

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 8-21-2004

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA

Saturday, August 21, 2004 Executive Committee Meeting

Burgundy Room at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 1250 Lakeside Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94085

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:11 pm.

Officers:

PRESENT Aaron Starr, Chair
PRESENT Lawrence Samuels, Northern Vice Chair
PRESENT Mark Selzer, Southern Vice Chair
PRESENT Monica Kadera, Treasurer
PRESENT Daniel Wiener, Secretary

At-Large:

PRESENT M Carling
ABSENT *Ted Brown*
PRESENT Bruce Dovner
PRESENT Allen Hacker
PRESENT Mark Hinkle

ABSENT *David Nolan (At-Large Alternate)*

ABSENT *B.J. Wagener (At-Large Alternate)*

Regional Representatives:

ABSENT *Steve Cicero, San Diego*
PRESENT Allen Rice, Santa Clara
PRESENT Bruce Cohen, Orange County
ABSENT *Martina Slocomb, L.A. South Bay*
PRESENT Frank Manske, East Bay Representative

ABSENT *Terry Floyd, East Bay First Alternate*

ABSENT *Timothy Johnson, Orange County Alternate*

ABSENT *Mike Laursen, Santa Clara Alternate*

ABSENT *John Ericson, East Bay Second Alternate*

2. Public Comments and Announcements

Executive Committee members introduced themselves. The meeting room is complimentary, since the hotel is being considered for the 2006 convention. Nate Craddock was present as an observer.

3. Approve Agenda

An LNC meeting report was added as the new 9(a) by M Carling (5 min). A Region 43 proposal for membership was added as 8(d) (5 min). The agenda was approved as amended.

4. Consent Calendar - no items

5. Approval of Minutes

- a. ExCom meeting (5-22-2004) – approved (as amended) without objection: The "\$2,000" should be "\$1,300" in the Treasurer's report; a "There" typo was noted.

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6. Officer & Staff Reports

Chair - Aaron Starr

Kate O'Brien has been working on the Operation Breakthrough Elected Officials project. 18 out of 58 counties are done, 9 counties have nothing, 2 (Modoc & Sierra) have conflicting data, and 29 are still in process. We are about half done collecting data but none has yet been entered into a database. We still need paid staff. There are various website complaints. M Carling raised the possibility of getting Judge Gray's office after Nov. election for maybe \$1500/mo (vs \$395/mo in Van Nuys). There was a discussion about hiring an Executive Director and what would be required to succeed.

Northern Vice-Chair - Lawrence Samuels

There was a successful San Benito County BBQ (John Sarsfield, newly elected D.A. attended). Elected officials who are sympathetic to the LP are out there. Shasta County has imploded, and the Chair has resigned; new elections will be held in early Sept. Butte County is very active; it got 55 people for a Badnarik event and raised \$2000.

Southern Vice-Chair - Mark Selzer

The public access TV program is going very well; the technical quality is excellent.

Secretary – Daniel Wiener

The results of two email ballots were reported: The 2005 Convention Contract was approved, and Region 70 (Western Riverside) was deactivated. Badnarik emailings were sent out, notify members of California tour.

Treasurer - Monica Kadera

The current net surplus is \$80,447. UMP scripts need to be provided, and payments sent to regions.

7. Old Business – Approval of revised documents from Style Committee

a. A motion was made to accept all changes except the capitalization of "state" in Bylaw 5, and in addition to renumber Bylaw 15 such that it will contain only Sections 1-3 and be retitled "Convention"; a new Bylaw 16 will contain Section 4 and be titled "Platform"; a new Bylaw 17 will contain Section 5 and be titled "Program", with subsequent renumbering of Bylaws and all references. Seconded. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

A motion was made to thank RobRob for her superb service to the Executive Committee and the Libertarian Party of California. Passed unanimously by voice vote. The Secretary was directed to send her a letter of thanks.

