Minutes, June 9, 2007
Executive Committee Meeting, Libertarian Party of California

Time: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Place: Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd, San Diego CA 92101
Contact: Phone: (619) 696-9800 Fax: (619) 696-1555
URL: www.lafayettehotelsd.com

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## Executive Committee Meeting

**Libertarian Party of California**

**Minutes, June 9, 2007**

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Call to Order

Chair Takenaga called meeting to order at 11:10. The call to order was delayed because of a lack of quorum at 10 a.m. due to delayed flights and unexpected traffic problems between Orange County and San Diego, plus last-minute photocopying of reports for the meeting attendees, for which the Secretary had to travel to the nearest office services business more than a mile away.

Roll call

Officers

- Chair Kevin Takenaga
- Northern Vice Chair Richard Newell
- Southern Vice Chair Zander Collier
- Secretary Beau Cain
- Treasurer Don Cowles
Representatives

- Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County
- Michael McMahon, San Bernardino County
- Ted Brown, Los Angeles County
- Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County
- Bruce Dovner, Los Angeles County
- Cam McConnell, Contra Costa County
- Jesse Thomas, San Diego County
- Matthew Barnes, San Bernardino County
- Chuck Moulton, Santa Clara County (not present)
- Mark Johnson, San Francisco County (not present at roll call, arrived 11:30)

Staff

- Office Manager Ali Martin
- Executive Director Angela Keaton

Guests

- Eric Bresson, San Bernardino County
- Dan Minkoff, Chair, Media Relations Committee
- Jerry Dixon, incoming Treasurer, San Diego
- Paul Studier, Ambassador, Orange County
- Don Patterson, Secretary, Orange County
- Lidia Seebeck, Legislative Analyst, Riverside
- Mike Seebeck, Legislative Analyst, Riverside

Public Comments and Announcements

LPC members and invited guests may address the assembly during this part of the meeting. As well, committee members may address the assembly about their activities during this part of the meeting.

San Diego Dues

Incoming San Diego Treasurer Jerry Dixon reported that San Diego received its share of dues about three weeks ago, calculated for about 19 members. However, about 16 of those were duplicate payments, and 6 members who joined last December were not included in the share. Dixon observed that apparently the accounting method used to determine the county’s shares of member dues is “poor.”

Dixon further revealed that San Diego has not yet received shares for about 20 members who joined between November and April. His e-mail inquiry sent May 11th has not yet been answered.

As well, Dixon revealed that San Diego was paid $15 instead of $30 for 6 of 19 members, but he doesn’t don’t know why.
Dixon concluded by saying that the problems have been ongoing for about two and a half years, and that a solution might be the separation of State and county dues.

**Orange County Convention**

Don Patterson of Orange County reported that Orange County had its convention about six weeks ago, and that they have a full slate of officers. Bill Todd is the new Chair, Paul Studier is the Orange County Ambassador, charged with reporting ExCom meeting to OC party, Don Patterson remains as secretary, and Andy Favor remains as Treasurer.

Patterson announced that their next meeting is Tuesday evening, and that all present are welcome to attend. He noted that ExCom members Ted Brown, Bruce Dovner, and Southern Vice Chair Collier attended the convention, and that there were 53 people present, 16 of whom paid dues.

Patterson concluded with the news that Orange County LP is preparing to operate a very active and traditional booth at the Orange County Fair, which begins in mid-July and continues for three weeks.

Chair Takenaga asked Ambassador Studier to explain his duties as an ambassador, to which Studier replied that he’s charged with reporting the activities at the LPC ExCom meeting to the members of the Orange County LP. The elected office used to be called Regional Rep, but the county members changed the name of the office.

**Legislative Analysis**

Lidia Seebeck reported that Mike, Richard, and Dan have been examining proposed legislation to determine what actions the LPC should take, if any. The effort began at the recent convention with a discussion of AB 1634, and Seebeck reported that the group now knows of several bills that need the LPC’s attention.

Seebeck reported that they’ve examined three proposed legislative items that seem most interesting.¹

Seebeck spoke about Richard Randall in Colorado who is helping increase LP Colorado visibility by examining proposed legislation and alerting the local Libertarian Party about items that need their attention. She mentioned a proposed legislation that the Libertarian Party of Colorado opposed with sufficient strength to dilute the bill so that, although it passed, was much less damaging to the LP’s efforts to promote liberty.

Seebeck stated that the examining group hopes that their efforts will help the LPC take actions that will make more people aware of us. Seebeck believes that we can do the same locally.

Seebeck concluded that the four volunteers willingly own this process, and that Mike has a gift for figuring out the implications of legislation, but they need help, and appealed for volunteers via Lidia@seebeck.us.

¹ Seebeck did not identify these three items.
Approve Agenda

- At 11:27, Brown began the process of approving the agenda by requesting about five minutes to speak about Campaign 2008 Candidate Recruitment Committee. Takenaga offered to reschedule it after Committee Formation.
- Samuels requested 5 minutes to report on Monterey County’s successful efforts against Measure A. Chair Takenaga scheduled it after Candidate Recruitment.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to reschedule the lunch break before all the Committee Reports, because Thomas’ friend, Donna, would join us around lunch time and bring important information about the Convention Committee report around lunch time.

- Collier observed that the Operations Committee report would be only one minute long, and so the lunch break could be rescheduled before all the committee reports.
- Barnes requested a point of information: is someone coming to speak at a specific time, and would that be during lunch? McConnell clarified that Donna would join the group roughly around lunch time, not at a specific time. Thomas added information that Donna was currently researching pricing information that will be helpful the convention presentation.
- Collier asked if discussing membership and the Membership Committee would be under Old Business or New Business, Takenaga noted that the Chair’s report offers a recommendation to form a Membership Committee.

**VOTE:** The altered agenda was adopted without objection.

Reports

**Officers Reports**

Chair Kevin Takenaga’s Report

Chair Takenaga’s report is attached to these minutes on page 34.

**Recommendations for Executive Committee Action**

**MOTION:** Newell moved to form a committee to perform a top-down review of membership within the LPC, with a goal stated in the chairs report. McConnell seconded.

- Dovner observed that this action has been needed for a long time, and that undertaking it will help the ExComm better allocate resources.
- Collier stated that he believed the purpose of the motion is to get membership into a committee so that the ExCom isn’t micromanaging it.
- Newell added that the goal is to do this in a rational fashion and not jump to a quick conclusion during the course of a meeting. The committee will be charged with gathering all the facts, identifying revenue streams from
members and from California Freedom, identifying expenses, so that they can make a reasoned, sound recommendation to the ExCom.

- McConnell spoke in favor of the motion. His understanding is that the committee will try to pick up from the turbulence of the Party’s recent history, with the ending of the UMP (Unified Membership Program) by the national party. He further observed that this Party and the predecessor committee didn’t really address the questions of where we get members, how do we track them, and how do we make membership grow rather than shrink, and so the formation of this committee is a logical outgrowth of the turbulent recent history of the Party’s membership.

**MOTION:** Collier offered an amendment to the motion that all membership committee meetings be publicly announced. He noted that his amendment might be premature, but that he feels it’s important to demonstrate to everyone that we’re open and that we’re trying to correct any existing problems.

- McConnell asked if the notice could be through e-mail, which Collier affirmed. McConnell seconded.
- Dovner questioned the practicality of announcing meetings that might be conducted through e-mail. People can dial into conference calls or log into chats, but if the committee’s deliberations take the form of e-mails and telephone conversations, they’ll be difficult to announce. The committee is a subcommittee that won’t necessarily hold meetings like hearings, but will likely operate less formally. They might compile an e-mail list that any Party member could subscribe to, not as a poster, but for receiving the exchanges of the subcommittee.
- Thomas suggested that posting the minutes would suffice.
- McConnell observed that such would not be the same as a notice about an upcoming meeting.
- Collier admitted that he’s not attached to the amendment.
- Secretary Cain asked if Dovner meant that announcing a meeting by e-mail would be inefficient, and Dovner clarified that he meant that it would be difficult to announce meetings if the deliberations were nothing more than e-mail exchanges and telephone calls.
- Newell suggested that those e-mail exchanges would not be meetings, and that committees can interpret how to announce their meetings, regardless of the form of the meetings.
- Barnes asked if a goal is to get more people involved and have more feedback to committee. Collier affirmed. Barnes asked if that would include some kind of referendum mechanism. Collier clarified that he would be interested just in comments from members.
- Samuels suggested announcing when there’s a physical meeting, or a formal meeting.
- Collier asked if anyone considered e-mails to be meetings. Dovner replied yes, for the purposes of doing business on the committee, because they can make motions and pass resolutions that are binding.
Chair Takenaga called for a vote on the amendment.

**VOTE:**
The motion to amend failed.

Chair Takenaga called for a vote on the main motion.

**VOTE:**
The main motion to form a committee to perform a top-down review of membership within the LPC, with goals as stated in the chair's report, passed without objection.

**ACTION:**
Chair Takenaga recommended that the Executive Committee review Robert’s Rules of Order for information about how committees operate.

### Northern Vice Chair Richard Newell’s Report
- Northern Vice Chair Newell’s report is attached to these minutes on page 37.
- There was no discussion about Northern Vice Chair Newell’s report.

Chair Takenaga asked the group informally if they wished recess or continue, since it was now 12:00 p.m. The interest, without objection, was to continue with reports until 1:00 p.m.

### Southern Vice Chair Zander Collier’s Report
- Southern Vice Chair Collier’s report is attached to these minutes on page 41.
- Collier called attention to speaking at LPLAC convention panel discussion.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking how many registered libertarians do we have now. Collier said roughly 86K.

### Secretary Beau Cain’s Report
- Secretary Cain’s report is attached to these minutes on page 43.
- At 12:12 p.m., Secretary Cain began his report by offering his apology for the delays during his first month in office, noting that immediately after the convention, he had been traveling for three weeks, and that for at least one week of that time he was unexpectedly without Internet access or a computer.
- Cain pointed out that there is apparently some confusion about voting to approve two sets of LPC ExCom minutes: the final minutes from the previous administration, and the initial minutes of the current administration. Both minutes were sent to the ExCom via e-mail at roughly the same time, and it seems that some members didn’t recognize that they were two different sets of minutes that needed separate approvals. Cain offered to send a clarifying e-mail to all voting ExCom members so that we can finish that business.
- Responding to the item in Secretary Cain’s report about Jerry Cabak’s suggestions for developing more public interest in the Libertarian Party,
Collier asked if Cabak was criticizing without making an offer to help. Cain clarified that Cabak called to discuss positive things he wished to see on the LP website. Collier queried if Cabak offered to help implement those ideas, and Cain clarified that Cabak had not offered to, but that he was going to attempt to interest him in leading a task force to research which of Cabak’s ideas were duplicated and could simply be linked to on the LPC website, and which might need to be developed.

- Dovner offered to help with investigating the possibilities for incorporating as a 527.

**ACTION:** Secretary to get 527 material from Dovner.

Chair Takenaga asked if there was objection to extending the time for questions about the Secretary’s report. There was none.

- Dovner asked if LPC has any documents that indicate what our standing is with the government. Cain replied that he will need to investigate LPC’s records before he gave a definitive answer, but it’s likely that the LPC doesn’t exist so far as the government is aware.

**ACTION:** Secretary to investigate status of LPC’s incorporation and tax-reporting status.

**Treasurer Don Cowles’ Report**

- Treasurer Cowles’ financial tables are attached to these minutes beginning on page 44
- At 12:19, Treasurer Cowles began his report by calling attention to the first page of the Libertarian Party of California’s proposed budget, which shows the proposed budget on left side of page, and notes about individual items on the right side of page.
- Cowles stated that the LPC has adopted a new system of accounting than that used by the previous administration. To the best of his ability, he calculated the figures in the proposed budget.

**Income**

- Membership Dues, $50K. This includes California Freedom subscription. The reason that San Diego County LP got only $15 for some of its new members, as San Diego Treasurer Jerry Dixon had questioned during the Public Comments and Announcements at the beginning of the meeting, is because at the March 3rd 2007 meeting, the ExCom decided that dues should be $25, plus $35 for the California Freedom subscription. So, the counties now get 60% of the $25 dues. The $35 ($30, as noted above) goes entirely to pay for the member’s share of expenses to produce California Freedom, which is listed further down in the budget.

