

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA

Saturday, August 5, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting at Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Los Angeles

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am. The following Executive Committee members were present:

Officers: **Aaron Starr, Chair**
 Lawrence Samuels, Northern Vice Chair
 Mark Selzer, Southern Vice Chair
 Willard Michlin, Treasurer
 Daniel Wiener, Secretary

Representatives: **Ted Brown**
 M Carling
 Bruce Cohen (not present)
 Zander Collier
 Don Cowles
 Bruce Dovner (arrived late)
 Mark Johnson
 Angela Keaton
 Richard Newell
 Kevin Takenaga

Alternates: *Lois Garcia (not present)*
 Jay Eckl (not present)

Executive Director: *David Ruprecht (not present)*

Guests: **Terry Floyd, Mike Binkley, Don Patterson**

2. Announcements: None.

3. Agenda review:

Items 5(d) and 5(e) were combine as Infrastructure for 40 min, and voter registration item 5(f)(ii) was changed to 20 min.

4. Staff & Officers Reports

- a. Chair Aaron Starr – Staffing has been challenging, because David Ruprecht has been in Atlantic City for much of the time since the last ExCom meeting. M Carling and intern Ali Martin have been filling in at the office. The national convention saw major changes for the LP. Last year the Executive Committee had weekly conference calls, and seemed to get more done. There will be another effort to hold conference calls, although the frequency was undecided. There was a consensus that no one was satisfied with the output of the Executive Committee as a whole, followed by a general discussion of division of work and committee operations.
- b. Northern Vice Chair Lawrence Samuels – Marin county is now active. There was a good regional conference in Chico, with about 35 people participating. There was some publicity and new members as a result.
- c. Southern Vice Chair Mark Selzer – There have been email communications with members and candidates. The L.A. County meeting was attended; Michael Binkley was elected chair. Mark suggested that a Central Vice-Chair needs to be added. TV public access shows are being sold on eBay and are receiving hits on Google.
- d. Secretary Daniel Wiener reported on the results of recent Executive Committee email ballots (results are listed as Yes-No-Abstain-NVR, where NVR means No Vote Received prior to close of balloting):
 - “Moved, that the minutes of the May 6, 2006 LPC Executive Committee meeting be approved.” Passed 10-0-0-5 on July 16, 2006.
 - “Moved, that the following resolution be adopted:

Whereas, the Libertarian Party of California desires to legally support its non-federal candidates, while minimizing the regulatory burdens created by California law; and

Whereas, our party's Bylaws require us to establish at least one campaign fund from which funds shall be allocated to candidates of the Libertarian Party;

Therefore, be it resolved, the Libertarian Party of California shall form a committee -- the Libertarian Party of California Candidate Support Committee -- to raise money to support qualified Libertarian candidates in California and/or support campaign publicity not specifically promoting an individual candidacy;

This committee shall be comprised of the members of the Libertarian Party of California Executive Committee and shall be charged with determining which non-federal candidates to support;

The committee shall file campaign finance reports with the Fair Political Practices Commission;

The Treasurer of this committee shall not be an officer of the Libertarian Party of California. The Treasurer shall serve a term contemporaneous with the term of the Treasurer of the Libertarian Party of California; and

The initial treasurer of the committee shall be Don Cowles.” Passed 14.5-0-1-0 on July 20, 2006.

- “Resolved, that Marin County be recognized as an active Libertarian county organization.” Passed 12-0-0-3 on July 28, 2006.

Gail Lightfoot was informed that the Executive Committee had declined to take any action with respect to the controversy involving Oceano Community Services District board members Vern Dahl and Jim Hill.

Minutes of ninety-five previous Executive Committee meetings are now available at <http://snipurl.com/ExCom>, and minutes of twenty-two previous California state conventions are now available at <http://snipurl.com/convention>.

- e. Treasurer Willard Michlin – A question was asked about deferred revenue: It is membership dues recognized over the twelve month period. We received \$5,000 as an annual payment from Labels & Lists. The current budget and statement of assets are attached below.

Zander Collier moved to add Membership Renewal as the last item of Old Business for 20 min. Approved without objection.

- f. LNC Representative M Carling – The new LNC met briefly in Portland upon the close of the national convention and made some urgent appointments, including appointing Aaron Starr to the Executive Committee. The next meeting will be in Denver on the weekend of August 20th. The main order of business will be selecting a site for the 2008 national convention. M Carling, Aaron Starr, and Angela Keaton are all full members of the LNC. The best prospect is likely to be Denver. The 2010 convention will likely be in Texas. Another LNC meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. in the second week of November.

5. Old business:

- a. 2007 State Convention – The Convention Committee consisting of Mark Hinkle and Steve Alexander recommended two options: A cruise to Ensenada or the Granlibakken Conference Center. Terry Floyd elaborated on his proposal. The motion was to adopt the Convention Committee’s recommendation that “the convention be held at the Granlibakken Conference Center and Lodge.” Willard Michlin moved to delay a decision until the next ExCom meeting; motion died for lack of a second.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:10 pm, and reconvened at 1:52 pm.

