

# Minutes, December 1, 2007

Executive Committee Meeting, Libertarian Party of California

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Marriott Courtyard Burbank

2100 W Empire Ave., Burbank

Burbank, California 91504

818-843-5500

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/maps/travel/burcy-courtyard-los-angeles-burbank-airport/>

Requests for directions to the hotel should go to the hotel's telephone number. Print or otherwise copy this agenda for future reference. Updated agenda will be distributed at the meeting.

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## Call to Order

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- 10:13

### *Attending*

#### Officers

Kevin Takenaga, Chair  
Richard Newell, Northern Vice Chair  
Zander Collier, Southern Vice Chair, arrived at 10:54  
Don Cowles, Treasurer  
Beau Cain, Secretary

#### At-large Representatives

Matthew Barnes, San Bernardino County, arrived at 10:24  
Ted Brown, Los Angeles County  
Bruce Dovner, Los Angeles County, arrived at 10:24  
Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County  
Mark Johnson, San Francisco County  
Cam McConnell, Contra Costa County, not present, responded in advance  
Mike McMahan, San Bernardino County, arrived at 10:24  
Chuck Moulton, Santa Clara County

Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County, not present, responded in advance  
Jesse Thomas, San Diego County, arrived at 11:13

### Alternates

Dan Minkoff, First Alternate, not present  
Mark Selzer, Second Alternate

### Staff

None

### LPCA Members and Guests

Paul Studier, Orange County, Ambassador  
Donna Orlando, San Diego LP, arrived 11:13  
Neema Sebassi, Hollywood, 11:29  
Crystal Updegraff, San Bernardino County, Secretary 15:00

### Quorum

- Quorum established by roll call at 10:15 with nine present.

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## Call for Comments

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- Studier reported that Orange County is working on a database, Bay Tea, to share data among Libertarians in California. Running on Bill Todd's Dreamhost website, the database includes the county's database plus a State database plus Perry Political's database. The purpose of the database is to facilitate distribution of database information. When the state Party receives the California Fulldump from LP, they can upload it into this conglomerated database, where authorized officers can access all the data from the various sources in one place. Currently downloads are working, but uploads are not. Todd is willing to host it on his site, or give it to the state Party. It runs on PHP and MySQL and is entirely Open Source.

Holtz asked what data sets are included so far, to which Studier repeated Perry Political for Orange County, the state membership database for Orange County, and the LP's California Fulldump for the whole state. Databases can be added in the future, and questions should be directed to Todd and Studier. Takenaga commended Studier and Todd for their initiative in undertaking the project and running with it.

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## Approval of Agenda

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- 10:20 A.M., [6:50]
- Brown asked if we've elected the California Platform Committee Chair. Moulton asked if we have minutes from all meetings this term, or only the minutes of the previous meeting. Cain replied that he has only the minutes of the previous meeting on his computer. Moulton ask if Holtz can research whether we've nominated a Platform Committee Chair and add it to the agenda later. Holtz stated he believed we haven't done

it in this cycle, and agreed with Brown that we should do it. Takenaga added the matter to New Business without objection. Item added under "Election 2007".

- Selzer spoke for Samuels, who was absent with prior notice, asking if members can join online using their credit cards, and can we do a full mailing to members and former members about the convention? Takenaga mentioned that he'd spoken with Samuels about these same issues, and reported that he instructed Thomas to contact Samuels to tell him about any progress with the convention.
- Selzer asked if we should talk about the bylaws concerning endorsing candidate for other parties, and how this affects our relationship with San Diego LP. He stated that he wishes to avoid using the by-laws to harass San Diego LP.

*MOTION:* Selzer moved to add discussion of LPCA endorsing other parties' candidates to New Business, which Barnes seconded.

- Johnson spoke against the motion as being unnecessary, saying no one would condemn San Diego LP for their endorsement of the Republican Party candidate Ron Paul. Selzer spoke for the motion because it's in our bylaws, and that we should talk about it to compose a unified statement in case questions arise about it. Selzer called the question, which Holtz seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to add discussion of LPCA endorsement of other parties' candidates passed with two objections.

- Cowles asked to move the Budget Overview out of Treasurers report into New Business, which was approved without objection.
- Dovner asked to add five minutes under Committee Reports for the Membership Committee report, page 17, after the Property Rights Initiative, which was approved without objection.
- Moulton raise a point of information asking how many minutes were allocated for the budget and for other items, to which Takenaga replied that there was none yet. Takenaga suggested 45 minutes for the Budget at beginning of New Business.
- Brown asked for five minutes for the Platform Committee at the end of New Business, which was approved without objection.
- Takenaga asked to rename his Sonia Sigler item to Election 2007, and to allocate 10 minutes for that discussion. Moulton raised a point of information about whether the endorsement of Norm Westwell is still separate from the Election 2007 item, which Takenaga affirmed.
- Moulton raised a point of information asking whether other items on the agenda have time allocated, which Takenaga affirmed did not. Newell and Cowles pointed that they were in the Table of Contents.
- Brown suggested that Takenaga could save some time when questions are called by asking if there's objection to close the debate, and if there's none to move directly to the vote.
- Agenda is set as amended 10:35 [21:50]
- Takenaga announced that Johnson will serve as parliamentarian, Moulton will help track time, and Takenaga will share the gavel with others during the meeting.

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## Approval of Previous Minutes

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- 10 minutes, beginning 10:35 [22:30]
  - MOTION:* Brown moved to approve the minutes as presented, which Newell seconded
  - VOTE:* The motion to approve the minutes of the previous Executive Committee meeting passed without objection.
- Secretary Cain thanked those who submitted revisions and corrections to the previous meeting's minutes, particularly Moulton who provided a thorough proofreading. Takenaga recognized Cain for producing minutes despite difficulties.

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## Reports

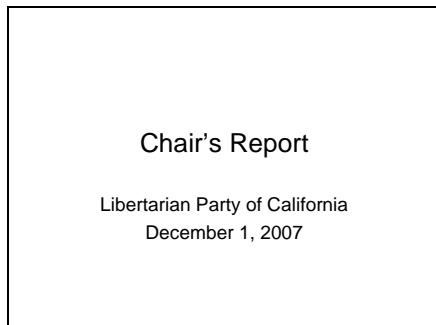
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### *Officers' Reports*

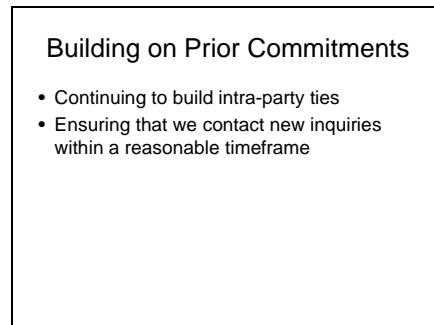
#### Chair (Kevin Takenaga)

- 10:40, 15 minutes [26:30]

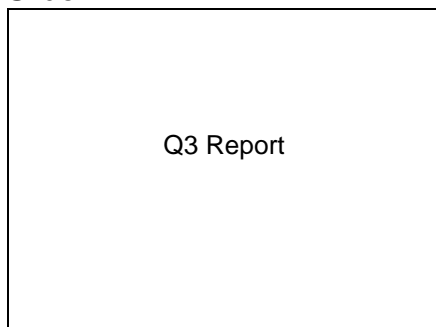
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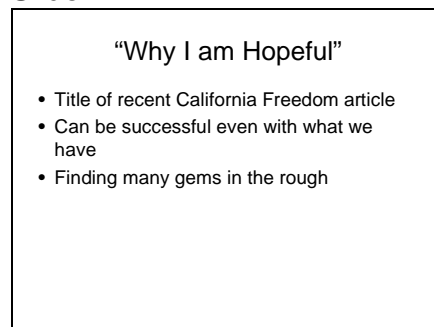
##### Slide 3



##### Slide 2



##### Slide 4



Slide 5

**Key to Our Success**

- Recruit, Recruit, Recruit
- Have the ideas, but not the manpower

Slide 9

**Membership Retention**

- Authorized two mailings
- October mailing to 2007 lapsed or lapsing
- November mailing to 2006 lapsed
- Example of 2006 mailing in packet
- Appreciation goes to former Congressman Bob Barr and LNC Region Rep for the "Redacted Bill of Rights"

Slide 6

**County Party Engagement**

- Continue to engage with county chairs
- Visits & outreach to counties

Slide 10

**LP Nevada Luncheon**

- Attended a function in Reno
- Invited California LP members from Truckee/Tahoe/Grass Valley area to attend
- Referred Juanita Ramirez, former SBCLP chair to Nevada party
- Would like to see additional collaboration between regions

Slide 7

**Scheduler**

- Still looking for one
- Ad published in CF in Chairs' Column

Slide 11

**New Projects**

Slide 8

**Backoffice Operations**

- Spent a large quantity of time working with Beau
- Executing the Membership Program
- Invested in new equipment to replace aging infrastructure

Slide 12

**Election Night Parties**

- Started project to hold events statewide in February 2008
- Low cost, high impact method of engaging party members and public
- Discussed idea with various county chairs
- Would like to see locations promoted in January 2008 *California Freedom*

Slide 13

2009 Budget

Chairs' Conference, this year is managed by Jim Duensing, and will be held in Las Vegas/Henderson. Takenaga will send the schedule after meeting.