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2 Northern Vice Chair Richard Newell’s review of the minutes correctly states that California Freedom subscriptions cost $30, not $35.
Recurring Gifts, $30K. Recurring gifts are monthly pledges. Cowles noted that the 2006 actuals on the second page of the budget, combined with what we’ve got so far this year to through May, but that this calculation is a draft because our accounting system does not yet coordinate perfectly with the DonorPerfect system that LPC uses to manage its recurring gifts. Cowles noted that Executive Director Keaton and Office Manager Martin are working to resolve remaining problems. Cowles then observed that we’ve collected only $8500 of the projected $30K for the first five months of 2007, as well as only $3800 of the projected $50K for Membership Dues for the first five months of 2007.

Newell asked if the proposed budget is the budget that we worked on at the end of the year. Cowles clarified that there were two changes that were made to that budget. Newell suggested that this budget is a derivative of the budget that former Chair Aaron Starr had submitted to the current administration, and Cowles affirmed that it is.

Barnes asked whether the budget should reflect the separation of dues from the California Freedom subscription. Cowles agreed to do that.

McConnell asked if the year the budget covers is calendar year. Cowles affirmed that it is.

Letter F: Events, $5K. We collected actually $6202 at the convention.

Letter G: Other Revenue and Support. Interest income, we do sell our mailing list a couple of times a year for $5000 an instance, bringing our total support revenue hopefully to $120K, but that figure is very, very optimistic.

Expenses

Member Recruitment, $20K. We’ve spent about $7000 to $8000 of that to send out renewal reminders and such. Cowles observed that the return was not particularly good. However, Executive Director Keaton observed that for normal non-profits, 2 – 4% is what most get for that kind of renewal announcement, and we got closer to 3% than 2%. As well, Keaton was pleased with the many $100 memberships that the renewal effort produced. Cowles then asked if another batch of renewals had recently come in, which Keaton affirmed.

Dovner asked whether the$7000 is noted in the financial report. Cowles replied that it is and it isn’t. The figure in the report is a draft figure because of such impediments as the accounting computer failed last year. Keaton added that the accounting system wasn’t adequate for LPC’s needs, and the accounting wasn’t updated frequently enough by the volunteer accountant, Monica Gutierrez. Cowles finished the explanation by adding that they were still constructing the QuickBooks program.

Direct Mail Solicitation, $20K. Cowles does not know what the 774 was, but that Other Fundraising Costs were $5K. Net support, we figure it will cost $75K to raise $120K.
• Program Expenses are rent, Angela’s pay, Ali’s pay. It costs about $70K annually to run office, which is cheap for what we get. Cowles observed that Keaton is in effect donating about $30K annually to the Party.

• Campaigns and Elections: We’ve been paying an outfit to identify elected officials who are or may be libertarians. (Cowles pointed out that Campaigns and Elections in the budget is just our term for the category (mostly OB), and that we haven't done any business with the firm of that name.) So far, we’ve paid them $4K to $6K, and we probably owe them another $4K. Barnes asked if we’ve received any results for our outlay of about $8K. Cowles reported that so far, the outfit found 6, and that the LPC was subsequently able to charge the donors who contributed to Operation Breakthrough. Barnes asked what the total per candidate was. Keaton reported $45K total in pledges, but since donors pledged different amounts, it was difficult to know the total that was raised for each candidate. However, the average raised per candidate can be calculated by dividing $45K by the number of candidates that Operation Breakthrough identified.

• Media Relations: $2K is allocated for Dan and Rich.

• Member Communications: This is for California Freedom, which costs about $2K monthly to produce and distribute, or about $1 per recipient. Last year, LPC produced only nine issues, which is why expenses for last year’s edition of California Freedom was only about $18K: LPC didn’t produce 12 issues for the 2006 edition.

• Overall, the budget shows a deficit of about $55,500.

• Johnson stated that some calculations that he’d just performed, if the revenue continues to come in at its current rate, we’d end the year with a $14K deficit, considering the amount of money we have in the bank currently.

• Cowles noted that contrary to the notion that the LPC is raising funds just to raise funds, we’re raising funds to survive, because we’re incurring an estimated $14K shortfall this year. How the LPC ExCom manages its resources this year will determine whether or not it will exist next year. Increased income this year is vital for the LPC’s survival, and reducing expense, though important, is secondary to increasing income.

• Cowles further noted that it’s important for every member of the ExCom to contribute to the financial success of the LPC, and that if any among the ExCom couldn’t donate funds, it is incumbent on them to attempt to find someone else who can contribute the funds that are necessary for our survival.

• Chair Takenaga explained that a discussion about the budget is scheduled later in the agenda. The current ExCom was supposed to ratify the budget at their initial meeting at the convention, but did not due to time constraints. However, the by-laws allow the ExCom to operate with the final budget produced by the previous administration.
If the current ExCom adopts the budget, we can change it as we need to. Adopting it will take a majority vote of the ExCom, and changing it later will take a two-thirds majority vote.

- Brown suggested that it will be better to wait until later in the meeting to address the budget so that we can discuss individual line items.
- Dovner suggested that it would be good to discuss the budget during lunch, as well.
- Cowles concluded by reporting that there were a number of recurring donors who had lapsed in their contribution because no one last year contacted them to renew such things as expired credit cards. He noted that he must have made 50 phone calls attempting to get donors to renew their recurring contributions. As well, if anyone on the ExCom is not able to contribute $40 monthly, the LPC can benefit from as little as $10 monthly.

**LNC Region 2 Representatives’ Report**

- Aaron and M are the LNC Region 2 Representatives, but neither of them were informed about the need to submit a report. At 12:34, Chair Takenaga presented a report on their behalf.
- The First Alternate Representative spot is open, and Scott Lieberman is Second Alternate Representative. Complicating the matter is the situation of Aaron Starr holding two seats on the Board, those of Treasurer and Region 2 Representative, and as a result of the national by-laws, we only have one vote even though Starr is holding two seats. Brown stated that he thinks he’d have to resign as Regional Rep or as Treasurer, but Takenaga noted that the by-laws don’t say so.
- The previous administration negotiated an agreement to form a region until 2008 with Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, because we don’t have enough sustaining members (those who’ve donated $25 or more) on our own to have two representatives on the LNC. As a result of the agreement, the LPC can appoint all four reps, if it chooses. Authority to appoint derives from the convention, but wasn’t done at most recent convention, and so it is incumbent on the current ExCom to do so.
- Unidentified asked if anyone from Oregon or Washington wants to be an alternate. Takenaga reported that he contacted Ruth Bennett as a possibility for a representative, but hasn’t received a response.
- Barnes asked if LNC delegates are to be appointed by the ExCom. Takenaga clarified that the convention is the body that elects the delegates to serve, but since the convention didn’t get time to do so, and because the Party is between conventions, ExCom is responsible for choosing representatives. Barnes asked whether this is the State Representative, not the delegates, and Chair Takenaga affirmed. The representatives from our region are Aaron Starr and M Carling, with a vacancy in the First Alternate position, and Scott Lieberman in the Second Alternate position.
Executive Director Angela Keaton’s Report

- Executive Director Angela Keaton’s report is attached to these minutes on page 48.
- At 12:39, Keaton began by announcing that the first reports from DonorPerfect to the Chair and the Treasurer should be submitted by June 15. Hopefully by June 30, counties can see all new reports. The donor tracking software now has many fields to help qualify the information in each record.
- The meeting with Treasurer Cowles before he went on vacation helped clarify fundraising methods and financial goals, and identified some overlap between the Executive Director and the Treasurer. Keaton iterated that there are other methods of donating funds besides regular financial contributions. Donor research and development will be a very large part of LPC’s efforts this summer.
- As well, Keaton is looking forward to retrieving the information from Kent Hymus about elected office holders, so that by the end of summer (possibly sooner) she can give Chair Takenaga a report on not just Libertarian office holders, but also on others who are potential converts.
- Keaton reported that DonorPerfect allows identification of whether a member subscribes to California Freedom, so unlike fixed costs of producing and distributing the newspaper, this capability can help reduce that expense.
- Keaton reported that she received bids to produce a variety of state party publications, including one for a magazine. Walden dropped our contract because they now produce only large orders of 10K or more copies. Miller Press in Georgia is a good candidate to publish California Freedom, submitted a bid that was within the range of what we were paying Walden Press, and they were professional and quick, and seemed to work very well with new Editor Sipos. Because the costs aren’t going to rise due to changing printers, LPC shouldn’t have to terminate layout editor.
- While setting up DonorPerfect, LPC used an outside accountant, Joe Kennedy, who was a little expensive, which led to Aaron Starr picking up some of the DonorPerfect work. However, Keaton reports having learned a lot about financials, and so LPC should have to rely on Kennedy’s services only occasionally now.
- Keaton reported that her observation about donor attrition matches that of Treasurer Cowles’, that donors stopped giving mostly because no one was following up on changes in the donors’ mechanisms from year to year. People want to give, but LPC must approach them and pursue them for donations. Keaton expects a quite nice mailing to go out near the end of June, asking recipients to join the Coffee Club.
- Keaton concluded that she’s excited to see the results of the Hynes report and the DonorPerfect report this summer.
• Collier questioned about the line item in the budget for Campaigns and Elections that includes payment to the entity from which LPC gets Operation Breakthrough information. Collier asked if it’s the same entity as the one that produces the campaigns and elections magazine, which Keaton denied uncertainly.

• Brown asked why, if we’re no longer tied to publishing with the national Libertarian Party, we use a Georgia firm instead of California printing and fulfillment service. Keaton replied that the reason is price and quality. Keaton had Market Share, a libertarian owned firm, compile a budget. If some haven’t received paper copies of California Freedom, there may be reasons other than the distance from the printer. Brown asked if the problem is with the printer or with the mailing house. Keaton replied that the Georgia printer is also fulfilling the mailing requirements, dropping the shipments at the post office.

• Dovner asked regarding membership and renewals whether that goes to renewals or to a separate list including lapsed members? Keaton replied that it goes to lapsed members all the way to 2000 or 2001. Dovner asked what the percentage is, which Keaton revealed is 2 to 3 percent. Dovner asked if we make money on that, and Keaton offered that the LPC is going to do a little better than break even. Dovner asked how many solicitations came back marked addressee unknown, to which Keaton responded not many, and surprisingly few. The surprising responses were those items that were returned marked “Recipient Deceased.”

• Keaton reported that, incidental to the mail returned from deceased members, membership is much older than it used to be, and the LPC is not bringing in many youngsters.

• Brown stated that 2 or 3 percent seems to be an abysmal return for long-time members who’ve been receiving our appeals for years, and that he would expect more than 10 percent for a long-term group of recipients. Further discussion revealed that some recipients mistakenly believed that the money they contributed to the national Party was supposed to be shared with the state party. Cowles commented that he contacted someone in San Diego who said she gave her money to Edward [at the national level].

**MOTION:** Barnes called Chair Takenaga’s attention to a guest who wished to speak, and moved that Jerry Dixon be allowed to speak, since he had addressed a similar concern in his comments at the beginning of the meeting.

**VOTE:** Chair Takenaga agreed, without objection.

• Jerry Dixon asked if LPC had talked to the accountant about accounting dues, since the LPC itself seemed unable to do it well. Keaton replied no, and that she won’t because she does not wish to spend that much money on accounting services. She prefers to keep the service in-house as much as possible. Keaton observed that the dues collection process had already become so complicated that some counties were collecting dues, not
forwarding them to the state, and then asking for their share. Keaton also observed that San Diego likely had the best dues paperwork, with Orange County and Sacramento coming in second and third. Keaton opined that she would never have structured the dues collection and tracking process the way it’s currently structured, because it’s asking for problems. She also stated her hope that the new system will make it better.

**MOTION:** Newell moved to extend time 2 minutes. McConnell seconded

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to amend 5 minutes, seconded by several.

