea. This could be done especially without the business session that has to take place at a regular convention.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a) Thea McLean Contract renewal**

Mark stated that the contract that was given in the packets was exactly the same contract that was signed before. He said that he recommends retaining her for as long as we need to. He said that the contract could be terminated by either party with a 30-day notice. He said that he fully expects that if we open an office and hire an executive assistant, there will be a substantial transition period. He said that we should probably keep Thea on some kind of retainer.

Aaron commented that her costs were \$5,500 last year, and the extra costs are things we cannot avoid regardless. Mark stated that Mailboxes Etc., where the current mailbox is, charges approximately \$15 a month plus postage to forward our mail wherever we want. Mark stated that the reason that he wanted the address clarified as being the "data processing center" on the return envelopes was to indicate that that was not our headquarters. Image of where the headquarters was located was discussed. Someone stated that they thought the reason we were switching from Thea was because we did not want the address in McCloud where she is moving but that this does not seem to be the case since the mail can be forwarded anywhere. Mark said the main reason we want to hire an executive assistant is not to raise the P.R. value of our mailing address but because of all of the other work that needs to be done. Relieving Juan of all the administrative tasks that he now does. Mark said that in last year's budget approximately \$700 for "other administrative costs" included costs for credit card processing which we will be saving. Mark said that we do not have enough money to hire an executive assistant and also keep Thea doing what she does. He said that to rearrange the budget to do this Juan would have to do more aggressive fund-raising with the major donors and with an executive assistant doing more of the administrative tasks, Juan would have time for this.

**Motion:** Aaron Starr moved to approve the contract as proposed. Seconded.

**Discussion:** Rodney Austin asked if Thea McLean was aware of our plans to hire an executive assistant. Mark said she was. Rodney asked if she was willing to help train the new assistant. Mark said she was. Mark clarified that Thea would like to continue doing the job for as long as she could, that she would prefer that we not take the tasks away from her. He said that in spite of this Thea is willing to help.

Aaron Starr called the question. Motion passed.

**Main motion passed by voice vote.**

### **b) Resolve problem of National Convention Delegates.**

Sandi Webb gave the report. She stated that after tallying all the votes from the state convention and finalizing the list of delegates she sent the list to Joe Dehn. Joe Dehn found quite a few people who were not current in their membership. Sandi stated that, as she did not have a current membership database, she had not even checked for membership status as far as whether dues were current. Joe Dehn clarified some of the bylaw rules as pertaining to Central Committee member status and the rules regarding how national delegates are selected. Joe Dehn stated that there were two primary problems with the initial list. First, of the 400 and something people that were on the list, 322 people received the minimum three votes. He stated that of those 322, a significant number appear not to qualify for delegate status. He stated that of the 322 people 60 do not qualify. Second, as there are many that received three votes, how do we break the tie. The question of the tie vote was handled first. There was a great deal of discussion on how to determine the ranking. It was decided to break the tie with random number generation.

Joe Dehn stated that of the 322 people, 15 were not in the database at all, 12 were in the database but there was no record of them being a Central Committee member, 21 had been Central Committee members prior to the convention but were not as of the time of the convention and have still not paid their dues, seven people have paid their dues since the convention or been elected to be Central Committee members. Joe stated that his database was the latest as of March. It was decided to send a letter to each person who was being disqualified explaining the

situation. This would allow those people to show if the database was incorrect. It was further decided to remove all those who had not been Central Committee members at the time of the convention from the list.

- c) Juan Ros contract renewal was postponed until Sunday.
- d) Revised budget.

There was brief discussion and clarification of the proposed budget revision presented by Mark Hinkle. Aaron Starr objected to consideration because the current budget had just been adopted at the previous ExCom meeting after a great deal of discussion and the committee going over it line by line. Mark Hinkle stated that there was a great deal of concern about the newsletter and that it was wanted on a monthly basis. He stated that there was also a great deal of concern regarding the administrative assistant position. Aaron stated that he did not feel the proposed Budget revision showed where the money would come from sufficiently. There was a great deal of debate over the expected revenues and donations.

Meeting was recessed at 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. Sunday March 19, 2000.