**ACTION:** Takenaga to send the schedule of Libertarian State Leadership Alliance to the Executive Committee after the meeting.

Slide 14

Proposed Budget

- Reflects the following priorities
  - Centralized membership processing & database management
  - Production of *California Freedom*
  - Distribution of the *Libertarian Perspective*
  - Holding a yearly Convention of delegates

Barnes asked when the event will be, to which Takenaga replied it's the week before the State Convention.

Slide 17

LPC Office Vision

10:55 a.m. [42:10] Added 10 minutes without objection.

Slide 15

Budget Assumptions

- Projects a 25% YoY increase in membership for 2008
- Similar increase in monthly pledge (recurring) donations

Slide 18

Timeline for LPC Office

- No major decisions have to be made until after Q1 2008
- Month-to-month lease
- No long term employment contract
- Important now for Treasurer and Secretary to be in close proximity
- Becoming a base of operations for volunteers

Slide 16

Upcoming Events

- Presidential Preference Primary
  - February 5, 2007
- Libertarian National Leadership Conference in Las Vegas
  - February 15-17, 2008
- LPC Convention in San Diego
  - February 22-24, 2008
- Various County Conventions

[48:10] Moulton recalled that at the previous Executive Committee meeting there was discussion of possibly closing the office and moving all LPCA's services online. With permission, Cain responded that that was his initial impression of the office the first month he was there, but he's since changed his assessment. Moulton asked if we can add an agenda item to discuss the office, to which Takenaga replied he would rather get the party agenda clarified first.

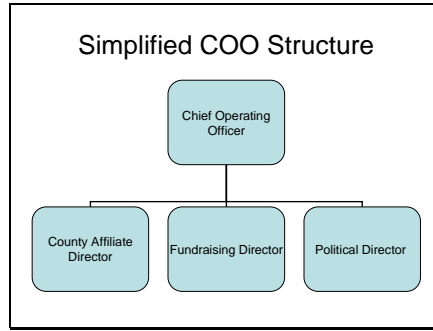
[43:30] Libertarian State Leadership Alliance, which used to be called the State

Slide 19

**Staffing Requirements**

- Complex set of requirements mandated by our bylaws and regulatory environment
- Requires a full-time staff to run membership program
- Response to public and membership via phone cannot be underestimated
- Many processes which are undocumented

Slide 22



11:05 a.m. [52:20] Without objection, added 5 minutes for the Chair's report.

Slide 20

**Staffing Requirements (cont.)**

- Additional programs will require additional resources
- Volunteers work in conjunction with paid staff to further Party goals

Slide 23

**Chairman's Challenge**

Slide 21

**Chief Operating Officer**

- Instead of an "Executive Director"
- Runs most of the programs of the LPC with oversight from the Executive Committee through the Chair (CEO)

Slide 24

**Reg. Voters, Members & Money**

Each of you have a packet containing:

- 5 member renewal forms
- 5 donation forms
- 5 voter registration forms

Get as many of those passed and filled out before the Convention in February!

**Comments**

- Moulton asked which counties Takenaga visited, to which Takenaga replied Calaveras, Orange, Nevada, and Placer.

**Northern Vice Chair (Newell)**

- 11:11 for 5 minutes [57:40]
- Newell reported visiting Placer and Nevada counties with Takenaga, and to Calaveras, Placer, Monterey with Moulton, meeting in Half Moon Bay to help get student groups contact each other, and with Johnson to set up meetings with former Congressman Bob Barr in San Francisco, and invited a broad spectrum of



people from Pacific Legal, PRI, EFF, the Ron Paul campaign, and John Gilmore, who Newell is attempting to draw back into LPCA activities.

- Newell asked to digress briefly to talk about the Candidate Support Committee and was permitted without objection. Newell reported that he is still managing the contract for offsite Web development, and reports from the developer Patrick Bollmer that he's expecting to see good development soon.
- Newell is also seeking editor for the next issue of eFlyer, which is overdue because he himself has been overwhelmed with other activities.

#### Comments

- Brown identified a potential chair pro tem for Stanislaus County and would relay that information to Newell.

*ACTION:* Brown to convey information about a prospective chair pro tem for Stanislaus county to Newell.

- Takenaga passed the gavel to Barnes.
- Cain asked the new arrive to identify herself, Donna Orlando, San Diego LP

#### Southern Vice Chair (Collier)

- 11:16 for 5 minutes [1:02:30]
- Collier reported assisting with the membership mailings for 2007 and 2006, along with other volunteers, and for which money is still coming in.
- His girlfriend's parents were hospitalized, which diminished the time he would otherwise have contributed to LPCA business.
- Collier devised a strategy to use Facebook to attract younger libertarians. He uses the political preference tag to meet people with similar ideas. Using this tool, Collier discovered that there are so many self-identified libertarians using Facebook that it would be impossible to invite them all to county meetings.
- Barnes has been inviting 10 people per day and getting 30 or 40 percent response.
- Collier surmised that there must be tens of thousands of individuals looking for ways to connect to us, but don't know how. If we decide to start inviting these people, Collier will gladly offer training on how to use Facebook and initiate communication. Most people on Facebook are in their late teens to 30s, plus others who are older.
- [1:07:40] Moulton asked for 5 minutes more, which Holtz seconded. There was no objection.

#### Comments

- Moulton noticed Facebook a year ago, and invited 1000 people to his high school alumni group in two hours, though spam filters added later make that rate impossible now. He invited 300 libertarians to his college group in 1 hour. He stated that Facebook now has limits on contacts, but the potential is huge. We

should be finding one person in each of these networks in California, and have these people invite 10 people a day.

- Collier has been able to invite up to 40 a day. He got his profile, which includes his political affiliation. When he clicks it, everyone in his network who lists him or herself as libertarian shows up in a list. From that list, he invites 10 people a day in alphabetical order. Collier doesn't invite these contacts to the group initially, but instead invites them to be on his friend list first, and from that list invites people to the group.
- Moulton stated that Facebook has a feature that lists all of our elected candidates at the Congressional level and above. Moulton discovered that the list was incomplete, and had them update the list, which happened within 5 hours. People who took advantage of the Facebook page are shown in statistics. Facebook lists who has befriended candidates within past few days, which can be another way of identifying libertarians.
- Barnes spoke as a matter of privilege about the benefits of Facebook. If we have two or more people working the same list, we increase our chances of interesting contacts in Party matters.
- Cowles asked where are you inviting them to. Collier explained that you can create a group and invite them to that, which facilitates communicating to like-minded contacts.
- Thomas mentioned that Meetup.com has a similar operation. He has gotten non-members to attend San Diego LP events.
- Moulton stated that about half of new people in Pennsylvania county party meetings come from Meetup.com activities.
- Holtz asked if e-mails are harvested through these groups, and Moulton replied that one must examine a member's profile in order to get their e-mail address. Harvesting email addresses is also a violation of the terms of service.

### Secretary (Cain)

- 10 minutes at 11:29 [1:15:30]

I apologize to all Executive Committee members and county Party officers for publishing the minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting November 25<sup>th</sup>, forty-one days later than the 30-day deadline specified in the by-laws.

### County Rosters

- Revised and modified the database fields and data so that Treasurer Cowles could disburse county Party dues shares for 2007 Q1 through Q3, and I could compile and distribute county Party rosters.
- Collected county officer contact information from county Party websites and distributed county membership rosters November 7 to the addresses collected from the county Party websites.
- Visited online membership database interface being designed by Bill Todd. According to Todd, the "Show", "Export", and "Insert" features are working, but the "Import" feature is not. He will add "Update" soon.

- Also according to Todd, he is apparently working with the California Fulldump database that comes from LP national office, but has only Orange County data for the part of the reporter he calls "lp\_list2".
- Volunteers in the Party are working on an online application that will allow both push and pull technology for exchanging member information. Chair Takenaga called for everyone at the September meeting to avoid pressuring the volunteers.