**VOTE:** The amendment to increase the time for discussion from 2 minutes to 5 minutes passed without objection.

**VOTE:** The main motion to extend the Executive Director’s Report discussion time passed without objection.

- Newell asked for plans for additional membership renewal mailings. Keaton described in detail the renewal letter cycle for Sept, Nov, Feb, and March. Newell asked if we’re giving up on the 2007 cycle. Keaton agreed that would be appropriate, and recommends it. Newell, how many members do we have for 2007, Keaton doesn’t know, and reported that there’s one state member who persists in stating that the LPC has only 700 members, which isn’t the case, because over 2500 people receive California Freedom. Even though we don’t know exactly how many actual members the LPC currently has, it hurts fundraising efforts when a member states that there are only 700 members. Publishing such arbitrary statements as facts produce a perception that’s very hard to overcome. Dovner asked if Keaton had spoken with that person, to try to get him or her to stop publishing arbitrary statements about our membership numbers. Keaton replied that pursuing that person and attempting to make them stop would not be the best use of the money that we pay her to run our office, or of her time.

- Chair Takenaga called time on the discussion, and thanked Executive Director Keaton for her extraordinary efforts on the party’s behalf.

**Office Manager Ali Martin’s Report**

- At 1:02 p.m., Office Manager Ali Martin described her background. She’s a student at Marymount College. Her office duties include processing everything and answering phone calls. She can work from home, and is helping get office files in order while she’s in the office. Once finished with processing renewals, she can make more progress in organizing office.

- Executive Director Keaton interjected at this point of Office Manager Martin’s report that Director McMahon voluntarily removed heavy items from the office, and in the process found many supply items (stationery in particular) that will save the Party an estimated $1000 in replacement
costs. She and the Executive Committee expressed their thanks do Director McMahon for his extra efforts.

- Collier asked if filing is an impediment because of a lack of proper equipment. Martin replied no, that the cabinets only needed to be cleaned out and reorganized. McConnell humorously suggested that maybe we need to get more trash cans.

Chair Takenaga asked if there were more questions, which brought no response. Chair Takenaga called for recess at 1:05, and asked to reconvene at 2:20 p.m.

Chair Takenaga previewed the remaining business of Committee Reports, Old Business, New Business, which needs time to discuss the budget, the scheduled Focus Discussion about the LPC’s goals for this year, and forming committees. The sixty-day deadline for electing the By-laws Committee is approaching, and there are permanent standing Program and Audit committees that need to be elected. Two remaining agenda items are for candidate recruitment, and for Samuel’s report on the successful defeat of Measure A in Monterey County.

MOTION: Secretary Cain moved to recess until 2:20 p.m. Barnes seconded. McConnell requested that members review his report on Convention Committee during lunch.

VOTE: The motion to recess passed without objection, and the meeting was recessed at 1:12 p.m.

Lunch Break

Old Business

Chair Takenaga reconvened the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

Committee Reports

Operations Committee

- Committee Chair Takenaga reported no activity for the Operations Committee.

Convention Planning Committee 2008

- The Convention Planning Committee 2008’s report is attached to these minutes on page 49.
- Chair McConnell reports that at the end of the previous admin former Chair Starr signed a contract for a cruise for next year’s convention, which has not been delivered to the vendor. The current ExCom can deliver the signed contract or not, as we wish. The contract as written requires a deposit of $25 per berth, with an estimated 200 berths. That would be an outlay of $5K that the LPC would then need to recoup by selling berths on
the cruise to convention attendees. McConnell observed that 200 seems unrealistic based on recent convention attendance.

- Next year is presidential election year, which means that the LP will select a presidential nominee. We anticipate CA will provide largest number of delegates to the National Convention, but if we choose to have a cruise convention, we’d place an undue burden of a 4-day cruise on many of our aspiring presidential candidates.
- McConnell observed that the same 4 day obligation applies to any speakers who we might wish to invite to present at the convention, which could make it difficult for the LPC to interest speakers in participating in the convention.
- McConnell concluded that part of his report by describing the suggested cruise convention as “cumbersome”, and suggested that the LPC attempt to find an on-land location for the convention. To that end, he identified Jesse Thomas’ efforts to research suitable venues in San Diego, and expressed his interest in handing off the chairmanship to Thomas.
- McConnell reports that Thomas’ research suggests organizing a convention in San Diego, because it’s easy to get to by air, and has many attractive visitor opportunities for families.
- The report also suggests holding the nominating convention over Presidents’ Day Weekend, as has been traditionally done before, in San Diego to give attendees a long weekend for the event, and to give families a good opportunity for a vacation.
- McConnell concluded his report with three recommendations:
  - That the LPC not deliver the signed contract to the cruise vendor
  - That instead the LPC elect to organize the 2008 LPC convention in San Diego over Presidents’ Day Weekend
  - That the LPC produce the convention as an in-house event rather than hiring an outside contractor. The background about that is that the previous administration claimed that the convention always loses money, but last year’s convention, which was produced in-house and netted a profit of $1800, which was paid to contractor Terry Floyd. This success required careful budgeting and sticking to plans, and McConnell is prepared to be the conduit by which this experience is passed on to the next convention organizing committee.
- McConnell yielded the rest of his scheduled report time to Thomas.
- Thomas described three main options: Town and Country, Marina Village (SDLP has good experience with this venue), and Mission Bay. Town and Country is attractive, but is perhaps the priciest venue reviewed. Marina Village is the most affordable. Mission Bay is new, roomy, and more affordable than Town and Country, but offers no accommodations or catering.
- Another option is the new Naval training facility, which is unusual, roomy and very affordable, but it provides no accommodations or catering.
- Thomas stated that of the four possibilities, he was leaning toward either the Naval training facility or the Marina Village.
• Thomas then mentioned another venue that he doesn’t know much about at this point, in Horton Plaza, located in downtown San Diego, very convenient to a lot of entertainment, with many meeting rooms, the largest accommodating 1200 people and the smallest accommodating 23.

• Brown mentioned that in the past the LPC had difficulties with venues not being available on Presidents’ Day Weekend. He asked if all the venues under investigation are available for that date in 2008. Thomas asked committee member Donna, and she reported that Marina Village is available now, but that she hasn’t received a response from Town and Country yet.

• Holtz asked if we knew that our possession of the signed contract ensured that it had not been faxed or otherwise transmitted to the cruise vendor. Takenaga replied that he had discussions with Starr that indicated that no one has submitted the signed contract. Takenaga further explained that even though the previous Executive Committee had made a binding decision, they do not have authority to act currently.

• Johnson asked what the proposed timeline is for getting everything decided, assuming that we decide to do everything in-house, such as picking dates, signing contracts, and such. McConnell replied that he believes it’s incumbent on the current ExCom to decide on a land-based convention, and that we include the decision to chose San Diego as the venue, and authorizing the chair to orchestrate the Convention Planning Committee to go in that direction.

• Dovner asked if all options will be at conference centers except for the Dana, necessitating delegates finding accommodations elsewhere. Thomas clarified that the Town and Country is the hotel convention facility.

• Holtz asked if dates for the cruise were announced, raising the possibility that some may have booked passage already? Several spoke, but none said they’d seen the dates published, and so it’s unlikely that anyone had booked passage for the cruise.

MOTION: Brown moved to reconsider the motion to contract a cruise for the convention, McConnell seconded. Takenaga ruled that a motion to reconsider must happen at the same session at which the original motion is raised, and that the current Executive Committee can decide to change the decision of a previous Executive Committee. Secretary Cain asked if this will need to be a new main motion. Chair Takenaga explained that someone can move to amend or repeal the previous decision, since most everyone on the Executive Committee is present, and that the committee chair can make that recommendation without a second. McConnell made the suggested recommendation. Johnson asked as a point of information whether we needed to overturn or do anything else to the previous motion. Takenaga clarified that we need only adopt a new motion. Takenaga then asked McConnell to reveal the other option for the cruise.
• McConnell said that the other possibility for a cruise would be to use a smaller number of possible attendees, but include something like a county officers’ convocation.

MOTION: McConnell moved to adopt the recommendation to not submit the contract for the cruise convention, to abrogate it, and to consider a land-based convention in its place for the 2008 nominating convention as an in-house operation, as opposed to contracting an outside manager.

• Barnes says the State has an obligation to produce the business part of the event, and that it’s unwise to offer it to an outside contractor.

• Johnson asks if the committee will manage the convention or if we don’t yet know who will be running it. McConnell said Thomas will be the committee chair for organizing the convention and already has volunteers to produce the event, according to the Appendix A in his report.

• Thomas explained that he’s more than enthusiastic to adopt the recommendation and to work with McConnell in transferring knowledge from the experience of the recent convention in San Ramon.

• Barnes asked if in-house mean just the business part of the convention being planned and financed by the State or the entire convention, including entertainment, speakers, and such. McConnell replied the entire convention because they believe it’s probably very difficult to separate the two.

• Samuels asked if this means that the local organization would be left out. Thomas affirmed that there will be plenty of opportunity for local volunteers to serve as part of the subcommittee.

• Collier asked how many individuals active in San Diego have expressed interest in participating on the committee? Thomas replied that he hasn’t publicized the opportunity because he was unsure of the outcome of today’s meeting, but has received several offers of interest.

• Barnes made a recommendation for discussion. The previous model was to have a contractor because as libertarians we know that someone who is motivated by profit is going to try to do a good job and be responsible with the budget while making everything happen. In that vein, it might be a good idea for the State to provide a budget for the business meeting aspects of the convention. In this model the ExCom would provide the contractor the parameters that need to be met for business being done, and the rest would be on the convention organizers so that they could, if they wish to make a profit with value-added services within the convention.

• Chair Takenaga asked if Barnes was speaking for or against the motion. Barnes then clarified that he was speaking in favor of the motion, with the possibility of an amendment. He then clarified that it’s an amendment, and asked for help from the Secretary. Northern Vice Chair Newell offered the point of order that we were debating an item for which there is no motion. Chair Takenaga said the point is well taken and directed the discussion back to the main motion.
MOTION:  There was an unidentified calling of the question, seconded by Collier. McConnell moved for the previous question, with an unidentified second.

VOTE:  The motion to move for the previous question passed with no opposition.

MOTION:  Barnes moved to amend, and Chair Takenaga ruled the motion out of order because the main motion is a called question.

VOTE:  The main motion to adopt the recommendation to not submit the contract for the cruise convention, to abrogate it, and to consider a land-based convention in its place for the 2008 nominating convention as an in-house operation, as opposed to contracting an outside manager passed without opposition.

- Newell noted that under the new paradigm, the ExCom may need to allocate seed money and some spending authority for the Convention Planning Committee.

Media Relations Subcommittee
- Media Relations Committee Chair Dan Minkoff’s report is attached to these minutes on page 54.
- At 3:07 p.m., Media Relation Committee Chair Minkoff began his report by recognizing Newell for doing a good job with media relations for the past two years, adding valuable systemization to the operation.
- Collier asked how high an office has to be to be considered “significant.” Minkoff replied that it’s hard to define, but it’s like the Supreme Court’s description of pornography, “we know it when we see it.” Surely, city or county level offices are significant. Such announcements don’t need to be sent to the entire state list, it can be localized.
- Chair Takenaga recommended contacting some local county parties for about their PR operations.
- McConnell asked if the LPC has a candidate coordinator for the current year. Takenaga denied that we do.

California Freedom Newspaper Editor
- Keaton reported that the new newspaper editor, Thomas Sipos, is remarkably effective at producing items within stated timeframes.
- The July issue is all but done, awaiting inspirational columns from herself and from the Chair.
- Brown noted that despite some complaints he had read online about the issue, he finds the online issue to be very good and nothing to complain about.
- Barnes stated that he’s very impressed with current issue.

ExComm Vacancies
- Chair Takenaga reported that there are two alternate at-large vacancies on the LPC ExCom.
- Samuels suggested Mark Selzer. Barnes seconded.
• Newell nominated Dan Minkoff, McConnell seconded.
• Johnson asked if these needed to be decided today. Takenaga replied no.
• Johnson asked if there will be a run-off vote if we get three candidates, or if we’ll vote on each candidate separately. Takenaga ruled that there will be a run-off, because NOTA is always an option.

MOTION: McConnell moved to close the nominations, Samuels seconded.

• Discussion prompted the observation that there were only two nominees for two positions.

VOTE: The motion to close the nominations passed with no objection.

• Chair Takenaga ruled that the vote would be by secret ballot, and that NOTA is an option.

MOTION: Brown moved to accept the two nominations without voting. Barnes seconded.