Recessed for lunch at 12:10 pm. Reconvened at 1:30 pm.

b. The status of all Regions was reviewed (see appended list). There was a discussion about synchronizing annual regional elections and trying to get buy-in; this was referred to the Bylaws Committee at Scott Wilson's request. There is a problem with regions not accessing the LPC membership database to mail notices to all current members for elections. There was a discussion of West Riverside (Region 70).

8. New Business

a. November ballot measures (see appended list). M Carling presided over this portion of the meeting. The following positions were taken (with the votes shown in parenthesis): Yes (10-0-2) on 59. Yes (10-1-1) on 60. Yes (12-0-0) on 60a. No (12-0-0) on 61. No (11-0-1) on 62. No (12-0-0) on 63. Yes (10-0-2) on 64. Yes (11-0-1) on 65. Yes (12-0-0) on 66. No (12-0-0) on 67. No position on 68. No (11-1-0) on 69. No position on 70. No (12-0-0) on 71. No (12-0-0) on 72. We will notify appropriate proponent or opponent organizations of our positions (Nate Craddock will undertake this task), and send out press releases (Richard Newell & Elizabeth Brierly should be informed of our positions).

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- b. Scott Wilson gave a presentation on Shut'em Down. The hat was passed, collecting \$179 for it.
- c. SJR 22, urging repeal of unconstitutional PATRIOT Act provisions, was endorsed 12-0-0.
- d. Region 43 presented a membership proposal. Allen Rice moved that LPC grant seed money of \$600 to Santa Clara county for outreach program to registered libertarians & report back in 3 months. Failed 1-8-3.

9. Committee Reports

- a. LNC meeting report by M Carling & Aaron Starr – The LNC voted to spend money they didn't have (\$27,000 for ballot access); no resolution to Region 1 problem (it is 3 members short of the requirement for double size, due to miscount); the process advanced for the 2006 convention (Portland, Denver, Austin are likely options). It was moved that LPC continue UMP payments to regions through the end of 2004 regardless of whether the LPC is paid by the national LP. Passed 9-0-3. A motion was made and then withdrawn to convey to the national LP that the LPC is flexible on receipt of its UMP payments through the end of 2004 as long as monthly accountings are received by the LPC. Aaron will undertake to try to get those monthly accountings.
- b. Membership Acquisition & Retention – Allen Rice & Allen Hacker: Emails are being sent to new members welcoming them to the LPC. An analysis was given of regional web sites.
- c. Coalition Building – Terry Floyd wasn't present.
- d. Guest Opinions – B.J. Wagener wasn't present. Aaron has about 10 people willing to write guest opinion columns, and is attempting to get a media list at a discounted price (about \$300 divided 5 or 6 ways). We need bios on website (Dovner); need customized email (Wiener); and want a guest opinion every week. We also want to be able to email press releases.
- e. Fundraising – Bruce Cohen. Unable to get into the LPC membership database.
- f. Awards – Bruce Cohen. Regional chairs are too busy with the election. KNBC will host a debate at 9 am on August 22nd between L.A. Sheriff Lee Boca & Ted Brown on assault weapons.
- g. Legislation – Allen Rice. Nothing to report.
- h. Legal – Martina Slocomb wasn't present.
- i. Events Planning & Oversight – M Carling – He's trying to get speakers for 2005 convention, and also looking at 2006 convention possibilities. We need to begin promotion of the 2005 convention. A short brainstorming session produced the following possibilities for big-draw marquee speakers: Ben Stein. Thomas Sowell. Aaron Russo. Nathaniel Branden. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Tom McClintock. Kurt Russell. Carl Pope. Charles Murray. Larry Elder. Penn & Teller. Gary Nolan. Michael Badnarik. John Mackey (founder of Whole Foods). T.J. Rodgers. Peter Thiel. Woody Harrelson. Drew Carey. Gene Burns. Secretary of State Kevin Shelley. Jerry Brown. Ed Crane. Robert Poole. Mary Kay Letournea. Peter Camejo. Ron Coleman. Reginald Jones. Jesse Ventura. Sherrif Mack. Matt Drudge (ask Manny Klausner to invite him). Dr. Demento. P.J. O'Rourke. Tom Selleck. Green Day singer. Subsequent to the meeting, Frank Manske suggested some additional names: Trey Parker. Dennis Leary. Tommy Chong. Dave Barry. P.J. O'Rourke. John Gilmore. Thomas Sowell. David Boaz. L. Neil Smith. Nick Gillespie. Bill Masters.
- j. Bylaws Committee – M Carling: A meeting will be held on Aug. 22nd and Nov. 21st.
- k. Volunteer Development – Allen Hacker – spent \$95 for 1st year for volunteer software. Will write newsletter article.
- l. Candidate Recruitment & Elected Officials – Ted Brown not present.
- m. Platform Committee – Ted Brown not present.
- n. Voter Registration – Bruce Dovner nothing to report.
- o. Infrastructure Development & Website – Bruce Dovner. It was reported that CA.LP.ORG has stopped working but LPC.ORG is working. Allen Hacker will be assistant webmaster, and Nate Craddock will also help. The migration of the web site to a new server will be completed by Monday. Send Bylaws report to Bruce to post. Bruce needs the scripts which were created for the database. Maybe Bill White can help. We'll pay Bjorn if necessary. The Secretary will update the LPC membership database password list.
- p. Program Committee – Bruce Dovner is writing a series of articles about the Program for the newsletter.
- q. Member Communications – Mark Hinkle – Ureach phone service is mostly being forwarded to Bruce Cohen & Mark Hinkle. Elizabeth has a new cartoonist, will resume interviewing new members, has new