#### Online Payments

- Submitted 5-page application to activate Insta-charge, DonorPerfect's feature for authorizing and settling one-time charges. No response from DonorPerfect as of November 28.
- Copied recurring monthly charges from PC Transact It into DonorPerfect, but experienced a lot of difficulties getting the batch charges to run correctly. Twice resorted to running recurring monthly charges through PC Transact It while attempting to get them to work in DonorPerfect. November 27, DP technician Monique discovered that I'd unknowingly generated the payment file multiple times while attempting to correct billing information, revealed that there's no front-end ability to correct the error, and promised to delete the excess charges overnight.
- Set up PayPal account and gave website manager Robert Obreczarek access to add PayPal link to LPCA website.
- Worked with DonorPerfect to design input screens for online point-of-sale feature. Reviewed input screens with Chair Takenaga and Treasurer Cowles, incorporated their input into the designs. Submitted revised function specifications to DonorPerfect technician Joshua Gardner for re-working and approval on November 27.

#### Membership Renewal Appeals

- Planned and supervised two membership renewal mailing events at the LPCA office. First event was Saturday, October 6, with 1,208 letters targeting members whose membership lapsed or would lapse in 2007. Second event was Saturday, November 17, with 1,711 letters targeting members whose membership lapsed in 2006. Results of the first mailing follow, and results of the second mailing are forthcoming.

Current results of October 2007 Membership Renewal Appeal Mailing		
Pieces mailed	1,208	
Pieces returned undeliverable	15	1.2%
Renewals	174	14.2%
Income from renewals	\$15,043.00	
Income per letter	\$12.45	
Average gift	\$87.97	
Average daily income as of November 18	\$385.71	

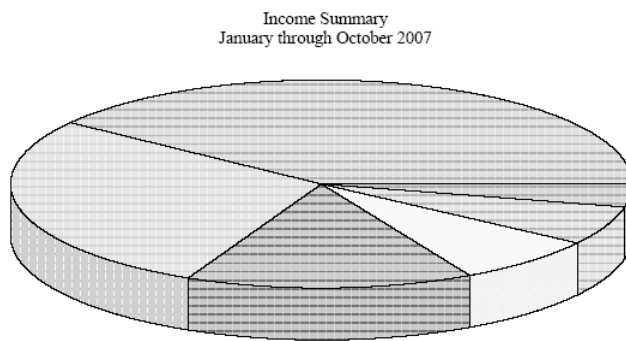
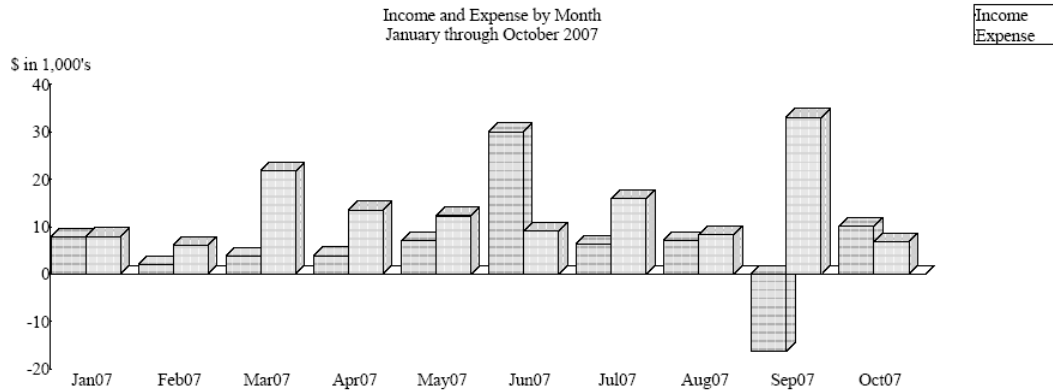
- Mailings planned for the remainder of 2007: Operation Breakthrough balances due and thank-yous, California Coffee Club thank-yous, and distribution of membership cards and thank-yous.
- Mailing planned for January 2008: all lapsed, unrenewed 2007 memberships, unrenewed 2006 memberships, and possibly lapsed memberships from earlier years, which will likely include a significant number of LPCA Central Committee members, plus membership appeal to all California Registered Libertarians.
- Replaced malfunctioning laser scanner-printer with new Canon Multi-Function ImageClass 6530 (\$469.23), plus purchased printer network server (\$177.35) and letter folding machine (\$212.39).
- Further reduced basic operating expenses by renegotiating Pitney Bowes contract from \$115 quarterly to \$85 quarterly. Unfortunately the per-quarter reduction extends the duration of the contract 4 extra quarters.
- Mailed 15 information packs to inquirers.

#### Comments

- Collier mentioned that he got a list of the LPCA's California Coffee Club donors, and is compiling thank-you packages to send to them.
- Newell asked who we're sending packets to. Cain described the process of receiving e-mails at the [inquiry@ca.lp.org](mailto:inquiry@ca.lp.org) address, printing the message and adding it to a 3-hole binder. Cain then compiles a package of information along with a personal letter thanking them for their interest and mentioning most of the areas of interest the inquirer expressed an interest in. The package is mailed to the inquirer, and a copy of the letter is e-mailed to the inquirer's county chair so that the county chair will know that there's an interested prospect to cultivate.
- Brown asked if it's possible to identify prospective candidates for office or campaign assistants from this process, and Cain said yes, and that he would forward all the information he has about that to Brown and include him in future candidate prospecting.

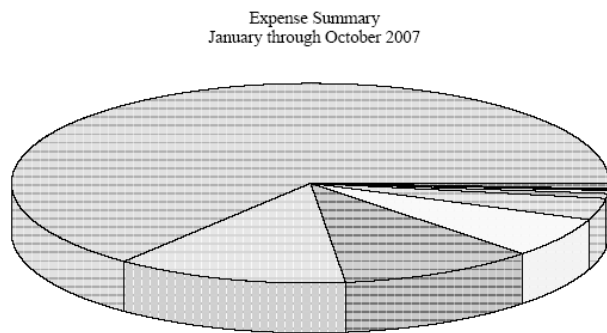
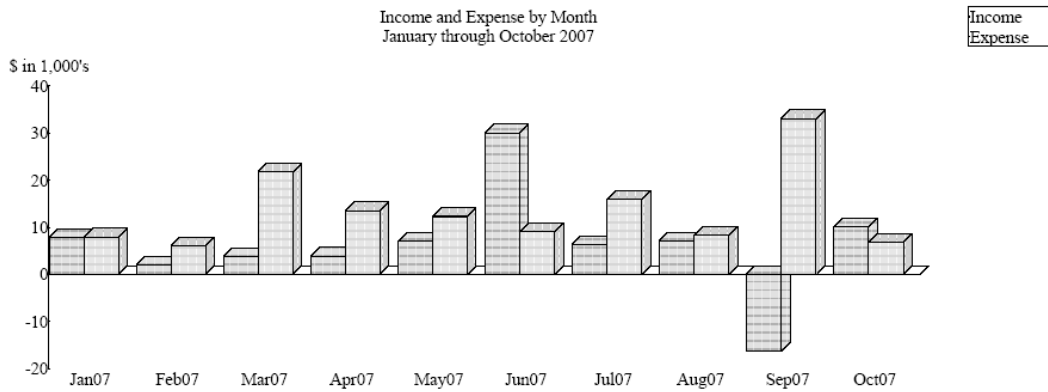
**ACTION:** Ask Robert Obreczarek to add Ted Brown to the Inquiry e-mail address.