• Johnson suggested that since there’s no requirement to fill the positions today, the ExCom should be able to consider each candidate individually, and by IRV could be able to knock one or both of them down.
• Barnes raised a point of information, asking if IRV would knock any candidate off the ballot, since there are only two of them.
• Dovner observed that if NOTA took first place in IRV, theoretically that would knock both candidates off the ballot.
• Takenage ruled motion out of order, because there is a ranking in the by-laws that requires the ExCom to vote a preference.

MOTION: Johnson moved to amend that we consider each candidate separately, and select them by simple majority. Dovner offered that Johnson moved to split the question or divide the question.

• Barnes questioned whether dividing the question would fulfill the by-laws’ requirement to rank the candidates.
• Brown replied with a point of order that the vote could be a first and second pass, up or down, for each position. Chair Takenaga rule that the motion is not well taken, and asked Johnson if he is making a motion to amend. Johnson explained that the goal of his motion is to be able to consider each candidate separately, and he doesn’t know the proper procedure and so turns to the Chair for help.

VOTE: The motion to amend died for lack of a second.

• Chair Takenaga asked Secretary Cain to repeat the main motion under consideration. Cain read that Brown moved to accept the two nominees without vote.

MOTION: Holtz moved to divide the election and fill the two seats separately. McConnell seconded.
• Barnes raised a point of order about striking down Brown’s motion because it did not rank the individual candidates, and questioned whether this motion addressed that [ranking]. Chair Takenaga said yes, but both Newell and Barnes disagreed. McConnell explained that Holtz’s motion would be to vote for the two candidates and NOTA in one election, then to vote for the remaining candidate and NOTA in a second election. McConnell explained that it is a motion to divide the election into two passes.

• Speaking for the motion, Holtz explained that there are two distinct offices, so there needs to be two distinct elections.

• Speaking against the motion, Dovner, explained that a single ranked vote would either elect the two candidates, or would necessitate only one other vote.

• Johnson spoke against Dovner’s explanation saying that such a vote doesn’t allow voters to choose one candidate that they do want and not choose one candidate they don’t want.

• Holtz explained that what he thinks Dovner meant is that if we changed the semantics of the election from NOTA to “One of the Above”, then these two positions could be filled in one vote.

• Barnes asked to call the question, with two seconds.

VOTE: The motion to call the question passed with one objection.

VOTE: The main motion to divide the election and fill the positions separately passed with one objection.

• Chair Takenaga ruled that the vote nullified the nominations, and that nominations for First Alternate were reopened.

• Dan Minkoff and Mark Selzer were nominated

MOTION: McConnell moved to close nominations, seconded by Newell.

VOTE: The motion to close nominations carried with one objection.

• The result of the secret ballot was Dan Minkoff 12 votes, Mark Selzer 1 vote, abstain 1. Both Newell and Chair Takenaga observed that since Alternate Chuck Moulton wasn’t present, Alternate Minkoff was seated immediately.


MOTION: Johnson moved to close nominations, and McConnell seconded.

VOTE: The motion to close nominations for Second Alternate passed without objection.

• With permission, Secretary Cain announced that the result of the secret ballot was Selzer 11 votes, and NOTA 4 votes.

ACTION: Secretary is to notify Mark Selzer of his election to Second Alternate.
Business Cards

- At 3:38 p.m., Collier expressed everyone’s approval of the business cards, which prompted a round of applause for Executive Director Keaton.
- Keaton pointed out that Newell designed the cards, which prompted a round of applause for Northern Vice Chair Newell.

National Credentialing Committee

- At 3:40 p.m., Takenaga reported that he informed the National Credentialing Committee that the LPC ExCom appointed Cory Nott and Camden McConnell as alternate.

New Business

Approve 2007 Convention Minutes

- At 3:41 p.m., Secretary Cain explained that both the minutes of the 2007 convention and the minutes of the current administration’s initial ExCom meeting were e-mailed to the ExCom only a day or two apart, and that apparently misled some ExCom members to think that one was a duplicate of the other. Because of this, many ExCom members haven’t yet voted on one or the other of the minutes.
- Chair Takenaga asked Secretary Cain to re-send the minutes of the 2007 convention to the ExCom for a vote of approval.
- Holtz stated that he compared the minutes of Secretaries Wiener and Cain, and observed almost no difference, if that would help others on the ExCom decide to adopt the minutes at this meeting.

MOTION: McConnell moved to adopt the minutes, Brown seconded. McMahon called the question.

VOTE: The motion to adopt the minutes of the 2007 convention passed with one objection by Collier, who stated that he had not read them.

Budget Ratification

- At 3:44 p.m., Chair Takenaga reminded the ExCom that the LPC by-laws allow the previous Executive Committee to project a budget at the end of the year for the ensuing Executive Committee, which is ratified at the meeting after the state convention. Therefore, the current ExCom should have ratified the budget at the state convention, but didn’t, and should do so now.
- Brown asked Treasurer Cowles about the deficit and the pledges from Operation Breakthrough for about $45K which doesn’t seem to be reflected anywhere in the budget. Cowles replied that the pledges were recorded as receivables. Johnson asked if there was a cash flow statement with the budget. Brown observed that we only have a bank account. Johnson asked to know how much is in the receivable account and how much we expect to collect. Cowles replied that he wasn’t sure because it was Aaron who had entered the
figure, but that it was about $35K to 40K. Cowles pointed out that that’s why there’s a $10K Bad Debt. On the Balance Sheet under Accounts Receivable $51,569, and Allowance for Bad debts (people not paying their pledge), and so $41,569 has been put through as a receivable and was recorded as income on last year’s books. Brown stated that it affects our bank balance, but not our budget.

- Treasurer explained that we operate under an accrual basis, because Starr, who is an accountant, set up the accounting system that way. and that there are negative accruals such as Life Memberships. However, the current Treasurer wishes to change to a cash basis in order to correct the difficulties that accrual-basis accounting presents. Regardless, Treasurer Cowles stated that we do know that the LPC is in a very precarious position.

- Brown asked if this means that we’re looking at adopting a $55,500 deficit that in reality (a cash accounting basis) would be only about $11K. Cowles affirmed that idea, adding that the $11K is coming in. Johnson added that any money we don’t collect will be added to the $55K in receivables. Treasurer Cowles stated that we can’t know our financial situation exactly right now, but that he hopes to have an accurate accounting around the end of June.

- Holtz asked about the 2006 Actuals Performance-Based Gifts, $43K, and whether that correspond to the $41K. Treasurer Cowles affirmed that it does correspond. Holtz then questioned whether those 2006 Actuals aren’t really actuals, and Treasurer Cowles agreed that they are an accrual, not cash money in the bank. Holtz asked if that is the projection of money that we were expecting from Operation Breakthrough, and Treasurer Cowles affirmed that it is.

- McConnell asked Chair Takenaga if it would be in order to move to convert to a cash accounting basis and have the Treasurer provide a report at the next ExCom meeting, but it was decided that this action needed no motions because the choice of accounting system is the Treasurer’s purview.

- Treasurer Cowles stated that he intends to convert the accounting method and to provide a Cash Flow Projection.

**MOTION:** Cowles moved to adopt the budget as shown on page one. Brown? seconded.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to amend by adding a $5K expenditure for the convention, since that is the amount of the deposit that would have been required for the cruise, and he has no other mechanism for determining a dollar figure, but the ExCom agreed earlier that there should be a budget item and an expenditure authority for the convention committee. Samuels seconded. Treasurer Cowles noted that this item will be under E on the budget under consideration.

- Barnes raised a point of information, asking what the ramifications would be by not adopting the budget now. Takenaga clarified that LPC by-laws state that we can still continue operating under the current budget.

- Dovner asked if the item goes under the General Fund on the first page or under Proposed Budget on the second page. Treasurer Cowles clarified that they are the same thing. It was then observed that funds were already
budgeted for the convention under Convention JS Administrative, and therefore a new line item would be redundant.

- McConnell asked to revise the motion to say “increase the convention budget expenditure by $5K,” adding that the $1500 budgeted under Convention JS Administrative are costs not related to organizing the convention itself, they’re Party related costs.

**MOTION:** Newell moved to amend the amendment to “add $5K” rather than “be $5K”. Brown seconded. McConnell called the question on the amendment to the amendment.

- Collier spoke against the amendment to the amendment, because he’s not convinced we need to allocate $6500 instead of $5000.
- Johnson raised a point of order, stating that this isn’t germane to the amendment. Others disagreed, and Chair Takenaga ruled in favor of Collier’s objection.
- McConnell spoke in favor of the amendment to the amendment, by saying that the $5K is a somewhat arbitrary figure being equal to the amount required for the deposit for the cruise, and the $1500 is already in the budget as administrative costs that the Party will incur for the convention, and the two needed to be combined.

**VOTE:** The amendment to the amendment passed with one objection, changing the wording of the main motion to “add $5K” to the line item in question, bringing it to a total of $6500.

- Holtz questioned McConnell, asking if it would make sense to add an item representing the money that the convention is going to take in. Brown clarified that we won’t collect that money until next year, and Treasurer Cowles added that the LPC is trying to get away from the accrual method of accounting.

**VOTE:** The amendment passed without objection, and the ExCom continued to consider the main motion to ratify the budget with the amended projected expenditure for the convention.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to table the adoption of the budget, seconded by Johnson.

- Newell raised a point of order asking if the motion is to table the ratification of the budget forever. Takenaga initially said no, but then said that it would be until the ExCom decided to reconsider it.
- Dovner raised a point of information, asking if the by-laws compel the ExCom to have the budget in place at this time. Takenaga stated that we are allowed to operate under the budget projected last year. Newell observed that until we adopt the budget, the ExCom will have no authority to expend funds on the convention.

**VOTE:** The motion to table the adoption of the budget failed.
• Johnson raised a point of order after the vote began, asking if there was to be no debate on the main motion of adopting the amended budget. Takenaga ruled that the point is well taken and opened the floor for debate.

• Johnson spoke against adopting the amended budget because it will be fiscally irresponsible and gave figures for why this budget will leave us financially impaired. The two largest line items are Membership Dues and Recurring Gifts, which total $80K. LPC has collected only $12K so far this year, or about 15% of $80K. So even if the LPC does well and collects as much as 50% of the $80K, that leaves $40K in addition to the existing $55K deficit. Johnson stated that he’s against tabling the adoption of the budget, but does not feel comfortable adopting it with a deficit.

• Secretary Cain asked what would prevent the ExCom from revising the budget as needed if we adopt it as is. Several answered that we can always revise the budget. Cain stated his point that the budget is only a map, not the territory, and that we will redraw the map as we discover the territory.

• Dovner asked about the projected performance of Membership Dues and Recurring Gifts, and attempted some calculations based on a 12/5ths ratio.

• Treasurer Cowles asked everyone to look the top of the line, Revenue, that Johnson was working from, and then also consider the next line, which shows how little the LPC spent, only $5652 out of $45K.

• Holtz stated that he shares Mark’s concerns, but also suggests that by voting on the proposed budget, we’re also voting to make some changes in the budget. He suggested that if Treasurer Cowles could characterize those changes, it might make the budget seem more palatable to Johnson and others who oppose it.

• McConnell observed that it’s worth our while to remember that while some expenses and revenues occur at uniform rates, there are others that don’t. Because the membership year runs from January 1 through December 31 for everyone, we can expect to see greater income at year’s end than at other times. He warned that the ExCom should be very careful about extending projections according to set ratios.

• Newell asked for confirmation from Holtz and McConnell about some questions, but first pointed out to McConnell that if the budget is accrual based, then the projected income will show up on next year’s budget, not this year’s. Addressing Dovner’s projections based on a 12/5ths ratio, Newell agreed that the LPC has likely collected all that they’re going to on membership for 2007. On the other hand, Recurring Gifts can increase if the ExCom works very hard to sign up donor for programs such as the Coffee Club.

• Barnes stated that he can’t approve a budget based on fantasy, and would prefer to compare this budget with one based on a cash accounting basis so we can make informed decision.