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layout software.

10. Executive Director

A motion was made to establish the paid position of Executive Director of the LPC, whose duties shall be fundraising plus other duties such as the Chair shall direct. The compensation shall be adjustable as appropriate but initially a minimum monthly guarantee of \$3,000.00 plus a 15% commission on LPC revenues in excess of the previous year. Passed 8-2-1.

11. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Nov. 21st at the Los Angeles Sheraton Gateway Hotel. The next phone conference will be on Sept. 12th at 8 pm.

12. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA'S POSITIONS ON THE NOVEMBER 2004 BALLOT PROPOSITIONS (with unofficial commentary):

Prop 59 -- Access to government information. YES. This was a unanimous bipartisan measure to imbed statutory guarantees of open government (mostly for local governments and local agencies) into the state Constitution.

[NOTE: A court order has split the original Proposition 60 into two separate measures, Propositions 60 and 60a.]

Prop 60 -- Primary elections: YES. Would nullify the Open Primary Initiative (Prop 62) if it received more votes.

Prop 60a -- Surplus state property. YES. Would use the sale of surplus state property to pay off bonds.

Prop 61 -- Children's Hospital Projects. Grant Program. Bond Act. NO. Not a proper function of government, and we don't need no more stinkin' bonds.

Prop 62 -- Elections. Primaries. NO. Would destroy minor parties and limit voters choices in the general election. A much better solution is Instant Runoff Voting.

Prop 63 -- Mental Health Services Expansion and Funding. Tax on Incomes over \$1 Million. NO. Not a proper function of government, and we don't need no more stinkin' taxes.

Prop 64 -- Limitations on Enforcement of Unfair Business Competition Laws. YES. This would limit shakedown lawsuits in which lawyers sue businesses for trivial matters that don't even have victims, and thereby force businesses to settle rather than endure the horrendous expense of a trial.

Prop 65 -- Local Government Funds and Revenues. State Mandates. YES. Prevents state government from raiding revenues intended for local governments and agencies, which in turn leads to "back door" local tax hikes.

Prop 66 -- Limitations on "Three Strikes" Law. Sex Crimes. Punishment. YES. Sentence enhancements should be limited to violent crimes. The current law can put non-violent criminals who commit victimless crimes away for life.

Prop 67 -- Emergency and Medical Services. Funding. Telephone Surcharge. NO. Not a proper function of government, and we don't need no more stinkin' taxes.