## Treasurer (Cowles)



41000 · Memberships	%40.04
42000 · Recurring Gifts	28.12
48000 · Other Revenue	15.00
44000 · Appeals	7.64
46000 · Events	6.12
47000 · Unsolicited Donations	3.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$61,536.26</b>

By Account



61000 · Administrative	%64.35
66000 · Member Communications	12.69
62000 · Campaigns & Elections	10.76
60000 · Party Distributions	6.56
51000 · Membership Recruitment	3.62
65000 · Media Relations	0.84
53100 · Direct Mail	0.57
58000 · Other Fundraising Costs	0.21
68000 · Party Development	0.19
67000 · Outreach	0.11
53300 · Personal Solicitations	0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$135,034.37</b>

By Account

9:25 AM  
 12/03/07  
 Accrual Basis

**Libertarian Party of California**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through October 2007

	<u>Jan - Oct 07</u>
<b>Income</b>	
41000 · Memberships	
41001 · Annual -- Renewal	22,898.03
41002 · Annual -- New	834.66
41003 · Annual Subscriptions	908.45
<b>Total 41000 · Memberships</b>	<u>24,641.14</u>
42000 · Recurring Gifts	
42001 · General	17,306.45
<b>Total 42000 · Recurring Gifts</b>	<u>17,306.45</u>
43000 · Performance Based Gifts	
43001 · Elected Officials	0.00
<b>Total 43000 · Performance Based Gifts</b>	0.00
44000 · Appeals	
44001 · Direct Mail	1,799.00
44002 · Telemarketing	250.00
44003 · Personal	2,650.00
<b>Total 44000 · Appeals</b>	<u>4,699.00</u>
46000 · Events	
46001 · Convention Banquet	3,766.00
<b>Total 46000 · Events</b>	<u>3,766.00</u>
47000 · Unsolicited Donations	
47001 · General	1,892.44
<b>Total 47000 · Unsolicited Donations</b>	<u>1,892.44</u>
48000 · Other Revenue	
48001 · Membership List Rental	5,000.00
48003 · Interest Income	391.23
48004 · Magazine Advertising	3,750.00
48000 · Other Revenue - Other	90.00
<b>Total 48000 · Other Revenue</b>	<u>9,231.23</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>61,536.26</u>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
51000 · Membership Recruitment	
51054 · Outside Services	483.80
51058 · Postage	1,848.00
51066 · Printing	2,559.52
<b>Total 51000 · Membership Recruitment</b>	<u>4,891.32</u>
53100 · Direct Mail	
53154 · Outside Services	125.00
53158 · Postage	115.50
53166 · Printing	533.70
<b>Total 53100 · Direct Mail</b>	<u>774.20</u>
53300 · Personal Solicitations	
53320 · Commissions	100.00
53362 · Premiums	30.00
<b>Total 53300 · Personal Solicitations</b>	<u>130.00</u>
58000 · Other Fundraising Costs	
58020 · Commissions	33.90
58046 · Miscellaneous	121.78
58054 · Outside Services	125.00
<b>Total 58000 · Other Fundraising Costs</b>	<u>280.68</u>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<u>6,076.20</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>55,460.06</u>
<b>Expense</b>	

9:25 AM  
 12/03/07  
 Accrual Basis

**Libertarian Party of California**  
**Profit & Loss**  
 January through October 2007

	<u>Jan - Oct 07</u>
60000 · Party Distributions	
60001 · County Dues Sharing	8,567.50
60002 · County Party Startup	45.00
60003 · County Party Pass Throughs	390.00
60004 · Mark Selzer - Lib Alternative	-150.00
<b>Total 60000 · Party Distributions</b>	<b>8,852.50</b>
61000 · Administrative	
61200 · Convention	
61215 · Advertising	365.15
61242 · Meetings	2,325.00
61246 · Miscellaneous	1,302.37
61266 · Printing	179.32
<b>Total 61200 · Convention</b>	<b>4,171.84</b>
61300 · Executive Committee	
61342 · Meetings	1,159.63
<b>Total 61300 · Executive Committee</b>	<b>1,159.63</b>
61500 · Other Committees	114.47
61600 · LPC Headquarters	
61611 · Compensation	23,238.64
61612 · Payroll Taxes	1,067.44
61613 · 1099 Payments	8,000.00
61614 · Rent	4,640.00
61616 · Bad Debts Expense	19,728.00
61618 · Bank and Credit Card Fees	2,203.34
61622 · Data Processing	5,315.11
61628 · Equipment	740.62
61634 · Interest Expense	100.00
61642 · Meetings	372.15
61646 · Miscellaneous	373.69
61650 · Office Supplies	285.97
61654 · Outside Services	360.14
61658 · Postage	3,326.58
61666 · Printing	522.21
61670 · Professional Services	8,617.53
61674 · Repairs & Maintenance	119.08
61682 · Telephone	1,924.35
61686 · Travel & Lodging	0.00
61690 · Utilities	512.70
<b>Total 61600 · LPC Headquarters</b>	<b>81,447.55</b>
<b>Total 61000 · Administrative</b>	<b>86,893.49</b>
62000 · Campaigns & Elections	
62100 · Candidate Recruitment	
62146 · Miscellaneous	275.93
62154 · Outside Services	14,257.25
<b>Total 62100 · Candidate Recruitment</b>	<b>14,533.18</b>
<b>Total 62000 · Campaigns &amp; Elections</b>	<b>14,533.18</b>
65000 · Media Relations	
65054 · Outside Services	1,130.00
<b>Total 65000 · Media Relations</b>	<b>1,130.00</b>
66000 · Member Communications	
66100 · Magazine	
66150 · Ad Sales Commissions	258.55
66154 · Outside Services	7,893.90
66158 · Postage	2,112.46
66166 · Printing	6,274.49
<b>Total 66100 · Magazine</b>	<b>16,539.40</b>
66200 · Website	
66254 · Outside Services	549.85

9:25 AM  
12/03/07  
Accrual Basis

**Libertarian Party of California**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through October 2007

	<u>Jan - Oct 07</u>
66200 · Website - Other	49.95
Total 66200 · Website	<u>599.80</u>
Total 66000 · Member Communications	17,139.20
67000 · Outreach	
67046 · Miscellaneous	75.00
67054 · Outside Services	<u>75.00</u>
Total 67000 · Outreach	150.00
68000 · Party Development	<u>259.80</u>
Total Expense	<u>128,958.17</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-73,498.11</u></u>



**Libertarian Party of California**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of October 31, 2007

	Oct 31, 07
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
11100 · Cash	
11101 · Wells Fargo Checking -Main	29,559.96
Total 11100 · Cash	29,559.96
Total Checking/Savings	29,559.96
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
14000 · Investments	
14001 · E-Gold Account	1.00
Total 14000 · Investments	1.00
Total Other Current Assets	1.00
Total Current Assets	29,560.96
<b>Other Assets</b>	
18000 · Other Assets	
18001 · Security Deposits	395.00
Total 18000 · Other Assets	395.00
Total Other Assets	395.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>29,955.96</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
21101 · Accounts Payable	675.00
Total Accounts Payable	675.00
<b>Credit Cards</b>	
21102 · WF Credit Card -2365	-29.12
Total Credit Cards	-29.12
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
21000 · Current Liabilities	
21103 · Payroll Liabilities	720.45
21109 · Current Liabilities	930.00
Total 21000 · Current Liabilities	1,650.45
21600 · Deferred Membership Revenue	
21601 · Current Year Dues Renewal	7,957.47
21602 · Current Year Dues New	380.34
21603 · Current Year Subscription	351.55
21604 · Next Year Dues Renewal	4,175.00
21605 · Next Year Dues New	70.00
21606 · Next Year Subscription	3,700.00
21607 · Life Members Renewal	5,000.00
Total 21600 · Deferred Membership Revenue	21,634.36
Total Other Current Liabilities	23,284.81
Total Current Liabilities	23,930.69
Total Liabilities	23,930.69
<b>Equity</b>	
31000 · Beginning Net Assets	79,523.38
Net Income	-73,498.11
Total Equity	6,025.27
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>29,955.96</b>

**Libertarian Party of California  
Profit & Loss Budget Overview  
January through December 2008**

	Jan - Dec 08
<b>Income</b>	
41000 · Memberships	
41001 · Annual – Renewal	17,570.00
41003 · Annual Subscriptions	29,600.00
41004 · Annual – Donations	12,000.00
	59,170.00
Total 41000 · Memberships	
42000 · Recurring Gifts	
42001 · General	24,600.00
	24,600.00
Total 42000 · Recurring Gifts	
45000 · Convention	
45001 · Revenues	3,500.00
45002 · Attendees	11,500.00
	15,000.00
Total 45000 · Convention	
47000 · Unsolicited Donations	
47001 · General	1,800.00
	1,800.00
Total 47000 · Unsolicited Donations	
48000 · Other Revenue	
48001 · Membership List Rental	5,000.00
48004 · Magazine Advertising	3,600.00
	8,600.00
Total 48000 · Other Revenue	
	8,600.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>109,170.00</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
51000 · Membership Recruitment	
51058 · Postage	1,020.00
51066 · Printing	3,000.00
	4,020.00
Total 51000 · Membership Recruitment	
54000 · Convention Costs	
54046 · Miscellaneous	11,500.00
	11,500.00
Total 54000 · Convention Costs	
	11,500.00
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>15,520.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>93,650.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
60000 · Party Distributions	
60001 · County Dues Sharing	10,500.00
	10,500.00
Total 60000 · Party Distributions	
61000 · Administrative	
61200 · Convention	
61215 · Advertising	500.00
61246 · Miscellaneous	3,000.00
61266 · Printing	750.00
	4,250.00
Total 61200 · Convention	
61300 · Executive Committee	
61342 · Meetings	1,400.00
	1,400.00
Total 61300 · Executive Committee	
	1,400.00
61600 · LPC Headquarters	
61613 · 1099 Payments	38,400.00
61614 · Rent	5,040.00
61618 · Bank and Credit Card Fees	720.00
61622 · Data Processing	3,420.00
61628 · Equipment	2,400.00
61630 · Insurance	224.10
61650 · Office Supplies	1,800.00
61658 · Postage	300.00
61666 · Printing	600.00

