

# Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting, December 13, 2008  
Libertarian Party of California

School of Choice  
1095 Dunford Way D-9  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-7915  
408-887-5108  
Host: Robert Arne, Headmaster

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## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. Roll call indicated more than enough Executive Committee members (11) present for quorum.

## Attending

### Officers

Chair Kevin Takenaga

Northern Vice Chair Richard Newell

Southern Vice Chair Zander Collier  
Treasurer Don Cowles  
Secretary Beau Cain

### **At-large Representatives**

Matthew Barnes  
Eric Bresson, absent  
Ted Brown, absent  
T. J. Campbell  
Brian Holtz  
Cam McConnell  
Mike McMahan  
Rob Power  
Lawrence Samuels  
Jesse Thomas, absent

### **Alternates**

Donna Orlando, absent  
Mark Selzer, absent

### **Guests**

Brian Darby, Financial Standards Committee  
Carolyn Marbry, San Bernardino County  
Kevin Peterson, San Mateo County  
Kelly Barnes, San Bernardino County  
M Carling, Santa Clara County  
Mark Hinkle, LNC Representative Region 2  
Robert Arne, Headmaster, School of Choice, arrived around 3 pm  
Scott Lieberman, LNC Alternate Region 2 arrived at noon  
Michael Bearden, Financial Standards Committee, arrived around 4 pm

### **Comments**

Cam McConnell announced that he will not be running for re-election because he and his wife have bought a house in Goodlessville, Tennessee, and will move there.

## Approval of Agenda

The agenda was modified by moving Brian Darby's Financial Standards Committee Report from New Business to Committee Reports.

Barnes asked to add a Bylaws Committee report under Committee Reports.

Holtz asked to add an item to report on his campaign under New Business.

MOTION: Newell moved to approve the agenda as modified, which Samuels seconded.

VOTE: The motion to approve the agenda as modified passed with no objection.

## Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

The minutes of the August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008 Executive Committee meeting were presented for approval.

McMahon noted that he did not make the comment attributed to him on page 23.

Barnes noted that the comment was likely made by Mike Seebeck. Kelly Barnes noted after the meeting that there is another comment attributed to McMahon on page 18.

Cain said that he would ask Seebeck.

MOTION: Cowles moved to approve the minutes subject to the Secretary making the noted changes, Holtz seconded.

VOTE: The motion to approve the minutes of the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee as corrected passed with no objection.

ACTION: Cain shall identify who made the comments in question on pages 18 and 29 and correct the attribution.

ACTION: Cain shall publish the corrected minutes on the Party's website no later than January 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

## Officers Reports

### Chair's Report

10:50 Kevin Takenaga presented the report that he presented at the LNC's Executive Committee meeting the previous weekend in San Diego. Highlights of his Region 2 report follow.

- We ran 40 candidates for California State Congress, State Assembly, and State Senate.
- LPCA gave considerable opposition to Proposition 8.
- The Party prompted Ed Clark's return to California political activism.

- We earned the support of several influential journalists in Orange County.
- Meetup Groups and house parties are good tools for developing support.

Takenaga noted that our Party and its candidates in 2010 have an opportunity to present a unified message to voters that Libertarians should be in office in Sacramento to prevent another such economic catastrophe. There were no questions about his report.

### **Northern Vice Chair's Report**

11:23 Richard Newell reported on Northern California's LPCA Meetup Groups, which have been a good recruiting tool. Newell reported that he thinks there are 24 Libertarian Meetup Groups in Northern California, with more pledging to start, and that some even have chairs and organized regions now. He used our Constant Contact account to recruit existing members. 11:25

### **Southern Vice Chair's Report**

11:25 Zander Collier, III, reported that there has been quite a bit of activity in Southern California, especially in Orange County. The OrangeJuiceBlog owner and former Republican Party operative Art Pedroza registered to vote Libertarian after running for Santa Ana City Council, and he will help set up voter registration especially to bring Latinos into the Party, with the aim of establishing a Latino caucus in the Libertarian Party of California.

Collier contacted Adam Van Sustern, a practicing lawyer, who wishes LPCA to support a challenge to legislation that makes it more difficult for candidates to switch to a third-party than it does for candidates to switch between the two major parties. Collier reported that Van Sustern offered *pro bono* help with the challenge, and has collaborated with Libertarian Richard Winger (Ballot Access News).

Also in Orange County, Norm Westwell is in position to run for Huntington Beach City County, Robert Mauldin for Newport Beach City Council, and Nick Moss for Costa Mesa City Council. As well, Debi Grand, who is currently on the Stanton Parks and Recreation Commission has been asked to join the Planning Commission. 11:30

## **Treasurer's Report**

11:30 Don Cowles

### **Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2008**

Cowles reports that with \$1,065 Total Equity, we're at least solvent.

### **Profit & Loss Statement YTD as of November 30, 2008**

See attachment

Cowles reported negative net income, -\$3,800 YTD, which isn't bad because we've kept the loss within budget, despite the previous year's loss from Operation Breakthrough.

Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual, Cowles reports a -\$3,830 when we budgeted for a \$5,375 for the first eleven months income. Membership is the greatest deficit, since we've brought in only half of what we projected. However, we're spending only a fraction of what we budgeted on member retention.

McConnell asked how we're doing on renewals, and Cowles asked Cain to report. Cain reported that renewals are coming in, but that because we've switched to a rolling membership model, there aren't as many renewals so far this year as there were last year. However, this will be compensated by renewals that will come in each month going forward, especially during January and February of 2009.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to suspend the rules to add discussion of Membership to the agenda after Power's report on the Party's Web presence, which was seconded

**VOTE:** The motion to add discussion of Membership to the agenda passed without objection.

Cowles continued that we have a more realistic view of our operation and what to expect of it than we did at this time last year, and that costs have increased because we'll be spending more money on fundraising, and that we have a much clearer idea of how our operation is working.

Cowles concluded by iterating that we have budgeted a Net Income of \$337, and finish by almost paying off our deficit by the end of 2009.

Campbell asked where in the budget Coffee Club memberships are, and how much revenue Coffee Club membership contribute. Cowles pointed to Ongoing Revenue, Recurring Gifts (42000). Cowles noted that we've increased our Appeals to \$5,000 for next year.

Holtz asked about Reconciliation of Discrepancies. Cowles explained that there was a \$1,552 difference between the checkbook balance compared to bank statement, based on an incorrect 2007 correction.