A motion was made to adopt the following:

Standing Resolution on State Conventions

The following criteria for a convention site must be met when submitting a proposal for a state convention:

- 1. Accessibility to an airport with scheduled service, and an airport shuttle provided by the hotel or convention contractor.**
- 2. A convention hall capable of accommodating at least 200 people in classroom style.**
- 3. At least two committee meeting rooms for the Platform and Bylaws committees, and a room for the Executive Committee meeting following the convention.**
- 4. A registration fee of \$99 for all convention attendees.**
- 5. A minimum of 70 rooms per night blocked out for the convention, available up until 30 days before the convention.**
- 6. Three meals per day available as part of some convention packages.**
- 7. Any convention proposal must included the complete final cost to attendees.**

Bruce Dovner moved to amend, to set registration fees sufficient to cover costs which may be assessed by the contractor on those who don't stay at the facility. The amendment failed.

The Standing Resolution passed 12-2 on a show of hands.

Ted Brown moved to solicit convention bids within a 14 day time limit, with a decision then to be made within another 14 days by email ballot. Passed unanimously.

- b. Status of lawsuit over write-in candidates -- The Executive Committee went into closed session to discuss potential litigation, and returned from closed session.
- c. Operation Breakthrough – M Carling reported that a list was assembled of 15,795 registered Libertarian voters who lived in one or more local districts which were being targeted. After mailings and telephone calls we now have over five hundred people who have expressed interest in running. A new law prevents an individual from filing for more than one office at a time. The effort is now being made to get people to actually file. Existing elected Libertarians are helping make the follow-up phone calls. We are targeting some school boards this time, but we are also not targeting some large districts which are clearly unwinnable. At this point we can't estimate the number of people who are likely to be elected. Monetarily, fundraising letters have gone out and there have been personal solicitations, with excellent responses. If only ten people are elected, our current pledges plus cash will add up to about \$42 thousand with an expected 90% fulfillment rate. A second fundraising letter is about to drop. If we double the number elected, revenue from pledges will go up about 40%.
- d. Infrastructure – Kevin Takenaga reported that the software hasn't changed much since March. Dave and Ali have been inputting data to the database. Kevin is planning on updating the database to make some fields mandatory. County inquiries have been directed to the office to get a list of their active members. Counties are not currently getting dues money because we don't know what they are owed. Kevin got burned out a bit. He now needs to transition from a development environment to a production environment. The national LP is creating Ballot Base, and would like access to our database. Mark Johnson was placed in charge of getting a reasonably accurate calculation of the dues money owed counties within thirty days. The website does not contain information about our candidates. Ted Brown will provide the data, which Richard will put on the website. Without objection, it was decided to allocate \$2,000 to the database effort to aid Kevin Takenaga and Mark Johnson in producing the necessary county computations, with the money to be spent at Kevin's discretion.

The next agenda item considered was New Business #6(a), the November ballot propositions:

Without objection, it was decided to take a position of "NO" on Propositions 1B, 1C, 1D, 84, 86, 87, 88, and 89. Further discussion took place regarding the remaining propositions.

- For Proposition 1A, it was decided by unanimous voice vote to take a position in favor of a "Yes" vote.
- For Proposition 1E, it was decided by unanimous voice vote to take a position in favor of a "No" vote.
- For Proposition 83, it was decided by a hand vote of 11-0 to take a position in favor of a "No" vote.
- For Proposition 85, no position was taken.
- For Proposition 90, it was decided by unanimous voice vote to take a position in favor of a "Yes" vote.

The Secretary will convey the LPC's positions to the various advocates or opponents of the ballot measures, and Richard Newell and Ted Brown will post a brief explanation for these positions on the LPC website.

Old Business items continued:

- e. A discussion of priorities was held. (i) Ted Brown has talked to previously-elected Libertarians, and reports that there are some very good people out there. Dan Wiener will put them in the state membership database, and begin interviewing elected Libertarians so as to publish the interviews and also rotate the information on the website. (ii) Kevin Takenaga has talked to Bruce Dovner about doing a pilot voter registration project in a small community such as Redding. Bruce will probably become a candidate for a future statewide office, and adopt as a central strategy of his campaign a Libertarian registration drive. (iii) Zander Collier is Chair of the Student Organizing / Campus Coordination Committee and discussed various proposed plans. (iv) Don Cowles is Chair of the Finance Committee and noted the limited potential for finding additional major donors.
- f. California Freedom – There was no time for this item. The Chair has appointed Brian Holtz as the new editor, with Bruce Cohen remaining as Chair of the Member Communications Committee.
- g. Establishment Committee – Angela Keaton wants to massage the committee structure which was previously adopted. She recommended that county chairs somehow be required to file monthly reports, and perhaps hold an annual statewide county chairs meeting. Appropriate metrics and information gathering are needed. Willard Michlin will join Angela's committee and meet with her. The Secretary will help her contact county officers.