Prop 68 -- Tribal Gaming Compact Renegotiation. Non-Tribal Commercial Gambling Expansion. Revenues, Tax Exemptions. NO POSITION. Reduces some restrictions on gambling but also creates new monopolies for race tracks and card clubs.

Prop 69 -- DNA Samples. Collection. Database. Funding. NO. An invasion of privacy for those people who are arrested but not convicted of a crime.

Prop 70 -- Tribal Gaming Compacts. Exclusive Gaming Rights. Contributions to State. NO POSITION. Reduces some restrictions on gambling but also extends monopolies for Indian tribes.

Prop 71 -- Stem Cell Research. Funding. Bonds. NO. Not a proper function of government, and we don't need no more stinkin' bonds.

Prop 72 -- Referendum Petition to Overturn Amendments to Health Care Coverage Requirements. NO. A "NO" vote will reverse the new mandate that requires California businesses to provide health insurance for their employees.

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The name of a region's Chair or Chair Pro-Tem is in curly brackets. A plus sign indicates that the region is considered "active" while a minus sign indicates that region is considered "inactive".

- + 01 East Bay (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties) {Curt Cornell}
 - Alpine see 09
- 03 Gold Country (Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties) {Al Segalla}
- + 04 Butte County {Casey Aplanalp}
 - Calaveras see 03
- 06 Colusa County
 - Contra Costa see 01
- 08 Del Norte County {Ronald Thompson}
- 09 El Dorado / Alpine
- + 10 Fresno County {Rodney Austin}
- 11 Glenn County
- 12 Humboldt County {Fred Mangels}
- 13 Imperial County
- 14 Inyo County
- 15 Kern County {Teri Kahn}
- 16 Kings County
- 17 Lake County {Mark Lockhart}
- 18 Lassen County
 - Los Angeles County see 61 thru 68
- 20 Madera/Mariposa {Rob Boomer}
- 21 Marin County {Dan Goltz}
 - Mariposa see 20
- 23 Mendocino County {Ken Anton}
- 24 Merced County
- 25 Modoc County
- 26 Mono County
- + 27 Monterey County {Mark Dierolf}
- 28 Napa County {William, Cranis}
- + 29 Nevada County {Bob Burke}
- + 30 Orange County {Brian Lee Cross}
- 31 Placer County {Mike Murphy}
- 32 Plumas County {Daniel Howe}
 - Riverside County see 70 and 71
- + 34 Sacramento County {Art Tuma}
- 35 San Benito County {Kemp Woods}
- + 36 San Bernardino County {Paul Ireland}
- + 37 San Diego County {Ed Teyssier}
- + 38 San Francisco {Christopher Maden}
- + 39 San Joaquin County {George Gori}
- + 40 San Luis Obispo County {Gail Lightfoot}
- + 41 San Mateo County {Jack Hickey}
- + 42 Santa Barbara County {B.J. Wagener}
- + 43 Santa Clara County {Allen Hacker}
- + 44 Santa Cruz County {Pat Dugan}
- + 45 Shasta County {Barbara Darrow}
- 46 Sierra County
- + 47 Siskiyou County {Charles Martin}
- 48 Solano County
- + 49 Sonoma County {Aaron Smith}
- + 50 Stanislaus County {Dan DeGroat}
- 51 Sutter/Yuba
- 52 Tehama County
- 53 Trinity County
- 54 Tulare County
 - Tuolumne see 03
- + 56 Ventura County {Curtis Carson}
- 57 Yolo County
 - Yuba see 51
- + 61 San Fernando Valley {Ed Bowers}
- + 62 West {Robert Weber}
- + 63 Foothills {Ted Brown}
- + 64 Central {Human Shobab}
- + 65 Southeast {David Bowers}
- + 66 South Bay {Dan Sherman}
- + 67 East San Gabriel Valley {Dan Fernandes}
- + 68 Antelope Valley {Jason Gonella}
- 70 West Riverside County
- + 71 East Riverside County {Susan Weber}