Holtz asked about Suspense account. Cowles explained that the Suspense category contains money that has been donated to our Candidate Campaign Fund.11:45

## **2009 Budget**

The 2009 Budget discussion was discussed later in the day.

## **Secretary's Report**

11:45 Cain reported that his secretarial duties took a back seat to his contracting duties for the last quarter, because his fundraising and staffing efforts have increased.

## **Votes**

Since the previous Executive Committee meeting on August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009, the Executive Committee voted as follows:

Motion to approve Allen Hacker's fundraiser contract passed, August 19<sup>th</sup>

Motion to oppose Proposition 1A passed, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

Motion to place a banner ad on home page linking to the No on 8 campaign failed, October 14<sup>th</sup>. The vote was 7 for and 1 abstention, and did not win a simple majority.

## **County Party Rosters**

Cain reported that his biggest effort as Secretary is that he changed the format of the county Party rosters by removing the Registered Libertarian data and compiling on one worksheet the LPCA data with the LNC data. LNC data delivery was irregular due to Robert Kraus assuming the duties of Interim Executive Director, which affected his duties as database manager.

As well, Cain reported spending an unexpected amount of extra hours correcting data from the LNC database, which gave county Party officers many extra prospects to pursue.

Cain also reported that the roster shows far more inquiries than anything else, which indicates a burgeoning need for county Party officers to follow up on people who call and ask for information about the Party.

Carling asked to speak, and he explained that the LNC periodically runs their database through the NCOA database service, and that the records without

counties are likely very recent, and have not been run through the NCOA service yet.

Power asked how one can tell which records in the Membership Status column are from the LNC and which are from LPCA. Cain explained that if that field has all caps data, it's from the LPCA's database, and if the data is mixed case, it's from the LNC's database.

The latest roster contains membership data as recent as December 12. 11:55

## **Representatives Reports**

### **Mark Hinkle, LNC Region 2 Representative**

11:55 Hinkle distributed the following printed report.

#### **Report**

Region 2 LNC Report – 11/28/08

Mark Hinkle, Region 2 Representative

California:

The LPC had 40 partisan candidates running for office, our lowest number since gaining ballot access in 1980. Those elected include: John Inks, Chair of the Planning Commission for Mountain View (SF Bay Area) won a seat on the city council on November 4th. The longest serving elected Libertarian; Tom Tryon won re-election again to his seat on the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors. Brian Holtz, in addition to running for Congress, also ran (and won a seat on the Purissima Hills Water) running unopposed. It's a 4 year term. Kate O'Brien was re-elected to her seat on the Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District board of directors.

Proposition 8, which bans Gay marriage in California was approved by the voters. The LPC was part of the coalition opposed to Prop 8. Several lawsuits are pending to try and overturn it in the courts.

Some disgruntled Libertarians submitted paperwork to have write-in votes for Ron Paul officially counted. His write-in Vice Presidential candidate was long time Libertarian Gail Lightfoot. As far as I know, all of this was done without Ron Paul's knowledge or consent.

#### **Budget**

Hinkle reported that the LNC Executive Committee met in San Diego the previous weekend. They approved a \$1.3MM budget, noting that in years following a presidential election there's a 30% to 40% decline in Party



revenues, and the current LNC budget reflects this anticipated reduction in income.

## **Top 2 Balloting**

Hinkle reported about Washington State's "Top 2" legislation. An initiative was passed that permitted only the two candidates who win the most votes to continue campaigning for office after a primary.

Now that there has been an election that was clearly affected by "Top 2" procedures, third parties can now file suit for damages. Further, both the Democratic Party and the Republican Party cannot file for damages because the procedure clearly benefits them.

The LNC has decided to raise funds to help Washington State's efforts to eliminate Top 2 voting. Hinkle also noted that it's vitally important for third parties to fight such proposed legislation in California.

Campbell asked what Top 2 legislation does. Hinkle explained that Top 2 voting automatically eliminates candidates who are not one of the two largest vote-getters in a primary, which is a huge disadvantage for third parties.

Newell observed that something like this was defeated in California. Takenaga elaborated that this was Open Primaries, which was defeated. Richard Winger is the local expert to ask about this. Although the proposed legislation was withdrawn, it may be revised and re-presented.

## **LNC Conventions**

Hinkle reported that the LNC decided to hold the 2010 convention in St. Louis Missouri, and that they're seeking a site for the 2012 convention.

## **Wayne Allyn Root**

Wayne Allyn Root addressed the LNC, asking to be a spokesman for the Party.

## **Nolan Resolution re: Barr-Root Campaign**

David Nolan introduced a resolution to chastise the Barr-Root campaign for mismanagement, which the LNC rejected because it is obligated to support the Party's choice for presidential candidate, and to subsequently chastise them would be poor form.

## **Nolan Resolution re: Keaton Disciplinary Action**

Hinkle also reported that the LNC's proposed disciplinary action against Angela Keaton was assigned to a conflict resolution committee, but which has

become a moot point because Keaton resigned two days after the Executive Committee meeting.

### **Proposed Goals**

Hinkle reported that Pat Dixon, Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Texas, presented proposed goals to the LNC, the acceptance of which was deferred to the next meeting.

### **Ballot Access**

Hinkle also reported that there's likely no money set aside for ballot access in 2009, but there are states where this effort will begin in 2009. The LNC spent about \$750,000 for ballot access in 2008.

Collier noted that Hinkle omitted Nolan's proposed LP Mission Statement change. Hinkle reported that it is being revisited. The criticism is that the LP Mission Statement seems to be too narrowly focused.

### **National Director**

The LNC is continuing its search for a national director, but since it has no funds to pay one right away, their efforts are not urgent.

### **Policy Manual Changes**

The LNC changed its Policy Manual to prevent the Chair from initiating lawsuits on behalf of ballot access.

Hinkle reported that the LNC passed a resolution decrying the violation of the *Posse Comitatus Act*.

The minutes of the LNC's Executive Committee meeting should be approved within 30 days and published.

Power offered clarification about Nolan resolution about the Barr-Root campaign, the problem seems to be about the campaign not submitting its list of contacts to the LNC after the campaign. Gaining access to that contact information is potentially very valuable for the Party, and so negotiations should continue civilly.

Barnes thanked Hinkle for his service on California's behalf, and then raised three points.

First, regarding the LNC's Mission Statement, California rejected a Bylaw change that would have narrowed the LPCA's focus. Barnes encourages the LNC to do likewise.

Hinkle responded that as a service organization, LNC must do what the members tell them to do.