6. New business:

- b. Help America Vote Act – There was no time for this item.
- c. LPC Candidate Support Committee – Don Cowles stated that the reporting forms are not too onerous. Rather than trying to target specific candidates, he wants to spend money on branding activities such as running Dave Ruprecht's commercial. Zander volunteered to serve on the committee. BCRA obstacles, and ways around them, were discussed.

7. Next meeting / Adjournment:

The next meeting will be scheduled for November 18, 2006 at a location TBD in Northern California. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Libertarian Party of California Actual vs Budget 2006

	Jun YTD Actual	Annual Budget	Variance	% of Budget
Unrestricted General				
Support and Revenue				
Membership Dues (1)	28,325	75,000	(46,675)	37.8%
Membership Recruitment (2)	0	0	0	-
Pledges (3)	20,266	42,000	(21,734)	48.3%
Convention	3,506	0	3,506	-
Direct Mail Fundraising	0	20,000	(20,000)	0.0%
Telephone Fundraising	0	9,000	(9,000)	0.0%
Convention Fundraising	0	3,000	(3,000)	0.0%
Event Fundraising	0	0	0	-
Bequests	0	0	0	-
Personal Solicitation	50	10,000	(9,950)	0.5%
Other Revenue and Support (4)	6,068	10,000	(3,932)	60.7%
Total Support and Revenue	58,215	169,000	(110,785)	34.4%
Cost of Support and Revenue				
Membership Dues (1)	20,433	41,250	(20,817)	49.5%
Membership Recruitment (2)	0	0	0	-
Pledges (3)	3	3,250	(3,248)	0.1%
Convention	0	0	0	-
Direct Mail Fundraising	4,553	20,000	(15,447)	22.8%
Telephone Fundraising	3,250	9,000	(5,750)	36.1%
Convention Fundraising	0	0	0	-
Event Fundraising	0	0	0	-
Bequests	0	0	0	-
Personal Solicitation	0	1,000	(1,000)	0.0%
Other Revenue and Support (4)	1,043	2,000	(957)	52.1%
Total Cost of Support and Revenue	29,282	76,500	(47,218)	38.3%
Net Support and Revenue Available for Programs	28,934	92,500	(63,566)	31.3%
Program Expenses				
Administrative				
Convention	2,355	4,000	(1,645)	58.9%
Executive Committee	275	2,000	(1,725)	13.8%
Other Committees	0	1,000	(1,000)	0.0%
LPC Office	19,809	60,000	(40,191)	33.0%
Total Administrative	22,438	67,000	(44,562)	33.5%
Campaigns & Elections	0	35,000	(35,000)	0.0%
Litigation	0	5,000	(5,000)	0.0%
Lobbying	0	0	0	-
Media Relations	392	3,000	(2,608)	13.1%
Member Communications	9,357	30,000	(20,643)	31.2%
Member Recruitment	297	10,000	(9,703)	3.0%
Outreach	0	6,000	(6,000)	0.0%
Party Development	0	0	0	-
Voter Registration	0	0	0	-
Other	0	0	0	-
Total Program Expenses	32,485	156,000	(123,515)	20.8%
Operations Committee Projects	0	0	0	-
Chair's Discretionary Fund	0	0	0	-
YTD Net Surplus (Deficit)	(3,551)	(63,500)	59,949	-
Beginning Net Surplus (Deficit)	59,657	59,657	0	-
Current Net Surplus (Deficit)	56,105	(3,843)	59,949	-

Notes:

- (1) Net of Passthroughs of \$
- (2) Net of Passthroughs of \$
- (3) Net of Passthroughs of \$2570.00
- (4) Net of Passthroughs of \$

Libertarian Party of California Statement of Net Assets As of June 30, 2006

	Unrestricted General	Restricted LPC PAC	Restricted Operation Breakthrough	Eliminations	Totals (Memo Only)
Assets					
Petty Cash					0
Cash In Bank	101,237		2,081		103,318
Accounts Receivable	32,233				32,233
Loan Receivable					0
Less Allowance For Bad Debts	(8,880)				(8,880)
Due From Funds		73	5,000	(73)	5,000
Investments	1				1
Prepaid Expenses	395				395
Other Assets					0
Total Assets	124,986	73	7,081	(73)	132,067
Liabilities					
Accounts Payable	14,458				14,458
Accrued Liabilities	23,275				23,275
Deferred Revenue	26,076				26,076
Due To Lenders			5,000		5,000
Due To Funds	5,073			(73)	5,000
Total Liabilities	68,882	0	5,000	(73)	73,809
Net Assets					
Beginning Net Assets	59,657	73	0	0	59,729
Current Year Surplus (Deficit)	(3,551)	0	2,081	0	(1,470)
Net Assets	56,105	73	2,081	0	58,259
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	124,988	73	7,081	(73)	132,068