• Samuels observed that his church always compiles a fantasy budget each year, adopts a deficit, and works hard to overcome it. He observed that it’s very common for non-profits to adopt deficit budgets in order to know what they have to achieve.
• Newell agreed that the budget is deplorable, but the question under consideration is either to adopt the existing budget that the previous ExCom gave us, or to adopt the budget as amended, not whether to adopt a budget with a deficit. Voting no means adopting the budget left us by the previous administration, instead of adopting the one with the amended expenditures for the convention.
• Dovner asked to hear what other comments Johnson had to say.
• Johnson stated that the situation is worse than originally projected. In his original projection, he mistakenly used the Cash figure for May 2006 instead of the cash figure for May 2007, which is only $30K. So if we adopt the budget and follow it and it occurs as planned, we end the year with only $15,819 in the bank.
• Barnes observed that if we adopt the budget with this knowledge of losing money over the year, we’re likely to work hard to bring in even more money.
• Secretary Cain pointed out to Johnson that, using Johnson’s words “if we adopt this budget and follow it,” adopting this budget is not a mandate to follow that budget. Adopting this budget is almost immaterial, because we can change it as we go, as we need to, and of course we’re all aware that we should, and it’s very likely that we will if we ever adopt it.
• Dovner agreed, but still preferred that we adopt a realistic budget instead, and asked if Johnson has corrected figures.
• Treasurer Cowles pointed out that this is a draft budget, we’re still in the middle of fixing books.

**VOTE:** Chair Takenaga called for the vote, and Secretary Cain read the motion to ratify the budget as amended. A voice vote indicated that the motion passed with few objections.

• Brown called for a roll call vote for the record, since this is about adopting the budget.

**MOTION:** Collier moved for a role call vote, and Samuels seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion for a roll call vote for adopting the budget passed with one objection.

The results of the roll call vote follows.

- Barnes nay
- Brown aye
- Cain aye
- Collier aye
- Cowles aye
- Dovner abstain
- Holtz nay
- Johnson nay
- McConnell aye
- McMahon abstain
• Minkoff aye
• Newell aye
• Samuels aye
• Thomas aye

**VOTE:** 9 for, 3 opposed, 2 abstained. Takenaga then cast a vote for, giving 2/3rds approval for adopting the amended budget.

**MOTION:** Brown moved to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to move the Formation of Committees ahead of the 2007 Focus Discussion, McConnell seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda passed with one objection.

### Formation of Committees

#### Bylaws Committee

- Takenaga read the description of what the By-laws Committee does, Article 14, Section 2, page 9 of the LPC’s by-laws. As well, he read Article 25 about the amendment of by-laws.
- McConnell nominated M Carling for chair, Takenaga ruled the “chair” part of the nomination out of order, and McConnell restated the nomination.
- Brown raised a point of order asking if it’s appropriate for M Carling to serve on the Judicial Committee and the By-laws Committee. Takenaga stated that there’s no limitation for serving on the By-laws Committee.
- Holtz nominated Aaron Starr.
- Collier nominated Jerry Dixon.
- Brown nominated Bob Weber.
- Barnes nominated Mike McMahon.
- Samuels nominated Starchild.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to close nominations, Samuels seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion to close nominations for the By-laws committee passed with two objections.

- Newell raised a point of order, asking to clarify the voting process, to vote for five of the six nominees, ranked order, and voting for NOTA mean you can’t vote for anyone else.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to suspend the rules and reopen nominations, seconded by Holtz.

**VOTE:** The motion to reopen nominations for the By-laws Committee passed with few objections.

- Barnes nominated Mike Seebeck.
• Holtz nominated Dan Wiener

**MOTION:** Newell moved to close nominations, McConnell seconded.

**VOTE:** Motion to close nominations for the By-laws Committee passed with no objections.

- Brown suggested having a guest collect and tally the ballots in order to prevent further delays in conducting business.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking if these ballots are to be ranked. McConnell explained that the candidates are ranked by the number of votes they receive.

**VOTE:** Results: Cowles 12, McMahon 11, with Carling, Seebeck, and Wiener tied at 9. Those five comprise the By-laws Committee. The remaining votes were: Weber 8, Dixon 5, Starr 4, Starchild 2.

**ACTION:** Secretary shall inform M Carling, Mike Seebeck, and Dan Wiener of their appointments to the committee.

**Program Committee**

- At 4:29 p.m., Chair Takenaga read by-laws description of the Program Committee duties from page 11, Section 1, and Section 2. He then deferred to Dovner, who chaired the most recent Program Committee.
- Dovner reported that a program is in place, and that the last committee did not recommend any changes. The committee is charged with devising a program to bring public closer to the LPC, and to get legislators to support our principles. The program isn't about developing internal Party policy to implement change, but about the policies we would like to see adopted by the legislature that would take society closer to that envisioned in the Platform.
- McConnell asked if we're accepting nomination for the Program Committee, and Dovner added that the committee currently consists of himself, Holtz, Curt Cornell, and Dan Fernandez, and Marty Swinney.
- Collier asked about the success of the current program. Dovner replied that they produced a program that was adopted by the LPC.
- Takenaga opened nominations for the Program Committee.
- Brown nominated Bruce Dovner
- Dovner nominated Brian Holtz
- McConnell nominated Curt Cornell
- Newell nominated Johnson, who declined
- Barned nominated Eric Bresson
- Brown nominated Marty Swinney
- McMahon nominated Barnes

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to close nominations, Brown seconded.
VOTE: The motion to close the nominations for the Program Committee passed without objection.

VOTE: Results: Dovner 13, Barnes 11, Holtz and Bresson tied with 9, Cornell 8. The committee is comprised of those five. The remaining votes were 7 Swinney, 1 NOTA

ACTION: Secretary to notify Curt Cornell of his election to the Program Committee.

Audit Committee

- At 4:41 p.m., Chair Takenaga read the by-laws description of the Audit Committee, Finance and Accounting, Section 7, on page 6.
- Nominations opened. Takenaga reported that the last time the Audit Committee reported was in 2005.
- At that point in the discussion, Executive Director Keaton announced that the results of the By-laws Committee election were complete. Paul Studier read the results (see page Error! Bookmark not defined.). Time for forming the Audit Committee expired, and Chair Takenaga asked to extend 10 minutes, without objection.
- Collier nominated Jerry Dixon.
- Holtz nominated Mark Johnson.
- Dovner nominated Aaron Starr, but withdrew the nomination because it would place Starr in the position of auditing his administration.
- McConnell raised a point of information, asking how the ExCom will choose these nominees since the By-laws don’t specify a number. Will we vote up or down on each candidate?
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking how much time is required for this committee? Takenaga replied likely that it’s several hours, depending on too may variables, and the discretion of the committee members.
- Holtz nominated Allen Rice.

MOTION: McConnell moved to close nominations, seconded by Brown.

VOTE: The motion to close nominations for the Audit Committee passed without objection.

MOTION: McConnell moved to accept the three candidates – Dixon, Johnson, and Rice – by acclamation. Seconded by several.

VOTE: The main motion to accept the slate of three candidates for the Audit Committee passed without objection.

ACTION: Secretary shall notify Allen Rice and of his election to the Audit Committee.

- At that time, the results of the Program Committee election were announced (see page Error! Bookmark not defined.).
Candidate Recruitment Committee

- Brown began by saying that Takenaga implied that there was no one was officially appointed, and suggested that Takenaga appoint him as chair of the Candidate Recruitment Committee again.
- Anticipating the recruitment of candidates in 2008, there are no statewide offices open, only congressional and state legislative offices. While the primary for the presidential race has been moved to February, the primary for the other offices are still the first Tuesday in June, 2008. So the period to collect signatures and file is pretty much January through March of 2008. Therefore, the candidates should all be recruited by the end of the year, and he would start by the end of summer.
- Some data is required, so the question for Keaton is whether the labels and lists provide the newest list of registered Libertarians. Keaton replied that labels and lists have only a slight communication problem with Bruce Anderson, who sent only L.A. County instead of the entire state.
- Brown noted that Dovner had converted the labels and lists to an Excel spreadsheet, which made it easy to use. It’s necessary for identifying registered Libertarians who he can ask to run for office.
- Brown noted that getting a current list of members and subscribers to the LPC is necessary for identifying potential candidates.
- Now that state elections are separated from the national election, Brown needs national’s list of California members.
- Dovner asked if BCRA allows us to recruit for federal office, and if that would make us liable for reporting under the federal election. Brown answered that there is no official candidate recruiter, and so he recruits all candidates at his own expense.
- Cain noted that Brown was correct, and that if LPC proves to be unincorporated, then it cannot be held liable for any actions, and that only individuals can be held liable for such actions as they take upon themselves.
- McConnell noted that he thinks the BCRA addresses the matter of supporting candidates, and that keeping a list of them and asking them to run isn’t supporting them.
- Dovner noted that federal election activities, and while generally it is support, there are some things are not considered support. For instance, if we spend less than $1000 or $1500, we won’t be liable.
- Brown noted that he spent only a few hundred dollars for phone calls.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking if we’re addressing the election strategy specifically. Brown replied that he just wanted to make sure we all know the timetable, so that he’ll have time to collect the contact information he needs to identify potential candidates.
- Chair Takenaga called time for the issue, and named Brown as the chair of the Candidate Recruitment Committee.
MOTION: Newell moved to suspend rules to amend agenda, to move discussion of Measure A in Monterey county before the 2007 Focus Discussion. McConnell seconded.

- Barnes raised a point of information, asking what the Focus Discussion is. Takenaga replied that it’s our opportunity to discuss what our goals and priorities should be for the year. Barnes asked if anyone wished to speak for or against the motion. Newell spoke for the motion, stating that the Measure A agenda item was a report by Samuels about success in defeating a measure in Monterey County. Barnes accepted Newell’s favorable suggestion.

VOTE: The motion to suspend the rules to amend the agenda passed without objection.

Report on Monterey County’s Defeat of Measure A

- At 5:00 p.m., Monterey County representative Samuels described the success of the county effort to defeat a restrictive land use measure, and shared copy of The Herald (Monterey County) with large headline declaring victory for opposition to four measures.
- Samuels warned that this had happened in other counties, and would continue to happen. We will see more extreme land measures, imposing no growth and removing land owners’ property rights,
- Newell commented that the win is important, especially because of the 10 point margin of votes. Santa Clara County’s Measure A was defeated by only 1 point.
- Barnes asked who was the developer and what were they trying to do? Samuels, not a particular one, except for a ranch in Salinas. Apparently this was a measure to lock up about 90% of county land. So it wasn’t for or against any particular developer, it was against all development.
- The question was raised about who the proponents of the measure were. Samuels replied that it was mostly environmentalists and a group called Land Watch. As well, the Sierra Club and League of Women Voters supported the measure.
- Chair Takenaga called time on the item.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 5:06 p.m., Newell moved to adjourn the ExCom meeting. Collier seconded.

VOTE: The motion to adjourn the meeting passed with few objections.

Action Items

All
- Review, revise, and approve these minutes.
• At Chair Takenaga’s suggestion, Executive Committee should review Robert’s Rules of Order for information about how committees operate.

Secretary

• Submit minutes for review, revision, and approval by July 9, 2007.
• Get 527 material from Dovner.
• Investigate status of LPC’s incorporation and tax-reporting status.
• Notify Mark Selzer about his election to Second Alternate.
• Notify M Carling, Mike Seebeck, and Dan Wiener about their appointments to the By-laws committee.
• Notify Curt Cornell about his election to the Program Committee.
• Notify Allen Rice about his election to the Audit Committee.
Chair's Report

Introduction

It's been a busy 6 weeks for me since the Convention and been almost a non-stop exercise in transitioning duties and building new initiatives within the LPC. With the help of a great staff and volunteers, we have been able to move the ball down the field a good distance in such a short time.

Action Items From the Previous Meeting

Internal Organization

- Worked with Richard Newell to form the creation of the Legislative Analyst team.
- Developed an organization chart for the staffing of the LPC office with a mixture of paid and volunteers.

Media Relations

- I have started discussions with Dan Minkoff, Chair Media Relations committee on our media strategy for the year.

Internal Communication

- I plan to spend a big portion of this year is working to establish an internal communication network that fosters relationships and information transfer between state-to-county, county-to-state, and county-to-county arenas.
- I also am working on networking peer groups of County Chairs and Elected Officials together.