Second, regarding the disciplinary action against Angela Keaton, Barnes asks that the LNC not engage in any side of that situation.

Third, the 2012 LNC convention asked what the LPCA Executive Committee could do to encourage the LNC to decide to produce the convention in San Diego. Hinkle replied the membership will inform that decision.

Takenaga acknowledged the arrival of the LNC Region 2 Alternate Representative, Scott Lieberman, who commented in addition to Hinkle's report. Lieberman suggested that campaigns that go into debt might choose not to release their list of contacts until they've benefitted from renting the list to help pay campaign debts.

Regarding the convention, the convention should be held in different parts of the country, and the last four conventions have all been held west of the Mississippi.

Cowles asked what Region 2 is and why it's called that? Hinkle explained that the Regions are not necessarily contiguous, and so they are labeled numerically.

Holtz noted that Carling had a comment about conventions.

MOTION: Barnes moved to allow Carling to speak, Holtz seconded.

VOTE: The motion to allow Carling to speak passed without objection.

Carling reported that if California wishes to have a national convention in California, and the LNC said that California should offer to host the convention, manage it, and assume the financial risk.

MOTION: Takenaga moved to break for twenty minutes, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to break for twenty minutes passed with no objection. 12:25

## **Committee Reports**

### **Operations Committee**

12:43 The Operations Committee voted to approve expenditures to produce a fundraising dinner and reception in Pasadena honoring Ed and Alicia Clark, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Also, we voted to approve expenditures to produce a fundraising dinner and reception in San Juan Capistrano honoring Steven Greenhut for signing his voter registration for to become a Libertarian October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Additionally, we voted to approved expenditures for a fundraising dinner and reception in San Mateo County honoring Senator Mike Gravel, which eventually became a dinner and reception for Ed Clark and Lynne Gravel Mosier, Proposals to produce subsequent dinner/reception fundraisers entailed less than \$200 in expenses, and so required only the Chair's approval.

As well, the Operations Committee approved a list of 55 Presidential Electors September 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **Bylaws**

Matt Barnes reported that a report is forthcoming. The report is due 70 days before the convention, so proposals to change bylaws should be submitted as soon as possible, and within fifty days of this meeting. No proposals have been officially submitted yet, but there is likely to be at least one proposal.

ACTION: Barnes shall submit the Bylaws Committee report by February 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

As well, there are five items from the Style Committee that will need to be ratified. Barnes expects them to be of a non-contentious nature because they are stylistic changes that do not alter the intention of the text.

Mike Seebeck is Project Lead for reviewing and recommending changes to LPCA Bylaws. He submitted the current Bylaws as amended at the state Party convention, which is included with this agenda for this meeting.

## **Convention Committee**

Chair Pro Tem Rich Newell reported the results of his research for a venue for our 2009 state Party convention.

April 24<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup> which allows slightly more than the 120 day notice required in our Bylaws.

Northern locations scouted between Nevada City and Visalia.

Attempted to avoid commitment for renting a block of rooms. List of specifications for meetings sent to all 21 prospective sites. 6 no response, 5 responded with no bids, usually for no availability for requested dates, 10 gave price information and some other information. Visalia Holiday Inn Convention Center and Hotel gave most complete and agreeable response, and has an advantage of being located rather centrally between large population centers.

The fixed charge is affordable, and allows us room to purchase other services as needed.

Dining terrace is available during the day Saturday and Sunday. Meeting rooms are more than adequate for our anticipated number of attendees.

MOTION: Moved to accept proposal

Barnes point of information, re: San Bernardino County LP hospitality suite, are their proscriptions? Do we have speakers scheduled? Takenaga recommended Barnes work with the convention committee, and Newell suggested he chair it.

Samuels asked about scholarships for prospective attendees who can't afford to participate.

Samuels asked if there's an Early Bird discount.

McConnell suggested using an account that was set up to subsidize some admissions.

Barnes point of information, what test was used to determine distribution of scholarship funds, to which McConnell suggested volunteer work at the convention.

McMahon asked about scholarships for students.

Cowles asked about Fresno County volunteers.

Power asked if \$1680 is all inclusive, and when the meal count has to be submitted. Also, about the choice of the rooms.

McConnell spoke in favor of the motion, suggesting a spreadsheet projecting surplus or deficit.

MOTION: Barnes called question, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to call the question passed unanimously.

VOTE: The motion to accept the proposal for the 2009 convention passed.

ACTION: Announce as soon as possible 12:30

## **LPCa Financial Standards Committee Report 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2008**

By Brian Darby, Chair

13:20 Committee members Brian Darby and Mike Bearden interviewed Beau Cain, LPCA Secretary and contractor. Cain described his duties regarding financial transactions and the policies and procedures he follows in performing his duties. We discussed his receiving funds and his handling of petty cash. He described his monthly routines for recording and depositing cash, checks, and

credit card receipts. With two exceptions, the committee finds that the procedures Beau described are sound, with adequate financial controls.

Two concerns are incomplete documentation of procedures, as well as recording the actual date that donations are received.

The first area of concern is the lack of documentation of the policies and procedures. Cain asserts that they are working on these and we look forward to reviewing them.

The second area is the dating of incoming checks in the reports given to the Treasurer. Cain explained that, in order to increase efficiency, the checks are dated for the date that they will be deposited, instead of the date received. We are concerned that this may affect the strict compliance of our reports to regulatory agencies.

This opinion applies only to the subjects discussed during the interview with Cain. The committee has not reviewed the financial records. This opinion does not imply anything not expressly stated.

Cain clarified that when he reported recording the deposit date rather than the date the checks are received, he neglected to state that there are several fields in the database for recording various kinds of dates, and one of those is for recording the date a gift is received. As well, all documentation received by mail is stamped with the date it's received, and an image of those documents are scanned and saved.

Power asked if there is a process for reporting unusually large donations. Takenaga clarified that those reporting requirements are for the Candidate Campaign Support Fund, not General Operation funds.

Collier asked why the committee decided to use the FPCC standards. Cowles responded that the Party doesn't report to that body.