### **Sunday, March 19, 2000**

#### **7. Call Meeting Back to Order:**

Mark Hinkle called the meeting back to order at 9:08 a.m.

##### 6d. Revised budget. (Continued)

Discussion continued from the previous day on the proposed budget changes. It was discussed that there was enough in the budget to open an office but not to hire a full-time administrative assistant. The new position of the administrative assistant was discussed at length. It was discussed that the budget as approved only allowed for a part-time administrative assistant and newsletter every other month electronically. The new budget, as proposed, would allow for a full-time assistant and a full 12 issues of the newsletter. The problems of hiring a person through the same agency that Juan is hired was discussed. It was clarified that the \$71,000 in the approved budget for payroll would only cover Juan's salary and benefits for the year and a part-time assistant, with benefits for part of the year.

**Motion:** Joe Dehn moved to amend the budget to increase the Newsletter line item by \$6,000, subtract \$6,000 from reserve, and authorize monthly publication of the Newsletter until the next ExCom meeting. Seconded.

Discussion ensued over the merit of having a reserve or a full-time newsletter.

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

Mark Hinkle	Yes
Ted Brown	Absent
Rodney Austin	Yes
Eric Lund	No
Sandi Webb	Yes

#### **At-Large Reps**

Lori Adasiewicz	Yes
José Castañeda	Absent
Joe Dehn	Yes
Bruce Dovner	No
Aaron Starr	No

#### **At-Large Alternates**

Elizabeth Brierly, #1	Absent
John Ballard, #2	Yes

#### **Region Reps**

Frank J. Manske, Region 1	Yes
Brian Lee Cross, Region 30	Yes
Steve Cicero, Region 37	Yes
Jascha Lee, alternate R43	No
Bernard Zimring, Region 61	Absent

**Results: 9 Yes, 4 No Failed.**

#### **8. New Business:**

- a) Convention 2001 bid

Cullene Lang representing Liberty Services presented a bid for the 2001 LPC Convention. Convention would be held in the Bay Area.

Items that would be provided:

1. Rooms for Bylaw and Platform Committees.
2. One room on Friday for all-day planning.
3. Large convention hall on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.
4. Room for Sam Adams Luncheon.
5. Room for Executive Committee meeting.

A block of rooms reserved at discount rate.

Several package deals would be offered; full package, meals only package and a speaker's only package.

Early bird rates to be as follows:

Speakers only package	\$100
Meals only package	\$120
Full package	\$200

Liberty Services would pay for everything and would get any profits. LPC would pay only for items such as printing of Bylaws and Platforms. Liberty Services would provide advertising.

Juan Ross presented two different bids for the 2001 convention to be done in-house.

Proposal A:

Convention would be held at the San Jose Doubletree, February 16-19.

Proposal B:

Convention would be held at the Santa Clara Marriott Hotel, April 20-22.

LPC would incur all costs and receive all profits. The Balcom Group would be hired to run the registration.

It was discussed whether running the convention was the highest and best use of Juan's time. It was pointed out that a part of Juan's salary should be added on to the cost of running the convention, bringing the total of the 2000 convention up considerably.

**Motion:** Sandi Webb moved to accept Liberty Services 2001 Convention bid. Seconded.

**Discussion:** Mark Hinkle voiced concern over the question of who controls the convention. He stated that we have had trouble in the past with inappropriate speakers and vendors. He said that, for this reason, we should always keep the convention in-house. He said that with the convention in-house, there can be no disagreement between staff and management because the staff does what the management says. This is not true for an outside contractor.

Aaron Starr asked Mark if his objection would be eliminated if a clause was in the contract with an outside vendor giving the LPC final say over speakers. Cullene was asked if she would object to our having a veto power over speakers. She stated she would prefer that any veto be "with cause." This was acceptable to both Ms. Lang and the ExCom.

Joe Dehn said that there seemed to actually be less control and information when the convention was done in-house. Outside contractors have to report regularly to the ExCom whereas in-house staff doesn't.

Bruce Dovner asked Cullene if she would accept the Operations Committee having veto power. She said that was not a problem.