Elected Officials

- I have written thank you notes to 12 currently serving elected officials in California and have an ongoing to-do to send out. I have also asked Matthew Barnes to assist me in this work. I urge the Vice Chairs to ensure that these officials are contacted by their local county party.

County Chairs

- On June 5th, the Officers and Executive Director held a phone call with 13 County Chairs or their representatives.
- I have also sent congratulatory notes to new or reelected County Chairs.

Donors

- I have started with donor visits and phone calls and eagerly await the reports that Angela will produce from Donor Perfect this month.
I have also followed up with handwritten thank you notes to donors that Angela has assigned to me and will continue to do so after each monthly credit card run.

**County Parties**
- I've visited 5 different county Parties since my election as Chair (Butte, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Cruz).
- I've scheduled two separate trips down to southern California to visit LA and Orange Counties and am working with the Vice Chairs to schedule future visits.
- I encourage all of the Executive Committee members to attend county and regional meetings throughout the State during their term in office.

**Members**
- Thomas Sipos has delivered the June issue of California Freedom and is ready to release the next issue as I soon as I can get him a Chair's Column. I thank Thomas for his timely delivery of the June issue.
- Richard Newell and Terry Van Kirk have labored intensely to design and deliver two monthly email newsletters called the California Libertarian eFlyer. I especially commend their work on this important new outreach tool.

**Inquiries**
- I have established a guideline that any volunteer inquiry will be responded back to within 72 hours.

**Infrastructure**
- I met with Greg Perry of Perry Political Software to negotiate a deal to assist the county parties with software to maximize the use of their voter registration files.

**Outreach**
- In addition to all of this, I have managed to do some outreach and attended both the Junior Statesman of America in Santa Clara in April and the Voter Outreach Table at College of San Mateo in San Mateo in May. I also met with a group of students interested in forming a campus club at Stanford University.
- I encourage all of the Executive Committee members to work with county parties and attend upcoming events.

**Fundraising**
- I worked with Angela to set up the reception after the EC meeting. I would like to reestablish the practice of holding an event after the meeting.
- Angela and I have also discussed an event for the October timeframe.
Both Rich and I during our County visits have pulled in over $1000 of pledges, including two coffee club memberships.

I will be asking all of you to take some role in fundraising this year. Some of you will be asked to go on in-person visits and make phone calls to prospective donors. Others will be asked to help research and identify donors. All of us should express gratitude by sending out handwritten thank you notes of which Angela will send out assignments from time-to-time.

**LPC Membership**

We've had quite a bit of concern over the membership program we have in place and I feel that a top-down review is necessary to provide a means to quantify what will best suit our needs. I am recommending to the EC that an advisory Membership Committee gather historical data on membership acquisition and retention, survey the existing members and recently lapsed ones, and come up with some recommendations based upon a data-driven review of changes, if any, that we need to implement as an organization.

**Future Actions**

- Focus the next few months on fundraising and developing the internal network.
- I am looking ahead at staffing and finding a volunteer Political Director and 2008 Election Coordinator to start planning our efforts for the upcoming year. I will formalize a job description and have this position advertised.
- I am also seeking an assistant who act as a scheduler and coordinator for my activities and visits to county parties.
- I welcome recommendations from the EC for the positions above.

**Commendations**

- Jesse Thomas: For finding the location of the Executive Committee meeting and reception
- Angela Keaton, Lawrence Samuels, TJ Campbell (Vice Chair, LPSCC): For getting materials together to ship to the San Mateo County LP for their outreach booth.

**Recommendations for Action by the Executive Committee**

- Form a committee which will perform a top-down review of membership within the LPC.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Takenaga
Chair
Northern Vice Chair’s Report

Summary

The period since the convention has been exciting and extremely busy. A majority of active state chairs have been contacted by email or phone or in person. Several new initiatives have been started.

The California Libertarian eFlyer

Thanks go to Aaron Starr for his assistance in obtaining the password to the Constant Contact list. In the past, this list has been used mainly for single-topic mailings, such as convention promotions. A decision was made to send, in addition to these, a monthly email newsletter that highlighted a broad range of topics. The goal is to create a heightened sense of excitement amongst the recipients about what the Libertarian Party of California is doing, to encourage new memberships, donations, volunteers, and the like.

The eFlyer also promotes the on-line version of California Freedom, who’s publication it will follow each month. A new logo was designed, using elements from the convention logo and Space Ship One, playing off of a pun on the word “flyer.” The first issue was distributed May 13th. Due to the very fast turnaround time for California Freedom this month, the second issue of eFlyer was rushed out on June 3rd.

I would especially like to thank Terry Van Kirk, our graphics design volunteer for eFlyer, who put in several score hours under intense schedule pressure to prepare these first several issues. Without her, it wouldn't have been possible.

This list has been expanded to over 6400 contacts. We now collect the name and zip code of new subscribers.

The Department of Legislative Analysts

In an effort to get the LPC more involved in real-world state-level politics, some volunteers were recruited to analyze the bills going through Sacramento. We are lucky to have found two very enthusiastic volunteers, a husband and wife team, Michael and Lidia Seebeck.

Two levels of analysis have been established. Once an interesting bill appears on our “radar screen,” I will assign it to the analysts for a short-form analysis. This is basically just a one paragraph summary of what the bill does. From this pool, some bills are identified for a longer-form analysis with several sections, such as a longer description, who supports the bill, and prospects for passage, etc. The ExComm members have seen several examples of this longer report in the last few weeks. If anyone has a bill that they want considered by the Legislative Analysts, please send the bill number and a brief description of what it does directly to me.

Once a bill is analyzed, it will most likely be used as material for the “Legislative Watch” section of the eFlyer. If the LPC officially takes a position on a bill
additional steps may be taken, depending upon resources available, return on investment, and other factors: a letter may be sent to the Legislature, a news release may be written, we may try to engage with coalition partners, and etc. In the case of SB 1019 (which improves police accountability), the LPC sent a letter to Senator Romero (the bill’s author), along with a follow-up phone call. A press release was written and distributed. I personally lobbied Sen. Torlakson’s chief of staff along with ACLU and LULAC and LWV representatives, followed-up by a thank you note after the visit, and after the Senator voted for the bill. SB1019 was mentioned on both eFlyers. The Libertarian Party support was noted on the ACLU website. Happily, the bill has passed the senate with a wider margin than expected. AB1634 (requiring the mandatory spaying or neutering of cats and dogs) appeared in eFlyer. Lidia Seebeck worked with a number of pet organizations, police and medical dog breeders, and other breeder, kennels and clubs to defeat this emotion raising bill. The LPC sent a letter to the Legislature opposing AB1634. Unfortunately, in a very close vote, this bill has passed the assembly.

As the chair stated in his report, we are looking for a volunteer Political Director so we can maximize our return from these efforts.

Chapter Visits

The Chair and I visited a number of counties together since the convention:

- May 17: EBLP monthly meeting (Alameda and Contra Costa counties joint meeting)
- May 20: Butte County Success Planning meeting and BBQ
- May 24: San Mateo monthly Central Committee meeting
- May 26: Contra Costa brunch meeting
- May 30: Santa Cruz monthly Central Committee meeting (currently inactive)

I have also been in phone, email, chat, or face-to-face communication with Chairs or officers of several additional counties:

- Phil Berg (San Francisco)
- Brian Jones (Yolo, currently inactive)
- Roberto Leibman (Placer)
- Brian Darby and T.J. Campbell (Santa Clara)
- Matt Turley (Marin)

I should at least contact the Chairs of the remaining three active counties in the region (Fresno, Monterey, Sacramento) within the next few weeks. Some additional meetings are in the planning stages.

Fundraising

In conjunction with these visits, over $1000 per year in pledges has been raised (not including my own paid-in-full coffee club membership), with a possibility of an additional $1000 or more in the next several months.
Student Clubs

I have been in contact with students and/or faculty at the following colleges and universities, with the objective of starting Libertarian Party clubs there:

- Stanford – Met with active core group of students. Identified some libertarian alumni and faculty.
- SCU – Fred Foldvary has agreed to be faculty advisor.
- SJSU – Chuck Moulton attending. Many libertarian profs.
- UOP – In communication with student leader. They have a facebook group with 12 members.

Candidate Support Committee

In visiting Butte County, we came across an enthusiastic new LP member who is an information technology and web design professional: Patrick Bulmer, General Manager of WebAxxess.

I have asked Mr. Bulmer for a heavily discounted proposal for creating a website template for use by our authorized non-Federal candidates, and he has complied. This will be on the agenda for a meeting of the Candidate Support Committee to be held the same day as the ExComm meeting (June 9, 2007).

Graphic Design

Designed the following:

- LPC Business Cards
- LPC Bumper Sticker and similar Banner
- Updated Membership remittance forms

Media Relations

Transitioned all prior activity regarding Media Relations to Dan Minkoff. This includes passwords, HTML templates, and etc. Because he doesn't have access to photoshop, I created a template in GIMP for masking the thumbnail photo's for the web site. See his report for more on his excellent progress.

Miscellaneous

- Helped table at JSA conference in San Jose.
- Dropped in on the voter registration table at College of San Mateo
- Networked with ACLU and GSA Network staffers.
- Met with Cam McConnell and Kevin Takenaga regarding convention planning.
- Participated in County Chairs conference call.
- Worked with Mike Laursen, who is donating some Adobe software to the LPC.
- Sent “Thank You” notes to several donors.
- Reorganizing material transitioned to me from Lawrence Samuels, previous N. Vice-Chair.
Respectfully submitted,
Richard Newell
Northern Vice Chair
Libertarian Party of California
Southern Vice Chair’s Report


Accomplishments

- Recruited Campaign Treasurer Matthew Schang for Norm Westwell. Norm Westwell is an elected trustee of the Ocean View school district in Orange County. He is running for a second term with the goal to get re-elected in 2008 and then run for City Council in 2010.
- Attended Orange County Convention
- Attended Rancho Palos Verde Street Fair 6/3 with members of Los Angeles County, Region 66
- Answering all Southern California Volunteer inquiries and directing inquiries to the county parties
- Organizing the Long Beach Libertarian Meetup for over a year; Membership is at 23 members. Attendance averages 6 members
- Wrote thank you letters to 2007 California Convention volunteers
- Wrote thank you letters to 2007 California Convention donors
- Scheduled to attend LPLAC convention on 6/30 as a panelist to describe the election of the new LPC officers and the new strategy for building the Libertarian Party in California
- Scheduled to attend LPLAC Region 66 meeting on 6/21 as speaker describing the election of the new LPC officers and the new strategy for building the Libertarian Party in California
- Contact and introduction with Steve Greenhut, columnist with Orange County Register, first-name basis
- Development of Myspace page as point of contact for Libertarians on the web in Southern California
- Development of Facebook page as point of contact for Libertarians on the web in Southern California
- Contact with UCSD Libertarians made through Facebook,
- Have begun organization on Southern California Libertarian Leadership Conference to be held on the evening of July 30.

Impediments

- Lack of familiarity with Southern California, specifically the Greater Los Angeles Area
- Current Career and work schedule
- Lack of knowledge with regard to what members live where. Lack of good contact information for county leadership.
- UCSD Libertarians seems a dead group
Goals

- $20,000 raised by Westwell in 2007.
- Attendance of 3 county meetings every month
- Development of core personnel for 3 campus
- Fundraising calls to be made in person with each visit to a county party meeting
- Work to increase membership of state party 10-fold through personal solicitation
- Work to increase membership of coffee club 10-fold through personal solicitation
- Southern California Libertarian Leadership Conferences to be held every 6 months
- Development of kits for various county activities: Voter Registration, Festival Display, Precinct Captaining
- Development of Precinct Captain program for implementation by Counties. I have started precinct capturing myself but have no results to show for this yet. I hope for my eventual success to be a model upon which other county parties base their precinct captain programs on.