Campbell asked if Santa Clara County LP's concern about dues shares were addressed in the examination. 13:31

## **Office Report**

Priorities in the office are:

1. Staffing: identify volunteers to assist with membership data management, fundraising, and candidate assistance
2. Fundraising: develop and implement ideas to raise funds and revitalize member interest in Party operations
3. Clerical: maintain office operations to support membership, volunteer, and elected officials' needs

## Staffing

### Volunteers

- Jill Stone (Los Angeles County) continues to mail infopaks to inquirers.
- L.P. Barragan continues to make phone calls for various purposes.
- David Larkin agreed to assist in the office at the Ed and Alicia Clark dinner and reception, but he died before he began.
- Amy Sue Fall agreed to assist with fundraising events after this year's end-of-year holidays.
- Crystal Updegraff (San Bernardino County) learned to update volunteer and inquiry information in DonorPerfect, and agreed to maintain this information remotely. She also agreed to help prepare for and assist at the upcoming state Party convention.
- Lynne Gravel Mosier helped coordinate her father's participation in a fund raising dinner in his honor in San Mateo County. She substituted for her father when he was unable to attend due to health problems.

MOTION: Barnes moved to recess for lunch, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to recess for lunch passed without objection at 13:40.

The meeting reconvened at 14:00, at which time Takenaga asked that we add selection of the LNC Platform Committee representative to the end of the agenda.

MOTION: Barnes moved to add selection of the LNC Program Committee representative to the end of the agenda, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to add selection of the LNC Program Committee representative to the end of the agenda passed without objection.

Cain continued with the office report.

- Lynne Fortner agreed to assist in the office right after Thanksgiving, but postponed until next year because of her husband's deteriorating health.
- James Richardson agreed to help Kevin Takenaga improve the Party's Web presence.
- Kelly Barnes agreed to assist with the upcoming state Party convention as she did at last year's convention, taking charge of registration. She prefers that another volunteer announce the quorums.

- Wayne and Marian Meyers agreed to storyboard and draft a multimedia presentation for an upcoming fundraiser.
- Lance Keating agreed to assist with data maintenance beginning next week.

Cain appealed to the body to have volunteers call him if they're interested in remote data entry work.

## **Operation Manual**

Cain continues to document procedures for the Operation Manual. Topics in the manual now include the following (although some topic may not be complete, and all need screen shots and illustrations):

- Archiving
- Cash, Checks, and Money Orders
- Click and Pledge Payments
- County Party Rosters
- Credit Card Charges and Automatic Bank Drafts
- Data Entry
- Deposits
- Electronic Fund Transfers (EFTs)
- Emergency Procedures
- Filing Documents
- Processing Income
- Inquiries and Infopaks
- Mail
- Organization Chart
- Petty Cash
- Reconciling DonorPerfect Reports With Bank Deposits
- Run Book
- Security Procedures
- Supplies
- Telephone Calls

## **Fundraising**

### **Election Night Party, Agoura Hills**

Coordinated efforts for an election night party at the home of Barry and Sue Bakalor, at the invitation of Olga Galchenko, November 4<sup>th</sup>.



## **Dinners and Receptions**

So far, LPCA produced four dinner/reception fund raisers since August.

- Pasadena, honoring Ed and Alicia Clark, September 27<sup>th</sup>
- San Juan Capistrano, honoring Steve Greenhut, October 11<sup>th</sup>
- Fullerton, honoring Art Pedroza, November 15<sup>th</sup>
- Burlingame, honoring Ed Clark and Lynne Gravel Mosier, November 20<sup>th</sup>

One fund raising reception is planned for late January in Orange County, and one for Beverly Hills shortly thereafter, with a third in the exploratory stages for March in Sacramento.

## **Direct Appeals**

Identified major donors and possible major donors in DonorPerfect and flagged their records accordingly. E-mailed and began telephoning donors to encourage them to donate a major gift. Responses have been cautious.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking for more specifics about cautious responses. Cain responded that almost everyone he spoke to about renewing Coffee Club memberships stated that they wished to support the Party at a lesser level.

Barnes asked if the donors specified whether their decision was based on personal economic situations or on Party performance. Cain replied that in most cases the donor cited personal economic situations, but that two donors suspended their monthly gifts because they disagreed with the Executive Committee's decision to oppose Proposition 8. However, Cain reported that he would call these donors again once he can demonstrate that the Party will be working specifically on getting government to stop licensing personal relationships.

Takenaga asked Cain to speak about the physical office. Cain stated that the office is in transition. He sold the large secretary desk in the front office, and is in the process of selling the large desk in the back office along with a lot of old equipment, so that all the filing cabinets can be moved into the back office, and the front office can then be used for meetings, and possibly be rented out to other groups.

Power asked about the possibility of using Click and Pledge as our donor management software, and Cain replied that he believes Click and Pledge may not be able to produce the reports that we need. Cain noted that the Party pays almost \$300 a month to use DonorPerfect, and that it's a time-consuming service to use. As well, Cain noted that changing the layout of an input page

would cost the Party \$400, which constrains him to use the pages as they've been designed, which isn't conducive to rapid data entry.

Cain stated that he examined QuickBooks Premiere Non-profit, and he believes it can do as good a job of recording membership and donation information, produce all the reports we need, and would cost only \$500 annually for 1 seat, whereas DonorPerfect costs over \$3,000 annually.

Cain stated that he continues to seek other solutions for membership and donation tracking.

## **Renewal Mailings**

Mailed 1<sup>st</sup> renewal appeal to members lapsed as far back as January 2004. Response was good, and I can begin sending out renewal notices every month for the coming three months, now that we've completed the last year of calendar year memberships.

## **Clerical**

### **Mail**

Received, opened, date-stamped, recorded, forwarded and filed mail.

Scanned invoices and bills and forwarded to Treasurer for payment or preparation for payment.

Researched old U.S.P.S. documents to find what accounts and permissions we have to mail at non-profit and bulk rates. Currently we have the following USPS mailing accounts.

- Non-profit Authorization
- Bulk Mailing Permit (City of Industry Business Mail Entry Unit)
- Business Reply Permit

Generated mailing list for all newsletter subscribers and e-mailed it each month to JEJ Print. In October, I included an extra 231 copies to be mailed to San Mateo County registered libertarians.

Mailed 410 membership renewal notices October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mailed 1,244 postcards to LNC members to join LPCA, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Connected various requests for LP speakers to colleges, town hall meetings, radio interviews, and print news media.

Notified five county Parties that their previous dues share checks had not yet been cashed.

## Phones

Answered phone, responded to caller needs, referred callers when appropriate, checked voice mail daily, and forwarded phone to my cell phone so that I can receive calls when I'm away from the office.

Terminated AT&T fax line, replaced with MyFax online fax service, saving at least \$12 monthly, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Files

Continued culling archives and sorting through old unfiled documents.

## Special Projects

Contacted proposition offices, asking them to include LPCA as supporting or opposing.