**Motion to amend:** Aaron Starr moved to amend the motion by adding the provision that OpCom has veto power over objectionable vendors and speakers.

**Vote to accept amendment: Pass**

**Vote on main motion as amended: Pass**

**Recess for Strategy Session**

**Brunch**

Mark Hinkle called the meeting back to order.

**Motion to reconsider:** Eric Lund moved to reconsider the budget vote. Seconded.

Eric stated that he thought we would have more funds now in light of the vote to have an outside vendor for the convention. He said that he thought that we would still have sufficient reserves.

The amounts of saving were discussed.

**Motion to amend:** Amend motion by changing operations line item from \$43,000 down to \$37,000, and add \$6,000 to the expense item for the newsletter to be able to have two more issues.

**Vote on amendment: Passes.**

**Roll Call Vote on main motion as amended:**

Mark Hinkle	Yes
Ted Brown	Absent
Rodney Austin	Yes
Eric Lund	Yes
Sandi Webb	Yes

**At-Large Reps**

Lori Adasiewicz	Yes
José Castañeda	Absent
Joe Dehn	Yes
Bruce Dovner	Yes
Aaron Starr	No

**At-Large Alternates**

Elizabeth Brierly, #1	Absent
John Ballard, #2	Yes

**Region Reps**

Frank J. Manske, Region 1	Yes
Brian Lee Cross, Region 30	Yes
Steve Cicero, Region 37	Yes
Jascha Lee, alternate R43	Yes
Bernard Zimring, Region 61	Absent

**Results: 12 Yes, 1 No Pass.**

6c Juan Ros contract renewal (Executive Session) postponed from Saturday.

Mark Hinkle explained what an Executive Session was. He stated that all discussion in the session was confidential and that anyone who revealed what was discussed would be censured. A vote was required by the ExCom to go into an Executive Session. Motion to go into Executive Session passed.

**Motion:** Ratify the increase in salary and additional benefits for Juan Ros effective April 1, 2000.

**Vote: Passed without descent.**

b) Executive Assistant

Expenses for an assistant was discussed. Juan stated that according to the budget as approved, there was enough for one person, 20 hours per week at approximately \$12 per hour starting June 1.

Concern was raised as to the status of hiring an independent employee. Benefits were discussed. It was discussed that a part-time employee could do Thea McLean's job and also do the office duties that would be required.

Transferring duties from Thea to the new employee were discussed. Several suggestions were put for the as to where to look for the assistant. Bonding of the employee was discussed. The cost of insurance was discussed. Juan was going to look into all of the items involved with the office and part-time employee and report back to the ExCom.

Aaron Starr asked if hiring an employee was a contract that needed to be approved by the ExCom or if Juan could just go hire someone. Mark answered that his initial idea was to bring back the contract to the ExCom, but with it in the budget an argument could be made that it was ratified. Bylaws pertaining to contracts were discussed. It was decided that the Operations Committee had the authority to hire someone because it is in the budget and the person can be let go at any time.

c) Membership Data Access

Neither José Castañeda nor Thomas Spielbauer could be present to represent Gail Lightfoot's campaign, which was taking issue with items in the standard mailing list agreement. Mark stated that he had had David Bergland write up a contract for the Kubby for Governor campaign. That campaign refused to sign the contract. Subsequent campaigns have signed the agreement.

Brian Lee Cross asked why an agreement was written for the Kubby Campaign in the first place as the party is over 20 years old. Mark answered that there had been allegations at the time of Kubby's campaign manager misusing the National Party's list. Mark wanted to make sure that the LPC list would be protected.

Concern was brought up over the contract's wording giving the LPC Chair authority to view and reject material that was to be mailed using the list. Joe Dehn stated that the LPC contract was very similar to the LNC contract. Joe further stated that it has always been the policy to share membership information with the regions.

It was discussed whether a statewide campaign was an "inside" activity or were they "outsiders" the same as others who rent the list. Concern was voiced that if we gave the list to one candidate with no restrictions, that campaign might give it to another campaign. It was mentioned that the agreement was written as if the only use



would be for fundraising but that candidates might want to do other types of letters. It was pointed out that it would be very difficult if a statewide candidate wanted to send out post cards announcing a visit, to have to have Mark's approval each time and get the list each time.