**Libertarian Party of California  
Profit & Loss Budget Overview  
January through December 2008**

	Jan - Dec 08
61682 · Telephone	1,680.00
61690 · Utilities	1,200.00
<b>Total 61600 · LPC Headquarters</b>	<b>55,784.10</b>
<b>Total 61000 · Administrative</b>	<b>61,434.10</b>
65000 · Media Relations	
65054 · Outside Services	480.00
<b>Total 65000 · Media Relations</b>	<b>480.00</b>
66000 · Member Communications	
66100 · Magazine	
66154 · Outside Services	12,000.00
66158 · Postage	3,600.00
66166 · Printing	10,800.00
66182 · Telephone & Fax	480.00
<b>Total 66100 · Magazine</b>	<b>26,880.00</b>
<b>Total 66000 · Member Communications</b>	<b>26,880.00</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>99,294.10</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-5,644.10</b>

Financials

- It took an extraordinary effort to climb a very steep learning curve by both Beau and myself. Beau has mastered Donor Perfect and is currently migrating from NOVA to Donor Perfect to process our monthly recurring donations.
- The financial statements are as of 10/31 and are produced with accounts properly allocated and accrued. (I owe a large Christmas basket to my accountant for his help.)
- We were able to forward checks to the counties on October 31<sup>st</sup> and e-mailed a summary of the distributions to the Executive Committee on November 20<sup>th</sup>. They came to a total of \$7,637.50.
- For \$200, we were able to leave the quirky platform providing us QuickBooks and its unpredictable printing functions by obtaining a stand-alone copy of 2008 QuickBooks. This has freed us from a \$35 monthly fee and unending agony. This has also enabled us to shake loose from an accountant who fees totaled \$11,608 in the first half of the year. We were able to pare his fees to \$1,246 in the second half of the year and anticipate no further bills.
- Operation Breakthrough did not live up to its billing. It was set up in accounts receivable to bring in \$51,569 with a built-in bad-debt account of \$10,000. Instead of income in the amount of \$41,569, we received \$21,841, resulting in

a bad-debt expense of \$19,728. Expenses in 2006 for OB amounted to approximately \$47,050.

- Additional costs that were not anticipated were for almost \$1,000 for Kelly Services contracted for and obtained sometime in 2006. In addition, the vendor Meta Information received \$13,278 but there will be no further funds expended to this vendor.
- Kevin was in Southern California over Thanksgiving and came by my office on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> to help construct a budget with an optimistic outlook for 2008. Please find the preliminary Budget for 2008 that I sent to the members of the Executive Committee on Monday of this week.

#### Comments

- Holtz asked if this report is the first one that would have given knowledge of Meta Information. Cowles replied that the Meta Information project was budgeted, Aaron Starr got an approval from the Executive Committee to continue the project without giving any numbers, so the Executive Committee would have known. Cowles also noted that the old budget had big hunks of money that was very misleading in that expenses could easily have been tucked into those figures.
- An unidentified member lauded Cowles trustworthy financial reports, which drew a round of applause from all present.

### *Representatives' Reports*

#### Monterey County Libertarian Party

Delivered by 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate Mark Selzer

- [1:39:30]
- Approximately 25 to 30 people attended the Monterey Mini-Con "Is Freedom Dead in America?" on Oct. 13, 2007. A number of people from the Peace Coalition of Monterey County decided to attend our event. Afterwards, I hosted a BBQ at my home in Carmel Valley.
- I organized a campaign to stop the proposed ban on medical marijuana dispensaries in the city of Salinas. I spoke against the ban at City Hall
- I argued with the pro-ban Salinas mayor on his weekly KION 460AM radio program. After months of debate, the ban unfortunately passed by a vote of 4 to 3. However, the mayor, Dennis Donohue, agreed to attend a medical marijuana clinic with me and some other local libertarians in January.
- I joined the Ron Paul Meetup group in Monterey and attended one of their meetings.
- I spoke at the 2nd annual "Quit Torture Vigil and Teach-in" on a military base in Monterey (controlled by both the federal government and the city of Monterey). This three-day event saw a number of speeches, movies and vigils. One of the co-sponsors was Libertarians for Peace. Prof. David R. Henderson also spoke at this event as the co-chair of Libertarians for Peace.

- I organized the JSA Convention at the Santa Clara Marriott on Nov. 17, 2007. We had six to seven volunteers manning our three tables. We helped to arrange a Ron Paul table next to our literature tables. Informed Ted Brown about the Southern California JSA conventions (one in Los Angeles and another one in Orange County).

Respectfully submitted November 26, 2007

Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County Libertarian Party Chair

#### Comments

*MOTION:* Takenaga moved to commend Samuels for his work with JSA, which Newell seconded.

- Takenaga spoke in favor of his motion, noting that Samuels' efforts helped engage high school students, and that we haven't thanked him enough.

*VOTE:* The motion to commend Samuels for his work with JSA passed without objection.

*MOTION:* Brown moved to suspend rules to amend agenda to allow Brown to speak for 2 minutes as an Executive Committee Representative, which Selzer seconded.

*VOTE:* Newell called for division, and the motion carried with 10 votes and 1 objection.

- Brown spoke about LPCA outreach producing excellent responses at the JSA convention in Los Angeles He noted that they had a table at the Marriott, they were quite well connected, and his daughter mentioned there was a libertarian student who kept speaking at the sessions. Brown also joined the Meetup group in Pasadena, which had only 50 Ron Paul supporters, and the L.A. times published a front page article about the meeting. Brown also spoke at Occidental college to about 40-50 students who posed very probing questions. Tom Logan is an Assembly Candidate from Occidental College. Brown refused honorarium for speaking at Occidental College.
- Takenaga assumed possession of the gavel.
- Cain mentioned that Los Angeles Southwest College is hosting a political panel discussion January 29<sup>th</sup>, and have contacted us twice asking for a speaker to address four topics. Dovner sent an e-mail to Dr. Umoja to accept the invitation. Dovner will forward the invitation with the four topics to the Platform Committee for review, to ensure that he has all the LP answers to the anticipated questions from a predominantly African-American and Hispanic student body.

#### Representative Barnes' Report

- San Bernardino County invited all to their convention the following Saturday.

## Committee Reports

### Media Relations Subcommittee Report

#### Accomplishments

- [1:49:30]
- The LPC has now issued 131 editions of the Libertarian Perspectives, and it continues to generate regular media coverage by large and small general news publications, as well as print and online niche media. Significant publications that semi-regularly carry the Libertarian Perspective includes the Los Angeles Business Journal, the East Bay Business Times, the Santa Monica Daily Press and the Sacramento Union.
- Joe Cobb, a resident of Arizona, will no longer be a regular contributor to the Libertarian Perspective, although occasional submissions from him will be welcome.
- The media database includes about 3,000 reporters and editors, and, depending on the subject matter, is augmented by up to 200 additional contacts.
- Issued two news releases chastising the state legislature and governor for their handling of the state budget.

#### Plans

- Continue to add print, broadcast and Internet media to the party's media distribution list.
- Enhance working relationship with the Legislative Team to develop and distribute news releases promoting libertarian solutions to government legislation.
- Recruit additional Libertarian Perspective writers.
- Recruit a backup/secondary media subcommittee member to assist with news releases and media outreach.
- Increase outreach on behalf of the chair to generate media interviews and become a regular source/contributor to political stories throughout the state.
- Create Letter to the Editor program targeting statewide issues that will be distributed to executive committee members, who can submit to their local papers.

#### Recommendations

- Remind executive committee that occasional suggestions about topics that would make good column fodder for the Libertarian Perspective and/or subjects for media outreach are welcome and encouraged.
- Encourage executive committee members to share 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.

- Notify media director when Libertarians announce their candidacy for a significant office so that it can be announced statewide.
- Notify media director when a Libertarian office holder proposes and/or succeeds in passing libertarian-oriented legislation so that it can be announced statewide.