Repurposing the office continues slowly. Volunteer Marian Meyer agreed to attempt to sell old equipment through Craigslist. Once the desk in the back office is sold, the file and utility cabinets can be moved from the front office to the back office, freeing the front office for modest presentations and meetings.

## Old Business

### New Business

Takenaga asked to add consideration of the 2009 Budget to the agenda.

MOTION: Barnes moved suspend the rules to add consideration of the 2009 Budget to the agenda, which Holtz seconded.

VOTE: The motion to add consideration of the 2009 Budget to the agenda passed without objection.

### 2009 Budget

Cowles called attention to the Profit and Loss Budget Overview. It's close to last year's report, with different Convention figures. \$45,000, we budgeted \$15,100 income, but for this year's convention we're anticipated \$24,400 income.

As well, \$54,000 convention costs, \$11,000 will be \$20,000. The change is modest, only about \$200

41003, Income from California Freedom, \$10, 560. 66100, Magazine, it costs us \$18,078. We lose about \$8,000 annually on California Freedom. Cowles suggests making the publication bi-monthly instead of monthly.

Newell asked how many people who join or renew choose to subscribe to the newsletter. Cain stated that it seems that less than half of members choose to subscribe.

McMahon asked what the Outside Services include, under 66154. Cowles explained that this is compensation for Thomas Sipos editing at \$350 issue, and Brad Reynolds layout services at \$333 per issue. If we publish fewer issues, those annual costs will decrease.

Cowles noted that we have a breakeven budget.

Power asked if we examined other state Parties' newsletters. Does Texas or any of the other state Parties produce a newsprint newsletter? Cowles noted that we cut our printing costs in half when we switched from using Greater Georgia Printers, Inc., to JEJ Print, Inc. As well, we pay much less for editing and layout services with Sipos and Reynolds than we did with previous editors and layout artists.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking if Cowles asked Sipos and Reynolds how they'd react to changing the publication schedule. Cowles replied that this is the first he's mentioned it to anybody. Barnes asked if we know how changing the publication schedule would affect subscriptions. Cowles replied that he didn't know, but that it seems we're already losing subscribers.

McMahon noted that if we switched our newsletter to entirely online, we'd save printing and postage, which is half the cost of the newsletter expenses. By switching to online, we can still charge for subscriptions for members-only content.

Campbell stated that he spoke with many members who prefer to get information online. He suggested changing to a quarterly publication, and publishing our newsletter online would draw others to the website. He noted that he filed his printed copy with other printed periodicals that he subscribes to, but he never reads them because he prefers to get his information online.

Holtz noted that whatever we decide, we must not do anything that makes subscribers believe that we've not given the value that they paid for. Instead of decreasing the frequency of the issues, perhaps we can mail the Table of Contents in a postcard, referring the recipient to the articles on the website.

Samuels noted that if the Party sent an e-mail with part or all of the newsletter.

Cowles noted that the West Hollywood LP sends their newsletter to him by e-mail.

Collier stated that he'd rather not see a change just in cutting costs, but in getting members to pay for the service we provide.

Newell stated his concern about people who pay for twelve issues a year. Do people actually read the online version?

Power asked Cowles if the \$30 subscription covers the cost of delivering California Freedom to our subscribers. Cowles replied no, it doesn't cover those costs. Power further asked if changing the format of the publication, such as going to a less expensive laser-printed format would help balance that inequity.

McMahon sees the problem as buying the cow when one can get the milk free.

Barnes there is value in the paper version of the newsletter. He can easily share it with others. It's easy to get others to read it, instead of asking people to visit a website. He suggests keeping some kind of printed form of the newsletter.

Holtz, New York and Texas LP newsletters have simpler layouts, but he agrees with Barnes that it's great to have a high-production value newsletters to hand out. This seems to be a more important consideration than trying to make money from the newsletters.

As well, the monthly paper in one's mailbox could be replaced with a postcard calling people to the website to read articles.

Cain recalled that a year ago the Party was mailing 729 issues to subscribers, and the latest mailing list was to 804 subscribers, and that this increase has been incremental over a year. However, this number can drop in the next two months as renewals come due and old subscribers choose not to renew their subscriptions, but there's no way to tell that at this time.

Cain then spoke as a technical communication professional, stating that some people will not read a magazine online, and some will prefer reading anything online. Therefore, if we are to take a principled approach to disseminating our newsletter, we observe our "pro-choice on everything" credo, and find a way to cost-effectively targeting our different audiences for either online or printed distribution.

Cowles restated his idea that cutting the production schedule in half would reduce the cost to near-break-even levels rather than an \$8,000 annual lost.

Campbell,

Power clarified that he believes it's important to touching our audience at least monthly, if not more often, and so if we reduced the newsletter distribution from monthly to bi-monthly, we should at least send a postcard in those months that we don't mail a newsletter.

Collier what we're not talking about is increasing membership. We should be using the subscription to entice new members. He suggested asking members to donate their subscription to someone else, perhaps an "Adopt a RegLib" program.

Holtz agreed with what Power and Collier said, including the "Adopt a RegLib" idea and sending a postcard to people who need to be enticed into reading about the party's activities.

Takenaga

Cowles iterated that the budget shows that despite the loss in our current newsletter production, other items in the budget make up for that loss.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to continue business as usual for the next six months, then change to quarterly print publication while continuing monthly online publication, and recommend that if in six months the publication becomes profitable, the ExCom reviews the decision. McMahon seconded.

Holtz raised a point of information, asking how does passing this or not passing it makes any difference. Barnes responded that the purpose of the motion is that in six months this will happen, but in that six months things might happen to make this unnecessary.

Holtz raised another point of information, asking what our current subscription agreement specifies about the term of the subscription, and whether this would affect what we decide about subscriptions in six months. Cain responded by producing an enrollment form showing “twelve monthly issues”.

Takenaga pointed out that the new enrollment forms says “one year subscription”.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking when this enrollment form became effective. Cain pointed to the mark in the lower right corner of the form, which indicates “08Q1”, meaning that the form became effective the first quarter of 2008. Cain noted that the PDF of the printed form is available online, so that it’s the same form that people use to enroll through the website.

Barnes raised a point of information, stating that he made the motion only to have something concrete to work with.

Collier spoke against the motion because he believes something crafted in only a few moments without forethought should become policy, and that policy crafted with little forethought should be used to bind the next Executive Committee. Further, he believes the responsible course of action will be to form a committee to provide a recommendation at the next Executive Committee meeting, which he’s willing to chair.