Desires

- Overcome party-cultural and legal obstacles to BCRA and FPPC filings
- Development of PACs at the county level for the purposes of supporting local candidates
- Daily inquiries to the LPC website or various county party websites requesting information on how to get involved.
- 300,000 registered Libertarians in California by 2015
Secretary’s Report

**Actions**

- Posted for review on LPC’s county officers’ listserv the summary minutes of initial 2007–2008 LPC Executive Committee meeting. *Completed May 4.*
- Posted for review on LPC’s ExCom listserv the minutes of the initial 2007–2008 LPC Executive Committee meeting. *Completed May 4.*
- Posted motion to LPC ExCom listerv calling for vote to support SB 1019 and AB 1648 that would overturn the Copley Press ruling, restore limited public access to police complaint records, provide greater public access to basic information about sustained cases involving police discipline, allow police chiefs to release internal documents supporting a department’s findings when outside agencies find an officer’s conduct violates police policy, and make these records accessible under the California Public Records Act. *Completed May 4, motion passed unanimously May 7.*
- Posted minutes of initial LPC ExCom meeting, along with a motion to adopt them. As of 10:30 a.m. June 7, the vote stands at 9 for 1 against.
- Published the final minutes of the previous administration with a motion to adopt. Completed June 1. As of June 7, the vote stands at 4 for, 0 against.
- Published on LPC ExCom listserv Chair’s announcement to participate on the June 5th conference call. *Completed June 4.*
- Discussed ideas with Jerry Cabak about how the LP might generate more interest among the public, mostly through publishing information on the Party’s website that points out “the follies of government.” I asked him if he would mind if this was done at the state level instead of nationally, and if he would mind if the state party’s website had links to any other sources that might already duplicate some of the ideas he wished to call attention to. He was amenable to both suggestions. As of June 9, no action has been taken.

**Actions Pending**

Publish on the LPC website a link to each counties’ by-laws.

**Projects**

- Devise a numbering system for resolutions so we can identify them quickly and easily.
- Extract all viable standing orders from previous minutes.
- Incorporate LPC.
- Investigate insurance for LPC for elected officers’ legal liability.

Respectfully submitted,

Beau Cain, Secretary

Libertarian Party of California
# Treasurer’s Report

Libertarian Party of California  
Draft Balance Sheet  
As of May 31, 2007

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**Libertarian Party of California**  
**Draft Income Statement**  
**YTD May 31, 2007**

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<tr>
<td>Performance Based Gifts (C)</td>
<td>43,569</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeals (D)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convention (E)</td>
<td>3,506</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events (F)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue and Support (G)</td>
<td>10,085</td>
<td>6,202</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td>147,200</td>
<td>18,488</td>
<td>120,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| **Fundraising Costs** |              |              |                 |
| Member Recruitment (H) (S) | 297         | 4,358        | 20,000          |
| Direct Mail Solicitation | 10,301      | 774          | 20,000          |
| Telephone Solicitation  | 3,250       | 0            | 0               |
| Personal Solicitation   | 0           | 130          | 0               |
| Convention (E)          | 0           | 0            | 0               |
| Events (F)              | 0           | 0            | 0               |
| Other Fundraising Costs | 1,624       | 390          | 5,000           |
| **Total Fundraising Costs** | 15,472 | 5,652 | 45,000 |

**Net Support and Revenue**
### Available for Programs (S)

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Available for Programs (S)</th>
<th>131,728</th>
<th>12,836</th>
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### Program Expenses

#### County Party Distributions (I) (S)

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#### Administrative

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<th>Convention (J) (S)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>790</td>
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<td>Other Committees</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
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<td>LPC Office (S)</td>
<td>47,880</td>
<td>34,699</td>
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<td>Total Administrative</td>
<td>51,025</td>
<td>35,004</td>
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#### Campaigns & Elections (K) (S) (T)

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<tr>
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<td>Lobbying (M)</td>
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<td>Media Relations (N)</td>
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<td>Member Communications (O)</td>
<td>18,617</td>
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<td>Outreach (P)</td>
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<td>Party Development (Q)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Voter Registration (R)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Total Program Expenses</td>
<td>111,934</td>
<td>53,933</td>
<td>130,500</td>
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</table>

### Net Surplus (Deficit)

|                | Net Surplus (Deficit) | 19,794 | (41,097) | (55,500) |

#### Budget Notes:

(A) Membership Dues also includes California Freedom subscription and donations in excess of dues.
(B) Recurring Gifts are typically monthly pledges.
(C) Performance Based Gifts are donations based on the Party achieving particular goals.
(D) Appeals are one-time donations and pledges, typically from direct mail, telephone and personal solicitations.
(E) Convention is revenues from the sale of convention packages or from registration fees.
(F) Events includes revenues from the convention banquet and other LPC sponsored events.
(G) Other Revenue and Support includes other categories of revenue (e.g. Interest Income, Advertising, Mailing List Rental, Bequests, etc.)
(H) Member Recruitment includes costs directly associated with the acquisition and retention of members.
(I) County Party Distributions includes the dues sharing and start-up payments to active county parties.
(J) Convention related administrative costs typically include staffing costs, printing of convention business materials and the keynote speaker.
(K) Campaigns & Elections includes Elected Official Conversion Costs.
(L) Litigation is for strategic lawsuits initiated by the Party to affect public policy.
(M) Lobbying includes costs expended to influence the passage or defeat of legislation.
(N) Media includes press releases and other communications directed at the media.
(O) Member Communications includes California Freedom and maintenance of the website.
(P) Outreach includes general communications to the public for other than fundraising or electioneering. Amounts expended in this category could be subject to reporting requirements of BCRA.
(Q) Party Development includes costs expended to develop the County Parties (other than dues sharing).
(R) Voter Registration includes costs expended to register new Libertarian voters. Amounts expended in this category could be subject to reporting requirements of BCRA.
(S) Authorization to spend on Membership Recruitment and Campaigns & Elections to be automatically increased by 1/2 of the amount Net Support and Revenue Available For Programs (excluding Member Recruitment) less Convention Program Expense less County Party Distributions exceeds $78,500. Authorization to spend on LPC Office to be automatically increased by 1/4 of the amount Net Support and Revenue Available For Programs (excluding Member Recruitment) less Convention Program Expense less County Party Distributions exceeds $78,500.
(T) Funds will be raised for Operation Breakthrough (including Elected Official Conversions) during 2007. This budget authorizes the expenditure of funds raised. Amounts can be combined with general fund Campaigns & Elections expenditures.
Executive Director’s Report

Since the convention, staff time has been divided among continuing the transfer of membership and financial information to new software, core functions (e.g., processing renewals, donor research, and bookkeeping), service to the chair (arranging conference calls for various committees, donor information). and customer relations.

In addition, the systems conversion took a fairly work heavy turn with the billing for Operation Breakthrough in May. (The first of those have been returned this week.) I am still adding new data to Donor Perfect and should have the first preliminary reports to the Chair and Treasurer on June 15 and reports to counties tentatively scheduled for June 30. Once the conversion is complete, the office will be on a regular schedule which will include all processing as well as dates for various mailings (Coffee Club, 2008 renewals, etc.)

Further, I had a meeting with the treasurer to map out fund raising methods and goals as well as staff expectations for budget (money for membership acquisitions, renewals, printing.) Donor research and development will be a large part of my work between this meeting and the October 13 meeting in Los Angeles. Not only will this be the beginning of long term relationships with donors but the new data will allow us to sort for youth and college aged libertarians.

In July, I will resume the public records for public officials research. My hope is to provide the Chair with information by late summer.

As for specific action items, the EC business cards are available today. Also, after 3 excellent bids and one strong lead, we chose a family owned business which came recommended by our former printer.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Keaton, Executive Director
Libertarian Party of California
Convention Planning Committee 2008 Report

Contents

• Statement of the Problem
• Assumptions
• Facts Bearing on the Problem
• Discussion
• Conclusions
• Recommendations

Statement of the Problem

The first objective of the Committee is to recommend a formula for the conduct of the convention. Specifically, the objective is to recommend either to proceed with a cruise ship convention as has been partially planned or to switch to a land-based convention. Additional objectives are to formulate a committee organization and to obtain information on possible venues.

Assumptions

• Approximately 100 delegates will attend the convention.
• The convention must be self-supporting – no losses will be incurred, all attendees will pay for the use of those facilities they personally use.
• Aspirants to the Libertarian nomination for President will be reluctant to commit to four days on board ship.
• An alternate use of the contracted cruise could be found in the calling of a convocation of county officers for discussions of Party support of county organizations.
• A suitable facility can be provided in San Diego for the weekend of 16-18 February, 2008 (Presidents’ Day weekend).

Facts Bearing on the Problem

• A contract exists for the provision of a convention environment on a cruise ship, cruising between Los Angeles and Ensenada on 18-21 April, 2008. The signed contract has not been delivered to the contractor, therefore the LPC is not yet bound. The contract as signed but not delivered binds the LPC to a deposit of $5,000, refundable proportionately as reservations count toward 200. 200 attendees is not reflected by the history of recent conventions on land or sea.
• 2008 is a Presidential Election year and will generate aspirants for the Libertarian nomination for President who will want to address the LPC Convention.
• Although no actual poll has been taken, many members have spoken to Executive Committee members in opposition to the holding of conventions on cruise ships. Their objections include both the cost as a lump sum to be paid
to participate obviating the possibility of finding a low-cost formula for the
individual and the cumbersomeness of scheduling when an individual can
only choose to commit four successive days or not to participate.

- The California delegation is likely to be the largest delegation present at the
  national Libertarian Convention.

Discussion

- In a non-Presidential Election year, the holding of a convention on a cruise
  ship might only be an annoyance to those who object either to the cost or to
  the inconvenience of scheduling. In a Presidential Election year, the objection
  must be expanded to include the desirability of providing a forum for the
  aspirants to the nomination to address the assembled California libertarians.
  Since those aspirants are expected to object to committing four days to the
  convention only for a short exposure, the cruise ship is an undesirable venue.
  A convention land-based venue provides flexibility for those who need it.

- Accommodating the presidential aspirants is of great interest to the members
  of the LPC because the national nominee is the person best positioned to act
  as the face of the Libertarian Party and to help Americans see why liberty is
  important and should be chosen as a course for the country.

- Accommodating the presidential aspirants is of great interest to the aspirants
  because the California delegation is expected to be the largest state delegation
  at the national convention.

- Initially, the Committee understood that changing the plan from a cruise ship
to a land-based convention would incur cancellation charges from the cruise
ship contractor. Investigation revealed that the signed contract had never been
delivered to the contractor, therefore, there is no cost to the LPC to make the
change in plan.

- San Diego is investigated as a possible venue because (a) the 2007
  Convention was held in Northern California, (b) San Diego is readily
  accessible from all parts of the United States and of California, (c) San Diego
  is an attractive venue for non-members accompanying members as well as the
  members themselves, and (d) the LPC members in San Diego are interested in
  having the convention in San Diego and are organizing a committee to
  sponsor and organize the convention.

- Past Party thinking has favored asking a member or others to act as a
  “contractor” to sponsor and conduct the convention. The experience was that
  the convention invariably lost money and the LPC did not want to subsidize
  the convention. The 2007 experience demonstrated that a convention need not
  lose money if carefully planned and executed with control on spending and
  reasonable estimates of projected revenues. Election of an “in-house” format
  should, therefore, include determination to maintain such planning and control
  of expenditures while asking attendees to pay the reasonable actual cost of the
  facilities.
Conclusions

- The cruise ship venue is unsuitable for the 2008 LPC Convention.
- A land-based venue in San Diego is suitable for the convention.
- An “in-house” format is feasible.

Recommendations

- The Executive Committee should elect to hold the 2008 LPC Convention at San Diego on 16-18 February, 2008.
- The Executive Committee should either re-negotiate the cruise contract for a smaller group and decide to employ the existing cruise ship contract for a county officers’ convocation on 18-21 April, 2008 or should elect not to deliver the contract and to notify the contractor that the LPC does not accept the proposal.
- The Executive Committee should undertake to organize the 2008 LPC Convention as an internal project not involving a “contractor,” by appointing a planning committee to organize the convention. An outline of the organization of the Planning Committee is attached as Appendix A. All members of the planning committee should be local to the San Diego area.
APPENDIX A – ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Convention Planning Committee of the LPC for the 2008 LPC Convention consists of a chair, appointed by the Chair of the LPC with the concurrence of the Executive Committee and subcommittees as follows:

Facilities and Decoration
Duties: Arrange for facilities for the convention including a meeting room large enough to accommodate up to 150 delegates and sit-down meals for up to 100 delegates with speakers equipment.