Respectfully submitted November 28,

Dan Minkoff, Media Relations Director

## Campaign 2008

Ted Brown, Campaign 2008 Committee Chair

- 15 minutes [1:52:00]
- Brown reported that he sought candidates by calling and speaking with LPers.
- He mentioned that Takenaga asked him to find younger candidates, and spoke of his success finding college-age candidates. Michael McMahon is a younger candidate, as are others: Crystal Updegraff, Eric Bresson, Tom Logan and another from UCLA.
- Collier suggested recruiting through Facebook.
- Brown mentioned that Riley O'Neal in Riverside County asked Brown to send him articles about Libertarian candidates so he could post it to his list of hundreds and hundreds of libertarians.
- Brown reported that Holtz would provide the list of registered Libertarians to candidates.

*ACTION:* Holtz to provide the list of registered Libertarians to candidates.

- Southern California Candidate Training Seminar will be two weeks from today. This event is why Brown concentrates on identifying candidates in Southern California before Northern California, because Northern California doesn't have a similar event.
- Brown reported that he has a tentative list of about 55 candidates so far, mostly newcomers, and hopes to have more than 100. A number of people didn't get on the ballot last time because it's a difficult process.

## Comments

- Barnes asked Brown to remind him to convey information on one more candidate.
- Holtz commended Brown for salvaging the candidates discussion forum list. He asked if Brown will support Allen Rice's campaign management manual, to which Brown replied yes, but he needs to read Rice's lengthy document. Brown mentioned Jim Eyer of Berkeley who has been on the ballot many times also.

- Cowles asked if we can tell county chairs who's running in their counties, to which Brown replied yes, that he always sends the complete list to county chairs.
- Brown reported that some counties specifically don't want candidates, such as Riverside and Santa Clara, which has been negative about getting candidates to run.
- Takenaga spoke about Orange County wanting LPCA to do some candidate vetting.

## Ballot Propositions, February 2008

Ted Brown, Campaign 2008 Committee Chair

- 5 minutes [1:59:40]
- Three ballot propositions in February on which we should take positions.
- Prop 91, Transportation Fund: the legislation passed the bill already, so there may be no reason to take a position. It prohibits certain motor vehicle fuel taxes from being retained in the general fund, and delays retainment of such taxes previously retained. If anyone wishes, they can speak for or against taking a position.
- Takenaga asked if we've run this legislation through our Legislation Analysis Team, to which Brown replied that he wasn't aware of who is on the committee. Newell offered that the committee members are the Seebecks, Minkoff, and himself. Newell asked Brown to speak to the other two before deciding what action to take.

*ACTION:* Brown to contact Legislation Analysis Team regarding Prop 91.

- Prop 92: Community Colleges Funding Governance and Fees. This proposition establishes independent community college districts Board of Governors. It requires minimum funding, sets the fee at \$15 per unit, and limits future increases. The fiscal impact is an increase of about \$300MM per year, with unknown impacts annually thereafter.
- Prop 93, Term Limits Constitutional Amendment. It reduces the length of State Legislative service to 12 years, but allows all twelve in one house of the State Legislature. The kicker is current legislators can sit twelve years in the current house regardless of prior legislative service.

*MOTION:* Dovner moved to oppose Prop 92, which Brown seconded.

- Dovner spoke against the proposition because he teaches math at a community college and observed that a lot of students take his course because it's paid for by the state, which clogs his classes with disinterested students. Dovner complains that he constantly answers the question from students, "Why do I have to know this?"

*VOTE:* The motion to oppose Prop 92 passed without objection.



- Moulton raised a point of information, asking what action our vote would authorize. Newell conjectured that a vote to oppose the proposed legislation would prompt any of several LPCA actions, including asking Media Contact Dan Minkoff to publish LPCA's opposition to Prop 92.

*MOTION:* Brown moved to oppose Prop 93, Term Limits, and Collier seconded.

- Brown spoke against the proposition, saying that he would have liked it, but for the grandfather clause.
- Without objection, the body extended for Brown's time to report for 5 minutes.
- Moulton spoke in favor of Prop 93. in the long term this is good for legislature, after the grandfathered legislators are out of office.
- Dovner raised a point of information, asking what this does to current legislators. Brown explained that current legislators can serve up to three more terms.
- Barnes asked if we know that term limits really help long term. He questioned restricting voters' ability to choose the people they want in office at any time.
- Holtz agreed with Barnes, observing that people tend to graduate from State Assembly to State Senate. If an Assembly member proves to be unelectable to the Senate, it's unlikely they should be allowed to stay in the Assembly for too long. Shortening the term from 14 years to 12 won't buy much. Holtz finds persuasive what Pozner has been saying, to look at the 40 or so who are about to be termed out of the Assembly because of the current term limits. The whole point of the February presidential primary is just a vehicle for get this proposition on the ballot so that it will apply and they won't be termed out in the June and general elections.
- Brown noted that debate in this committee has been vehement in the past, it's been shown that the longer one serves in office, the more government they tend to favor. Former state Chair stated that there's no right to govern. The least amount of time people stay in office the better. Prop 93 is an end run to keep a small group of seated officers seated.
- Collier noted that the legislators agreed to include redistricting with this legislation, but they have not delivered on that agreement.
- Takenaga called the question.

*VOTE:* The motion to oppose Prop 93, Term Limits, passed with one objection.

- Brown raised a point of information, that this leaves Prop 91 hanging. There's no reason to take a position or not.

*MOTION:* Collier moved to take no position on Prop 91, which was seconded by [?]

- Dovner raised a point of information, asking if we need to vote to take no position.
- Newell called for a motion to extend without objection, but Takenaga objected, and there was no support for the motion, which failed.

## Property Rights Initiative, Howard Jarvis Taxpayer's Association

Ted Brown, Campaign 2008 Committee Coordinator

- 5 minutes [2:11:50]
- Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association placed an initiative on the ballot called the *California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act*, an excellent proposition that makes it harder for localities to impose eminent domain on property owners. This is a successor to Proposition 90, a property rights initiative that failed because it included too many controversial things. This Proposition sticks to the point of the Supreme Court decision of *Kelo vs. New London*. It prevents government from using eminent domain for private purposes while allowing eminent domain to be used for legitimate public uses like roads, schools, government buildings, and water projects. It provides procedural reforms and full compensation when property is seized for public purposes, including lifting a current \$10,000 cap on reimbursable expenses associated with legal and other expenses for the property owners who are displaced. It protects the state's food supply and open space by prohibiting public agencies from seizing family farms, ranches, and other property in order to acquire water rights, or acquire farm land, or land to further enable urban sprawl. It prohibits the government from setting the price at which property owners sell or lease their property that does not affect tenants currently living in rent-regulated communities. This is probably a mistake, they're having a problem with rent control, which is another example of why this proposition can be attacked for not being part of the main issue, but still we agree with that, too. Overall, Brown asked that we take a position in favor of supporting the Howard Jarvis Tax Center proposition.

**MOTION:** Brown moved that we take a position in favor of the Howard Jarvis Tax Center *California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act*, which Moulton seconded.

- Holtz asked if the proposition says there are some forms of eminent domain that are legitimate. Brown responded that the point is that eminent domain in the Constitution says no private property will be taken for public use without just compensation, but eminent domain is used to take private property often for private use.
- Collier interjected that in other words, higher tax revenues are not a public good. Brown affirmed that interpretation, adding that this is what we believe, but the courts have ruled otherwise, and this legislation would overturn that ruling within California, saying when California makes their decisions, they have to follow that it's only for public use.
- Moulton called the question.

**VOTE:** The motion to endorse the Howard Jarvis Tax Center's *California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act* passed without objection.

## Membership Committee Report

Bruce Dovner, Membership Committee Chair

- 12:30 [2:16:20]
- Dovner reported that the committee's charter was to perform a data-driven review of membership, but there's no data. He interviewed Cain regarding LPCA's database capabilities, and the upshot is that the committee recommends changing to rolling membership.
- Regarding the dues threshold, there's no need to disburse dues sharing checks for less than \$50 to counties.
- Most committee work was done by individuals, for instance Barnes and Cowles and Collier's participation in the two mailings.
- URL for the online point-of-sale membership sign-up and donor demo is [http://weblink.donorperfect.com/libertarian\\_ca](http://weblink.donorperfect.com/libertarian_ca). Cain cautioned that the demo that's available at the test site were designed by DonorPerfect and Aaron Starr in March, and there are several changes already pending.
- A motion to extend time 5 minutes passed without objection.
- Dovner mentioned the state and county Parties' dues split. The state Party barely brings in enough money to service the members' accounts, and so there needs to be a change in the by-laws to address that problem.
- Dovner spoke with several LP members who thought they were members of LPCA because they'd joined the LP. We need to send persuasive materials to LP members to become State members.
- Also, the committee needs to study what gives us more bang for the buck: developing new members or pursuing renewals?