The question of rates was raised. Mark stated that we have three rates, \$.05 per name for candidates, \$.075 per name for Libertarian Movement related groups, and \$.12 per name for outside groups. Mark clarified that the \$.05 per name was what Thea charges for generating the labels.

**Motion:** Aaron Starr moved that the existing Mailing List Rental Agreement be ratified for future use as amended. Seconded.

**Motion to amend:** Lori Adasiewicz moved to strike "or its own in house printer" from 3.4.1 and renumber.

**Vote on amendment: Passed**

**Vote on main motion: Passed**

**Motion:** Joe Dehn moved to allow the Lightfoot Campaign to use the list for a statewide mailing at cost.

There was discussion whether we wanted to set the precedent of free access to the list. It was discussed that Gail Lightfoot was a statewide candidate rather than a local, non-partisan candidate and a statewide candidate should be treated differently. It was discussed that Gail was endorsed by the convention. It was discussed that all LP candidates should have access at cost, that our purpose was to support our candidates. It was discussed that there was a cost to maintaining the list.

**Vote: Passed**

**Motion:** Joe Dehn moved that LP candidates for Congress, State Assembly, and State Senate be given full access to the membership list, for their district, from now until November, on line, with a majority vote of the OpCom able to rescind access. Seconded.

There was discussion over the best way to do this, through the database or local regions. Joe said the easiest way was for him to make the information available on line.

**Vote: Passed without descent.**

d) Newsletter from Region 1

Frank Manske gave a brief report stating that he had handed out a letter from Scott Wilson, Region 1 Newsletter Editor, regarding the state newsletter. Frank stated that Scott was concerned about the state newsletter not being 12 issues and that he had some ideas and would like to volunteer his time. No action was taken.

e) Fundraising letter

Mark Hinkle added this item to get a policy from the ExCom. Councilmember Bonnie Flickinger asked Juan Ros to write a fundraising letter for her campaign as well as handling the printing and mailing. As Juan is paid staff, Mark asked what the ExCom thought the policy should be regarding the use of staff time to work on a campaign. He stated that the Libertarian free market rate for writing a letter such as this is approximately \$500.

There was discussion as to how much she could pay for the service and how much the LPC would have to front for her. There was discussion on the fact that she was an elected Libertarian running for a higher, partisan race. It was stated that this was what we were working for, to get people elected to local, non-partisan seats so they would be in a better position to run for higher office.

**Motion:** Aaron Starr moved to provide Councilmember Bonnie Flickinger with the service of writing a fundraising letter, mail house coordination, and only charge her for the postage and printing after the funds come in from the letter. Seconded.

There was discussion on the logistics and problems of the use of the bulk-mailing permit. There was discussion over the cost, if any, to the LPC. It was discussed what the policy should be. It was decided that this was a unique case of an elected Libertarian running for higher office and no policy should be set.

**Vote: Passed without descent.**

## 9. Other Committee Reports:

a) Committee Appointments

i) Legislative Committee

- (1) Brian Lee Cross
- (2) Jeff Sommer
- (3) Richard Winger
- (4) Joe Dehn
- (5) John Ballard

ii) Human Resources Committee

- (1) Steve Alexander
- (2) Mike Lyon

- (3) Aaron Starr
- (4) Lori Adasiewicz
- (5) Mark Hinkle
- iii) Convention Oversight Committee
  - (1) Steve Cicero
  - (2) Steve Alexander
- iv) Membership Committee
  - (1) Bruce Dovner
  - (2) Aaron Starr
  - (3) Joe Dehn
- v) Budget Committee
  - (1) Eric Lund
  - (2) Aaron Starr
  - (3) Rodney Austin
  - (4) Mark Hinkle

**10. Evaluation of Standing Resolutions:**

An updated copy of the Standing Resolutions was handed out for review.

**11. Next Meeting:**

Saturday June 17 in the LA area. (Subsequently changed to July 4, 2000 immediately following the National Convention.)

The following ExCom dates were set as September 16, 2000 and December 16, 2000.

**12. Adjourn:** Mark Hinkle adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.