Holtz spoke against the motion, preferring to improve the newsletter’s content rather than change the publishing schedule.

Newell spoke against the motion because we have not considered the actual financial impact of changing the format or publishing schedule.

**MOTION:** Newell offered a substitute motion to form the Newsletter Committee and report to Executive Committee at next meeting. Barnes seconded.

Barnes spoke in favor of the substitute motion, noting that the newsletter has been a subject of discussion every time we considered the budget. It is obvious that we need an in-depth look into the matter, so that we can make an informed decision.

VOTE: The substitute motion passed without objection.

MOTION: McConnell called the question on the main motion, which was seconded. Campbell objected to calling the question.

VOTE: The motion to call the question on the main motion passed with two objections.

VOTE: The motion to form the Newsletter Committee passed with one objection.

ACTION: Newsletter Committee to convene and explore possibilities and report to Chair.

MOTION: Cowles moved to adopt the proposed budget as amended, which was seconded.

MOTION: Campbell offered a substitute motion to raise newsletter subscription to \$40, which was not seconded.

Newell raised a point of information, asking if the changes are for totals only, and if we can we change subtotals. Cowles replied yes.

MOTION: Collier called for roll call vote, which was seconded. Barnes objected.

Barnes spoke against the motion for a roll call vote, noting that such a record could be used for *ad hominem* attacks, and asked for Collier's reason for a roll call vote.

Collier stated that if we will approve a vote, we should be willing to stand by our individual decisions.

McMahon raised a point of information, asking if the budget to be adopted is with the current convention numbers. Cowles replied yes, \$24,400 and \$20,000.

VOTE: The motion for a roll call vote passed with few objections.

VOTE: The motion to adopt the budget as amended passed with 10 aye, 2 nay, 0 abstentions, as follows:

- Newell aye
- Collier aye
- Cowles aye
- Cain aye
- Barnes aye
- Campbell nay
- Holtz aye

- McConnell aye
- McMahon nay
- Power aye
- Samuels aye
- Takenaga aye

MOTION: Barnes moved for 5 minute recess, which McMahon seconded.

VOTE: The motion to recess for 5 minutes passed without objection.  
15:30

Before reconvening, Takenaga asked for a show of hands of who wishes to be in the Newsletter Committee, and appointed Collier chair *pro tem*.

Takenaga introduced Robert Arne, headmaster of the School of Choice, and thanked him for allowing us to use the facility. Arne addressed the Executive Committee about our host location, the School of Choice. He started School of Choice as a small private school because he couldn't stand being a teacher who worked for a liberal committee. He studied with libertarian thinkers at Berkeley, Oxford, University of Chicago, and elsewhere. Like many libertarians, he came to libertarianism through the writings of Ayn Rand, but has since moved on.

Arne is less political now than he is religious, but has voted Libertarians for the past twenty-five years. He's particularly interested in seeing Libertarians move their focus into education and family issues, because Libertarians have missed the boat sometimes by concentrating on drug and vice issues rather than on issues of importance to Middle America. He expressed his conviction that Libertarians need to go to church sometimes, to reach the families who vote and make the difference in elections. Libertarians could make big waves if they concentrated on the issues that attract Middle America.

Arne then offered a dare to Libertarians. Do libertarians around the state make a market for their own children's education? Why do Libertarians send their children to socialist schools? There are teachers who would love to teach libertarian issues, but they can't find the market to do so, even among their own libertarian colleagues.

Barnes asked if Arne might speak at our upcoming convention about why libertarians send children to socialist schools. Arne expressed his interest.

Cain announced that Carolyn Marbry and her son Sean offered to donate their newsletter subscriptions to some organization such as a school or library. Cain suggested that any of the Executive Committee who receive California Freedom who are so inclined could donate their subscription to a library or a school.

Collier announced that the members of the Newsletter Committee are Cain, Campbell, Collier, Holtz, Marbry, and Power.



Takenaga reconvened the meeting at 3:50 pm.

MOTION: McMahan moved to suspend the rules to express the Executive Committee's gratitude to Robert Arne for allowing us the use of the School of Choice for today's meeting, which was seconded.

VOTE: The motion to suspend the rules to express appreciation to Robert Arne passed with unanimous consent.

## **Report: Web Presence Development and Maintenance Alternatives**

Following is the brief report I agreed to create at the last meeting regarding alternatives to Terra Eclipse for website management.

Having evaluated the open-source content management systems Drupal and Joomla, I recommend using Joomla 1.5 (free), with a Joomlashack template (\$90 includes removing all Joomlashack branding). Examples of the Joomlashack templates available are:

[http://www.joomlashack.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=156&Itemid=31](http://www.joomlashack.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=156&Itemid=31)

These templates would give us full XHTML and CSS compliance, excellent Search Engine Optimization (SEO), flexible column arrangements, widths, and menuing, multiple color options, and all the source files so that we could use a color scheme other one of their pre-defined options without too much trouble. The only real graphics work I can see that we might want to pay for is to get the California outline version of the standard LP logo (here's what it looks like for LP Illinois: <http://www.lpillinois.org/media/> ). The artist's fee was too steep for our not-so-exciting San Francisco County outline, so I turned down the offer, but Yolo County's logo, which is more interesting, makes me think the California outline version might be worth the cost:

[http://photos2.meetupstatic.com/photos/event/d/c/0/a/highres\\_3896330.jpeg](http://photos2.meetupstatic.com/photos/event/d/c/0/a/highres_3896330.jpeg)

I have already rolled out three Joomla 1.5 websites in the past several months (two basic template sites at [www.lpsf.org](http://www.lpsf.org) and [www.asq-sf.com](http://www.asq-sf.com) and a more complicated Joomlashack Weblogic template based site for my employer), and I'm confident that we have enough volunteer capacity and technical know-how within our party to do this on our own without hiring Terra Eclipse.

I'm personally leaning toward some of the simpler templates (like [www.cadem.org](http://www.cadem.org)), because it's easy to let things get too cluttered and difficult to read (like [www.cagop.org](http://www.cagop.org) ). But all of the templates are equally capable of including column modules, such as the Coffee Club widget on the current site.

Speaking of fundraising widgets, another bonus of using Joomla is that it's what Click and Pledge uses in their Trio system. We can get access to our payment

system API and have seamless integration between our website, fundraising, and CRM tools.