### Comments

- Takenaga resumed possession of the gavel from Newell at 12:40
- Barnes noted that several committee members were opposed to the current model of all memberships expiring at the same time, and especially at a time when folks are pinching pennies to pay for Christmas gifts. Also, people feel cheated because there's no mechanism for pro-rating their membership for partial-year enrollment.
- Website has been large topic of discussion, people are positive about the changes and improvements.
- Dovner noted that without the dues split, counties would fold without state support. He recommended rolling membership on a monthly basis.
- Newell moved to extend time for 5 minutes to discuss rolling membership proposal. It was seconded and passed without objection.
- Newell was concerned about changing memberships to a monthly basis because of the logistical burden of incessant mailings to remind members of their impending renewal. Mailings were difficult, monthlies would be more difficult. Suggests quarterly instead.

*MOTION:* Newell moved to change membership renewals to quarterly basis, seconded by Brown(?).

- Moulton raised a point of information, asking if Dovner was recommending a monthly renewal basis, which Dovner affirmed.
- Johnson asked if anyone ran analysis about what it would cost to change from an annual calendar year renewing basis, and in the absence of evidence that it would be beneficial, recommended voting against changing the current membership renewal model.
- Dovner spoke for the motion, mentioning that he checked out the capabilities of DonorPerfect and it was designed to facilitate monthly membership renewals.
- Cowles spoke for the motion, noting that accruing 12 months during the year would produce 144 columns to track. Annual calendar year renewal is a snap, and quarterly renewals would be almost as easy.
- Barnes moved to extend time 5 minutes, which Thomas seconded, and it passed with one objection.
- Barnes stated that he's not opposed to quarterly renewal cycle, but he's concerned more with trust within membership. The more changes we make, the more confusion we create for members, and we risk creating the perception that some people will be cheated out of some of the time they've paid to be members.
- Holtz said that his vote will be driven by what Don and Beau say about the matter.
- Cain said that there are advantages to any system that we agree to implement, even if we keep it at the annual calendar year renewal, but it's a bad idea to expect people to renew their memberships during the same months that they're trying to pay off debts for holiday gifts. As for the idea that offering monthly renewals would multiply the effort necessary to send the two previous mailings by twelve, that is incorrect because the two previous mailings were sent to the entire active membership. Monthly renewal notices will be sent merely to the one or two dozen who are due that month, perhaps three dozen at the most initially. When we have to send a thousand mailings in a given month, that will be a good indicator that our membership is robust. As well, there are some unforeseen quarterly complications that aren't insurmountable, but if we stay with an annual calendar year renewal date, we need to decide on the best date to expect the best return for the effort, probably August.
- A motion to extend time was seconded, but failed.

*MOTION:* Moulton called for roll call vote, which Holtz seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to vote by roll call for changing the membership renewal model from a calendar year basis to a quarterly basis passed without objection.

Kevin Takenaga, Chair  
Richard Newell, Northern Vice Chair, for  
Zander Collier, Southern Vice Chair, against  
Don Cowles, Treasurer, against  
Beau Cain, Secretary abstained  
Matthew Barnes, San Bernardino County, abstained  
Ted Brown, Los Angeles County, for  
Bruce Dovner, Los Angeles County, abstained  
Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County, for

Mark Johnson, San Francisco County, against  
Cam McConnell, Contra Costa County, not present  
Mike McMahon, San Bernardino County, abstained  
Chuck Moulton, Santa Clara County, against  
Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County, not present  
Jesse Thomas, San Diego County, for  
Dan Minkoff, First Alternate, not present  
Mark Selzer, Second Alternate abstained

*VOTE:* The vote failed, with 4 in favor, 4 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

- Takenaga recommended that the matter be returned to the Membership Committee for further discussion.

*MOTION:* Collier moved to adopt monthly membership, which Cowles seconded.

- Takenaga ruled the motion out of order, but the ruling was challenged.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to suspend the rules to extend time to consider the motion to adopt monthly renewing memberships.

- Johnson read from Robert's Rules of Order that no main motion is in order that presents substantially the same question as a motion previously rejected during the same session.
- Takenaga ruled the motion out of order on that basis, but the ruling was challenged, and the ruling of the chair was appealed.
- Without objections, the body recessed for lunch for 5 minutes.
- 13:10 [2:46:30]
- Barnes moved to extend discussion for 10 minutes, which Brown seconded, and which passed without objection.
- Selzer raised a point of inquiry, asking if changing membership to a quarterly renewal basis would short change anyone. Dovner affirmed that it would in some cases, but the question is whether one gets an extra month membership or
- Barnes stated that the change will only affect a member's first year membership.
- Collier cited a benefit in that we'll have monthly income instead of a chunk of income once a year.
- Holtz asked if Cowles objects to changing to a monthly membership renewal basis. Cowles replied that it can be done.
- Newell raised a point of information, asking if we are at the point where, in order to act on this, we need to question the judgment of the Chair.

*MOTION:* Newell moved to accept the Membership Committees recommendation to change to monthly renewing membership, which Brown seconded.

- [New recording file 0:00:00]

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to extend time to discuss of membership dues in general. Brown asked if there was a challenge to that ruling.

- Johnson raised a point of order, stating that Barnes should not have been able to make the motion because we were already out of time. Takenaga stated that Johnson's point is well taken, which means it's ruled out of order.
- Barnes observed that the original motion wasn't killed, it died, to which Johnson replied that that makes no difference according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- Selzer asked if we couldn't just make a motion to reconsider. Takenaga said we could, but the person who voted against the motion would have to express support for reconsidering the motion.
- Brown objected to Johnson's point of order because the subsequent motion is not substantially the same at the prior motion. Even though it's the same topic, considering monthly renewals compared to quarterly renewals is substantially different.
- Cowles raised a point of order about using Robert's Rules of Order as an obstacle to discuss matters that the body clearly wishes to discuss.
- Barnes called the question.

*MOTION:* The motion to uphold the ruling of the chair failed with 1 favorable vote.

- Barnes moved to extend time 5 minutes, which died for lack of a second.
- Dovner raised a point of information, asking if the motion included any mention of the Membership Committee's report, which Newell affirmed.

*MOTION:* Moulton called for a roll call vote due to the importance of the matter, which Holtz seconded

*VOTE:* The motion for a roll call vote passed without objection.

Kevin Takenaga, Chair  
Richard Newell, Northern Vice Chair, for  
Zander Collier, Southern Vice Chair, for  
Don Cowles, Treasurer for  
Beau Cain, Secretary for  
Matthew Barnes, San Bernardino County, abstain  
Ted Brown, Los Angeles County for  
Bruce Dovner, Los Angeles County, for  
Brian Holtz, Santa Clara County, for  
Mark Johnson, San Francisco County, against  
Cam McConnell, Contra Costa County, not present  
Mike McMahan, San Bernardino County, abstain  
Chuck Moulton, Santa Clara County, against  
Lawrence Samuels, Monterey County, not present  
Jesse Thomas, San Diego County, for  
Dan Minkoff, First Alternate, not present  
Mark Selzer, Second Alternate, for

- The motion to adopt the Membership Committee's recommendation to implement monthly renewing membership passed with 8 in favor, 2 against, and 2 abstentions.

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## Executive Session

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Chair Takenaga, 25 minutes

13:28

14:15

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## Old Business

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*MOTION:* Moulton moved to add 5 minutes to hear from the Convention Committee, which Holtz seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to add 5 minutes for the Convention Committee passed without objection.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to suspend the rules to add 10 minutes to discuss County Central Committee Elections as the first item of New Business, which Moulton seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to add 10 minutes to discuss County Central Committee Elections passed without objection.

### Convention 2008

Jesse Thomas, Convention Committee Chair

- 14:15 [19:15]
- Thomas addressed budgeting for the rest of the money the convention needs. We'll begin selling tickets, which should pay for all the venues for the convention, but we should budget to cover those expenses anyway.
- \$3,213 includes screen, sound equipment, podium, risers, decorations, speakers, and marketing, plus a down payment for food is \$500.
- Newell raised a point of information, noting that the budget item gives Thomas the authority to spend the money, but we're anticipating that all the budgeted funds will come back to us. Thomas affirmed and added that most of it should come back before the event. Newell asked if we could budget a hypothetical income line like \$4,000 in expenses and \$4,000 income for a net wash, to which Thomas deferred to "the money people."
- Thomas described the preliminary schedule, which will be published soon.
- A motion to extend time for Thomas to finish passed without objection.
- Cowles recalled that Terry Floyd had \$700 in special funds for LPCA conventions, and if he will surrender the funds, he'll put it in the bank and cut a check.