Program and Schedule
Duties: Solicit nominations for speakers consistent with guidance from the Party Chair and propose a schedule for them and for the aspirants to the Libertarian Presidential Nomination. Invite the speakers approved by the Executive Committee and all aspirants to the Presidential Nomination, informing them of the proposed times for their presentations. Maintain contact with speakers that accept and determine what equipment support they will need. Arrange for the appropriate equipment support.

Finance
Duties: The Treasurer - Maintain a current estimate of revenues and costs and calculate an expected balance at all times. The elements of the estimate may be furnished by others. Arrange appropriate methods of collecting revenues and bank accounts for keeping the revenues. Control expenditures to conform to those approved by the Executive Committee.

Administrative
Duties: The Secretary – keep minutes of all Committee meetings. Manage all Committee correspondence so that a record is kept of all communications.

Volunteers
Duties: Solicit volunteer effort for set-up and clean-up as well as operation of registration and credentialing stations.

Special Fund (if approved by the Executive Committee)
Duties: Solicit contributions for a “Special Fund” to assist delegates who cannot or who object to paying for attendance. Assistance will be minimal to permit participation and will be limited to the amount of funds contributed.

Marketing, Promotion and Press Relations
Duties: Arrange for all e-mail, snail mail, and other methods of advertising the convention to the members and potentially interested parties. Coordinate
all press releases and other contacts with the press or media pertinent to the convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Camden McConnell, Chair
Convention Planning Committee 2008
Libertarian Party of California
Media Relations Subcommittee Report

Accomplishments

• The LPC has now issued 107 editions of the Libertarian Perspectives (five since I took over from Rich Newell on a regular basis).
• Through my media database, I have added more than 1,300 print media contacts to our Constant Contact distribution list for the Libertarian Perspective and news releases. The list now totals more than 3,200. This has resulted in an additional 200-250 opened emails for each distribution.
• PrimeNewswire, which is owned by Nasdaq, will be the LPC’s newswire vendor going forward for wide-distribution on the California media circuit (see attached for complete list).
• Issued one news release announcing the party’s support of SB 1019, which seeks to overturn a recent California Supreme Court decision to deny public access to disciplinary records of police officers. It included a brief statement by the party chair. (SB 1019 passed the assembly, 21-10, on June 4.)
• We might have lost one writer from the writer’s bureau due to a disagreement on content. Ideally, all columns would address California issues and propose libertarian solutions/express libertarian viewpoints that:
  • Help drive positive awareness of the party;
  • Encourage nonmembers to join and financially contribute to the party;
  • Encourage members to increase their contribution to the party; and
  • Encourage voters to vote for Libertarian candidates for office and vote the libertarian position on ballot issues.

Plans

• I will continue to work the media database to add broadcast and Internet media to our Constant Contact distribution list.
• I intend to work closely with the Legislative Team to develop and distribute news releases.
• I will contact the communications staff with the national Libertarian Party to see if they have any communications best-practices that we could implement at the state level.
• Recruit additional Libertarian Perspective writers.
• Recruit a backup/secondary media subcommittee member to assist with news releases and media outreach.

Recommendations

• It would be helpful to receive occasional suggestions from EC members about topics that would make good column fodder for the Libertarian Perspective. Let me know what issues are on the top of nonlibertarian’s or libertarian-leaning people’s minds. The goal is to show citizens that we are a viable alternative to the prevailing political orthodoxy.
Also, I welcome news articles that illustrate government growth, taxpayer abuse, arrogant politicians, etc., and would present an opportunity to issue a news release/statement from the chair promoting libertarianism as a solution to society’s political, social and economic problems.

I should be notified as soon as possible if/when Libertarians announce their candidacy for a significant office so that we can announce it statewide.

I should be notified if/when a Libertarian office holder proposes and/or succeeds in passing libertarian-oriented legislation so that it can be announced statewide.

Executive Committee members should forward to the media chair candidates to contribute to the Libertarian Perspective.

Notes

Rich Newell did a fantastic job systematizing the party’s media relations program and making it effective at what it does. The transition has been extremely smooth and he should be acknowledged and given appropriate credit for that.

PrimeNewswire California Circuit Media Distribution List

Northern California
Includes: San Francisco Bay Area, Silicon Valley, Sacramento and additional Northern California media

Bay Area/Silicon Valley Newspapers
Times-Star, Alameda
Berkeley Daily Planet
Contra Costa Times
The Argus, Fremont
Hayward Daily Review
Marin Independent Journal, Novato
Marin Scope Community Newspapers
Oakland Tribune
Daily News, Palo Alto
Tri-Valley Herald, Pleasanton
Valley Times, Pleasanton
West County Times, Richmond
San Francisco Chronicle
San Francisco Examiner
San Jose Mercury News
San Mateo County Times
San Ramon Valley Times
Santa Rosa Press Democrat
Vallejo Times-Herald

Bay Area Weeklies
World Journal
Metro Newspapers:
Metro
Metro Silicon Valley
San Jose City Times
S F Weekly

Radio
KFBI-AM
KRK-FM
KSTE-AM
KRAK-FM
KXIZ-FM
KXPR-FM

Additional Northern California Newspapers
Herald, Benicia
Enterprise-Record, Chico
The Daily Tripslicate, Crescent City
San Ramon Valley Times, Danville
Enterprise, Davis
Times Standard, Eureka
Daily Republic, Fairfield
Fresno Bee
The Dispatch, Gilroy
The Union, Grass Valley
The Sentinel, Hanford
Free Lance, Hollister
Lake County Record-Bee, Lakeport
News Sentinel, Lodi
Madera Tribune
Manteca Bulletin
Appeal-Democrat, Marysville
Sun Star, Merced
Modesto Bee
County Herald, Monterey
The Napa Valley Register
Mercury-Register, Oroville
Porterville Recorder
Red Bluff Daily News
Sacramento Bee
The Californian, Salinas
Santa Cruz Sentinel
The Union Democrat, Sonora
Daily Tribune, South Lake Tahoe
The Stockton Record
Tracy Press
Ukiah Daily Journal

Television
CNBC
CNN
Fox 11 TV News
Inland Empire TV News
KABC-TV (ABC), Los Angeles & Riverside
KBLI-TV (IND)
KCAL-TV (Ch. 9), Los Angeles
KCBS-TV (CBS), Los Angeles
KCTV-T Behind Ch. 13), Los Angeles
KCOP-TV (CH. 13), Los Angeles
KFWB-Am 980 (CBS/CNN)
KMEX-TV (UNIVISION), Los Angeles
KNBC-TV (NBC), Los Angeles
KOCNH (CBS), Los Angeles
KCAL-TV (CBS), Los Angeles
KCTV-T (CBS), Los Angeles
KWWF (FOX), Los Angeles
KXPR-FM

Radio
CBS Radio News
KABC-AM (790), Los Angeles
KATJ-FM
KCRW-FM
KDES-AM/FM
KEZ-FM
KFI-AM (640), Los Angeles
KFWB-AM (980), Los Angeles
KMNW-AM (1600), Los Angeles
KNWZ-AM/FM
KNX-AM (1070), Los Angeles
KPSI-AM/FM
KWXY-AM/FM
London Broadcasting
Marketplace
Metro Networks
Premiere Radio Networks
Radio Central News
The California Voice
The Sun-Reporter
Vallejo Metro Reporter
Independent Newspaper Group: Boutique & Villager/The Independent
daily City/The Independent
Enquirer-Bulletin/The Independent
Foster City Progress/The Independent
Redwood City Tribune/The Independent
San Mateo Weekly/The Independent
The Millbrae and San Bruno Sun/The Independent

Journals
The Reporter, Vacaville
Register-Pajaronian, Watsonville
The Daily Democrat, Woodland
Siskiyou Daily News, Yreka

Southern California
Includes Metro Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego and other Southern California Counties.

Los Angeles Area/Inland Empire Newspapers
Star, Camarillo
News-Press, Glendale
The Press-Enterprise Hemet News, Hemet
Press Telegram, Long Beach
Los Angeles Times
La Opinion, Los Angeles
Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, Ontario
Desert Sun, Palm Springs
Star-News, Pasadena
Redlands Daily Facts
Press-Enterprise, Riverside
Moorepark Star
San Bernardino County Sun
The Hemet News, San Jacinto
Star, Simi Valley
Star, Thousand Oaks
Torrance Breeze
Signal & Saugus Enterprise, Valencia
San Gabriel Valley Daily Tribune, West Covina
Daily News, Whittier
The Daily News, Woodland Hills

Los Angeles Area Weeklies
Beach Reporter, Manhattan Beach
Bellflower Herald American
Bell Gardens Sun
Belvedere Tribune
Boyle Heights Tribune
Burbank Leader
Commerce Tribune
Culver City Star
Downey Herald American
Downtown News
Foothill Leader
Harbor City/San Pedro/Wilmington
South
Bay Extra
Hawthorne/Gardena/Carson South
Bay Extra
Los Angeles Sentinel
Los Angeles Times
Lynwood Press
Malibu Times
Monterey Park Progress
Norwalk Herald American
Palisadian Post, Pacific Palisades
Palos Verdes South Bay Extra
Paramount Herald American
Redondo/Hermosa South Bay Extra
Rosemead Post Advocate
San Gabriel Post Advocate
San Fe Springs News
South Gate Press

RadioScope
United Stations Radio Network

Inland Empire Radio
KATJ-FM
KEZN-FM
KPS1-AM/FM
KWXY-AM/FM

Orange County Newspapers
Daily Pilot, Costa Mesa
Los Angeles Times/Orange County Register

Weeklies
Also Viejo News
Anaheim Bulletin
Anaheim Hills News
Canyon Life
Capistrano Valley News
Costa Mesa Breeze
Dana Point News
Fountain Valley View
Fullerton News Tribune
Huntington Beach Wave
Irvine Chronicle
Irvine Citizen
Irvine Spectrum News
Irvine World News
Laguna News-Post
Laguna Niguel News
Leisure World News
Newport Beach Light
OC Metro
Orange City News
Orange County News
Placentia New-Times
Rancho Santa Margarita News
Saddleback Valley News
San Clemente Sun News Post
South Huntington Beach Wave
The Independent
The Star Progress
Tustin News
Westminster Herald
Westminster Journal
Yorba Linda Star

Bureaus
AP
City News Service, Santa Ana
Dow Jones/Wall Street Journal

Journals
Coast Magazine
Newport Beach 714
Orange County Business Journal
OC Metro

Television
CNBC
Orange County News Channel
KABC-TV (ABC) Anaheim
KCAL-TV (IND)
KCBS-TV (CBS)
KESQ-TV (ABC)
KMIR-TV (NBC)
KNBC-TV (NBC)
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**San Diego Newspapers**
- Adelante Valle
- Ahora Now Newspaper
- Chula Vista Star-News
- Daily Californian, El Cajon
- DIARIO LATINO
- El Latino
- El Latino San Diego
- Hispanics Unidos
- Imperial Valley Press, El Centro
- La Jolla Light
- La Prensa San Diego
- Light Newspapers
- North County Times, Escondido
- San Diego Daily Transcript
- San Diego Union Tribune
- San Marcos Sun
- Star-News Newspapers
- The Californian, Temecula
- The Coastal Sun

**Bureaus & Journals**
- AP
- Dow Jones/Wall Street Journal
- City News Service, San Diego
- Reuters
- UPI, San Diego
- San Diego Business Journal
- San Diego Commerce
- San Diego Metropolitan
- MetroSource

**Television**
- KFMB-AM/FM
- KFGD-AM/FM
- KGB-FM
- KIFM-FM
- KKS-M-AM
- KOGO-AM
- KPBS-AM/FM
- KPOP-AM
### Media Relations Subcommittee Report

Libertarian Party of California

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### Additional Southern CA Newspapers

- Californian, Bakersfield
- Record-Gazette, Banning
- Desert Dispatch, Barstow
- Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale
- Oxnard Star
- Daily Independent, Ridgecrest
- Telegram-Tribune, San Luis Obispo
- Santa Barbara News-Press
- Santa Maria Times
- Daily Midway Driller, Taft
- Advance-Register, Tulare
- Ventura County Star
- Star Free Press, Ventura
- Daily Press, Victorville

### Journals

- Pacific Coast Business Times

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Dan Minkoff, Chair
Media Relations Subcommittee
Libertarian Party of California