Given the expense of hiring Terra Eclipse, and the superior fundraising integration with Click and Pledge that Joomla offers, I would recommend to the Executive Committee that we set aside the suggestion of hiring Terra Eclipse to do our website, and instead have our own volunteer website committee do something that is arguably better for fundraising, at a cost in the single digit percentages of what Terra Eclipse would charge us. I would further recommend the formation of a formal electronic communications committee that would be able to integrate the various aspects of electronic communication (website, The Libertarian Perspective, the eFlyer, and Click & Pledge Trio) into a more cohesive system. An example of this is that the eFlyer currently uses Constant Contact, which is a monthly cost through a third-party proprietary host, while PHPList, which ought to be included as part of our website hosting, is equally functional and yet totally free.

Given our negative cash flow even prior to the economy tanking, I'm guessing that Don will be telling us at the next meeting that we have to seriously tighten our belts. I'm hoping that this new option of spending about \$100 on the website instead of thousands of dollars will help us with that goal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Power At-Large Member

Takenaga clarified that the current website uses proprietary site management software, which isn't Open Source, and whatever solution we choose we'll need to allow access to Media Coordinator Dan Minkoff, who publishes *Libertarian Perspective*. Also, the use of Terra Eclipse in the study was simply for comparison, and was never a realistic consideration as a provider.

Barnes noted that he worked with Joomla on several occasions, and he approves of its ability to support our needs. However, the Joomla site broke his iPhone, so we may need to do additional testing to ensure that this doesn't happen if we adopt their model.

Barnes also asked if we checked with the other electronic communication persons within our organization such as Dan Minkoff and Rich Newell. Power replied that with Joomla, we can assign log ins that don't automatically publish, so that Sipos and others could create content online and not publish it until it was completely ready.

Holtz asked if Joomla will allow county Parties to set up their own website with their own sandbox. Power replied that Outright Libertarians has been experimenting with this through their Nashville chapter.

Collier asked if it's possible for people to choose which events they will be notified about. Power replied that RSS is enabled by default, and that there is likely a plug-in to support individual notifications about individual events.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking if we have RSS enabled in our current website management software. Takenaga replied that the current version doesn't support it, but the next version does support RSS feeds.

Cowles asked if there is a motion related to the report. Power replied that maybe there should be a committee to address the possibilities of changing to Joomla.

**MOTION:** Power moved to create a committee to address the Party's electronic communication needs, which Collier seconded.

Power spoke in favor of the motion, adding information about Trio's CRM capability and API integration, and noting that Trio might prove to be a viable alternative to DonorPerfect for membership and donation tracking.

Takenaga observed that "electronic communication" should include only the Party's outbound publications such as *California Freedom*, *California eFlyer*, and *Libertarian Perspective*, and not membership and donation tracking.

Barnes asked if we can get a sense from others who are already involved in electronic communication, to avoid harming our current relationship with them. As well, he stated that he thinks it's a very good idea that we have a committee to coordinate our electronic communication.

Newell commented that he understands that the motion is confined to the IT aspects of online communication, not content; and our current online publications use Constant Contact, and a very good reason to use Constant Contact is that it's whitelisted in most e-mail services, so even though we may save a few hundred dollars a year by changing to an open source system, we may lose subscribers.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to table the motion until the next Executive Committee meeting to examine the duties of the committee before they take action. Campbell seconded.

Power spoke against the motion, seeing the committee as the way to get everyone involved and to coordinate progress.

Barnes spoke asking to ensure that we include our current online communicators.

**MOTION:** Holtz called the question, which Collier seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion to table the motion to form the electronic communication committee failed.

Newell spoke against the motion being too broad, that it should focus only on the website. He asked to amend the motion to create the committee to address the Party's electronic communication.

Barnes raised a point of information, asking what could happen if the website committee could in their implementation plan propose integration of the other electronic media. He'd feel more comfortable with the current language in order to avoid causing hard feelings in the persons who have so far been our contributors in electronic media.

Holtz stated that he doesn't see the difference, and trusts Power and Newell to do the right thing regarding our current content contributor. He advocates starting right away.

Collier asked if Newell feels any reluctance about serving on the committee with the current language of the motion.

Power spoke against the motion because he believes it's important to begin integrating our web-based services, so that we no longer have several different tools and several different expenses.

MOTION: Barnes moved to amend the motion by adding after "...website infrastructure..." "...and to make recommendations for the integration of all electronic communications." There was no second.

VOTE: The Newell substitution failed.

Takenaga asked for an amendment for the committee to report at the next Executive Committee meeting.

MOTION: Newell moved to amend the motion by adding "and to report at the next Executive Committee meeting," which Power seconded.

VOTE: The amendment was accepted without objection.

VOTE: The motion to form the electronic communication committee as amended passed with no objection and one abstention.

### **Brian Holtz, Successful Campaign**

Holtz mentioned that our Party had successes not just in the campaigns that we won, but also in the campaigns that we didn't win. Ted Brown's statistics show the following:

Congressional Candidates 4.53%

State Senate Candidates 5.94%

Assembly Candidates 6.74%

In his own Congressional race, Holtz earned 4.3%, which is higher than any third-party candidate has won in all the data going as far back as 1992.

Holtz observed that one can have fun losing a race. He and his daughters enjoyed distributing his hand-outs at his opponent's town hall meetings and at the new citizens' swearing in ceremonies.

Holtz then distributed copies of his campaign card and the Frisbees with his campaign message imprinted on it.

Newell said he's interested in seeing the percentages for such campaigns as Water Districts, Supervisors, City Councils, and such, to see if those percentages keep going up.

Campbell announced his engagement and added that, as Robert Arne had mentioned, Brian is a good example of a family-oriented Libertarian, involving his wife and children in his activism and his campaigns.

Takenaga suggested preparing a commendation for all the state Party's candidates.

Barnes asked Holtz if he has figures about our candidates' performances from previous campaigns. Holtz and Newell noted that the figures appear to be 2 points higher than previous campaigns, and that we've almost doubled our typical performance.

### **Matt Barnes, Membership**

Barnes opened discussion about membership, stating that people are the stock and trade of politics. He suggested that despite the office's good efforts to accrue and maintain membership, the whole Executive Committee needs to put more effort into bringing in more new members.

Takenaga noted that the Party has a TV commercial in the can, featuring former Executive Director Dave Ruprecht, and since we're not in a Federal Election Cycle, we can air it. We can produce an integrated campaign with ads and landing pages. Perhaps the Electronic Communication Committee can devise a way to incorporate this with Google Analytics or something similar.

Holtz asked to read into the minutes the numbers of LPCA members, LNC members, and Registered Libertarians. There are currently 82,574 registered libertarians. Takenaga recalled that there are about 2,000 LNC members in California. Cain estimated that there are 1,100 LPCA members. Takenaga noted that we need help with membership metrics.

Holtz noted that Allen Rice's graphs indicate that the Libertarian Party is faring better than the other third parties in California, and that the Green Party has particularly suffered in registered voters.

Newell noted that in the past the way we recruited membership was through direct mail campaigns, which tend to be expensive, and which have the drawback of having to have a good contact list in order to get a good membership list. We have several hundred inquiries through our website because of the recent presidential

campaign, and we should make some kind of effort to convert them to Registered Libertarians and members.

Power asked if we had e-mailed anything to the Registered Libertarians. Newell replied that we'd sent trial e-mails to get them to join Meetup groups, and he spent a lot of time putting county information in the Constant Contact records.

Campbell noted that referral marketing is always cool, and that MLM model is worth considering. He also opined that the Membership Committee or some membership-related group of volunteers should meet once a month and pick 100 names to call and solicit.

Takenaga noted that we have an active Membership Committee, but the Chair probably has his hands full as Chair of his county Party. The necessary action seems to be how to get the Membership Committee more active. Campbell volunteers to serve on the Membership Committee.

Barnes stated that he'd rather see the Executive Committee take direct action about membership instead of assigning it to a committee.

Newell appreciated Barnes' suggestion, but noted that we don't have much time left in this meeting to decide what to do. We could build membership from the top down or the bottom up, but we likely need to do some of each, and especially to encourage county Parties to focus on growing membership.

Cain agreed with Newell, and noted that when a county Party collects dues from a new or lapsed member, the county Party keeps 100% of the first year's dues. That should be an incentive for county Parties to bring in new members. If any Executive Committee member wishes to make phone calls to solicit new or renewing memberships, please fill out the volunteer form on the Party's website. We don't need a committee to make phone calls if Executive Committee members and others will fill out the volunteer form online and mark the box to make phone calls.

Barnes point of information mentioned rearranging the Membership Committee, is there a known reason why there seems to have been no activity. Takenaga stated that they've not reported activity, and so he assumes that there has been no activity. Being sensitive about volunteers' efforts, he is willing to work on the Membership Committee if others are willing to share the effort.

Collier noted that there's nothing stopping any of us from recruiting new members, without a committee.

**MOTION:** Campbell moved that all Executive Committee members recruit 50 members or contact 500 prospects during their two-year term, and that those contacts be confirmed by the Secretary before they seek reelection. There was no second.

## **Selection of Platform Committee Representative to the National Convention**

Takenaga said that ten members of the Platform Committee are chosen by the ten largest state Party affiliates of the LNC, and he hopes that at the end of 2009, California is still number one. As well, he would like to see LPCA grow its LNC members so that we will not be seated at the rear of the room at the national convention in 2010.

There is a precedent for selecting our representative the year before the national committee.

**MOTION:** McConnell moved to appoint M Carling as LPCA's representative on the Platform Committee, Barnes seconded.

**MOTION:** Power offered a substitute motion to place an ad in California Freedom asking for applications. Collier seconded.

**MOTION:** Holtz offered an amendment to the substitute motion, asking for sample platform planks with their application, as the LNC does, which Newell seconded.

Barnes spoke against the amendment to ask for sample platform planks, noting that asking for sample planks might be like asking about their ideology.

Holtz spoke in favor of the amendment, because it can help us make informed decision.

Power added that when he made his original motion, he was thinking of draft planks.

McConnell spoke against the motion, noting that the implication of asking for sample planks is to say that the prime purpose of the Platform Committee is to propose new planks, whereas an equal purpose may be to oppose offensive planks, and to bring debate on proposed planks.

Collier spoke in favor of the amendment, stating that he believes that the desire to have sample platform planks isn't based on knowing an applicant's ideology, but rather based on knowing whether the applicant can competently draft platform planks.

Power added that when he followed the instructions and submitted his application, two of the planks were really very minor amendments, so the samples don't have to be new, whole platform planks.

**MOTION:** Newell called all pending questions, which was seconded.

**VOTE:** The motion to amend the substitute motion by requiring the Party to ask applicants to submit draft planks with their application passed with few objections.

- VOTE: The substitute motion to publish an ad in California Freedom asking volunteers to submit their applications along with sample draft planks failed with four ayes, three nays, and three abstentions.
- VOTE: The main motion to appoint M Carling as LPCA's representative to the Platform Committee failed with 5 ayes, 4 nays, and one abstention.
- MOTION: Holtz moved to advertise for LNC Platform Committee candidates and ask applicants for sample planks, which Power seconded.
- MOTION: McConnell moved to amend by deleting the requirement for sample planks, which was seconded.
- MOTION: Newell called all pending questions, which McConnell seconded.
- VOTE: The motion to call all pending questions passed with one objection
- VOTE: The motion to remove the requirement for sample planks failed.
- VOTE: The main motion to advertise for LNC Platform Committee candidates and ask for sample planks passed with two objections.
- ACTION: Collier shall send said ad to LP newsletter editor Sipos.

## Adjournment

- MOTION: Cowles moved to adjourn, which was seconded.

Takenaga called to suspend the rules to thank our candidates as follows: "The Libertarian Party of California offers its gratitude to the people who sacrificed their time, energy, and money serving as candidates, promoting liberty and advancing the Libertarian Party locally, statewide, and nationally."

## Next Meeting

Newell ask to decide the date for the next meeting. Cain noted that the next certain Executive Committee meeting will be at the state Party convention near the end of April.

- MOTION: Collier moved to meet Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, in Long Beach, which isn't Easter or Purim.



VOTE: The motion to meet Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> in Long Beach passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to adjourn passed without objection. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

## **Action Items**

### **All**

Review, revise, and approve Executive Committee meeting minutes by Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

### **Secretary**

Prepare abbreviated minutes for distribution to county Party officers by Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Prepare complete minutes and submit to the Executive Committee for approval before the end of 2008.

### **Northern Vice Chair**

Announce acceptance of proposal to produce 2009 Annual Convention at Holiday Inn – Visalia, California.

### **Southern Vice Chair**

Newsletter Committee to convene and explore possibilities and report to Chair.

Collier shall send ad to LP newsletter editor Sipos advertising for LNC Platform Committee candidates and asking for sample planks.

### **Rob Power**

Form the Electronic Communication Committee as amended, meet, and report to the Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Beau Cain, Secretary