*MOTION:* Newell moved to amend the budget to add a line item for \$4000 for expenses for the 2008 convention and \$4000 for income from the 2008 convention, which Holtz seconded.

- Thomas recited the list of events and a la carte prices.
- *VOTE:* The motion to amend the 2007 budget by adding a \$4000 item for 2008 convention expenses and \$4000 item for 2008 convention income passed without objection.
- [35:15] Takenaga recessed the meeting while Cain dealt with a computer software problem that prevented him from saving the minutes file.[46:50]

### *Vacant LNC Regional Representative and Alternates Positions*

Chuck Moulton, At-large Representative

- 14:45 10 minutes [47:10]
- Moulton reported that LPCA has two vacancies, 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate has been vacant since Richard Burke resigned about 9 months ago, and at the last Executive Committee meeting we removed Aaron Starr. M Carling is still in office, and Scott Lieberman is still 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate.
- At the previous meeting we tabled appointing the representatives, and were supposed to do this by e-mail but did not. Representatives will be elected again in February, so whoever we choose today can be replaced in a few months. However, we are currently underrepresented. In his search for interested volunteers, Moulton learned that both Scott Lieberman and Mark Johnson are were interested in the Representative position, and wishes to open nominations for that position.
- Dovner raised a point of information, asking if there will be an LNC meeting between now and convention. Moulton said there is a meeting scheduled next week, and another one the weekend before the convention at the State Chairs' Conference.
- Selzer raised a point of information, asking how much LNC work cost Moulton. Moulton revealed that it varies, and that he sometimes uses frequent flyers miles or find cheap flights, or he drives, and tries to spend under \$100 a night for rooms.
- Brown raised a point of information, asking if Scott Lieberman attends meetings regularly. Moulton said that until the Representative position became available, Lieberman attended about half of the scheduled meetings, but since the position became available Lieberman fulfilled his function as an alternate by attending all of them. Brown observed that we don't need to take any action because we've got what we want currently. Moulton agreed that we don't need to take action, but still recommended opening nominations, even to vote for NOTA.
- Collier raised a point of information, asking if anything happens at National of any consequence that necessitates our sending a representative. Moulton explained that the next meeting is a budget meeting, plus the schedule agenda item to consider eliminating APRC.
- Cowles suggested that Lieberman probably already bought his ticket for the next meeting, and Moulton said he believed so.
- Selzer asked for clarification, asking if there is only one meeting to go before the convention, which Moulton corrected by saying there are two LNC meetings before the convention.



*MOTION:* Moulton moved to open nominations for LNC Region Representative, which Holtz seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to open nominations for LNC Regional Representative passed without objection.

- Barnes nominated Scott Lieberman, who accepted prior to meeting.
- Moulton nominated Mark Johnson, who accepted.
- Takenaga called for other nominations, and hearing none declared nominations for LNC Regional Representative closed.
- Holtz read a statement from Lieberman. The upshot of Lieberman's statement is to let the LPCA Executive Committee know that there are no political philosophy items on the LNC agenda that he sent with his statement. He explained that the LNC is an administrative body whose job it is to keep the national LP office running smoothly, meaning that the office staffers are raising money and increasing the number of sustaining members. LNC members are also charged with contributing or raising money for the LNC. He closed by inviting the Executive Committee to call him at his private cell phone number during our deliberations and ask him anything we want.
- Barnes raised a point of information, asking how many representative vacancies we have. Takenaga answered by saying we have 1 Regional Representative vacancy and 1 alternate vacancy.
- Johnson gave his statement. He believes the LNC can benefit from new blood, and wishes to improve communication between representatives and their states. The fact that the LPCA's Southern Vice Chair has to asked what's going on at the LNC is a clear indication of the failure of the current representatives to bring that information to us. It's likely why Oregon has been slipping out of the polls because they haven't been properly represented.
- Takenaga closed nominations and called for a vote, which was done by secret ballot.

*VOTE:* Visitor Neema Sebassi was selected to count the votes, and the results of the vote were Johnson 8, Lieberman 6, and NOTA 0.

*MOTION:* Moulton moved to elevate Lieberman from 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate to 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate, which Barnes seconded.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to vote by acclamation, which Barnes seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to vote by acclamation passed without objection.

*VOTE:* The motion to elevate Scott Lieberman from 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate to 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate passed without objection.

*MOTION:* Moulton nominated Mark Selzer for 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate, which Brown seconded.

*VOTE:* The motion to appoint Selzer to 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Takenaga and Cain to notify all of their election to serve.

## *Fundraising*

Treasurer Don Cowles

- 5 minutes, at 15.03 [1:04:30]
- None of the five Executive Committee members who were assigned to contact three people have done so yet. Cowles stated that he can't do fundraising alone, and that each Executive Committee member needs to recognize his responsibility to help with fundraising because LPCA needs a solid donor base. LPCA operations is dependent on recurring gifts, and we can't live off the \$25 basic dues, because the LPCA gets only \$10 from each of those.
- Moulton asked how many Coffee Club members we have. Cowles replied about 15-20, but some buy more cups per month than others. We need to quadruple the size of the California Coffee Club, and Cowles is sad to see Johnson moving on to the LNC because he'll be concentrating his volunteer efforts on raising funds for the LNC.
- Collier asked how much money we used to pull in monthly, to which Cowles replied around \$4000 monthly until about a year ago. Moulton noted that membership in LP has dropped during that time, too.
- Brown asked how Cain could report a ~\$87 average donation with so many \$25 Basic memberships. Cain explained that the ~\$87 per renewal figure was for the first membership renewal mailing, not the second one, and that the first membership renewal mailing used the old membership renewal form that misleadingly shows Basic Membership as \$55. The second mailing correctly shows Basic Membership as \$25, and that's what most people who are renewing from the second membership renewal mailing are choosing. Brown suggested that this might have been a bad idea, but Cain countered by saying it was a great idea because it will remove a lot of members from the mailing list who aren't paying for their newsletter subscription.
- Barnes apologized for not calling his three prospects, and stated that he realized that fundraising is important. He also stated that the demographic of the two mailings are different in that the second mailing went to people who's membership had been lapsed since 2006, and so many of them had been out of the Party for more than a year at this point.
- Moulton pointed out that in-kind donations and finding cost savings were the equivalent of fundraising and monetary donations.

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## **New Business**

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### *Central Committee Elections*

- 10 minutes at 15:12 [1:13:00]
  - MOTION:* Newell moved for the LPCA to instruct the Secretary of State's office not to conduct Central Committee elections for us, which Brown seconded.
- Barnes raised a point of information, mentioning Takenaga's e-mail pointing to the Peace and Freedom Party rules for Central Committee Elections, and asking if LPCA is bound by those party's rules regarding Central Committee elections. Takenaga

- replied yes, because LPCA does not have its own enabling legislation and so is bound by the latest set of rules passed, which are those of the Peace and Freedom Party.
- Selzer noted that it was the Peace and Freedom's lawsuit that created the current set of Central Committee election rules.
  - Brown clarified that in 1980, the legislature was going to pass election rules solely for LPCA, but our rules included NOTA for our primary elections, which the legislature refused to pass, ruling that we had to operate according to some other party's Central Committee election rules and the then LPCA Executive Committee chose to use the Peace and Freedom Party's Central Committee election rules because they were the loosest compared to the other parties'. Since then there's been occasional election codes proposed for LPCA but it's never gotten out of committee in the Legislature. We can choose to switch to the American Independent Party's or the Republican Party's rules if we wish, but why bother? We do what we want anyway, even though we have to have rules.
  - Barnes asked if can choose to opt-out of having Party election rules, to which Brown replied no, we have to have rules, even though we do what we want anyway.
  - Moulton believes that our by-laws require us to enable Central Committee elections. He understands that some present disagree with his interpretation of the by-laws on this matter, but there are clearly some members who favor this interpretation, and so he asks for a roll call vote so that each Executive Committee member's vote will be on the record.

*MOTION:* Moulton moved for a roll call vote, which Holtz seconded.

- Newell asked if a call for a roll call vote is debatable, to which Johnson as Parliamentarian said [?].

*VOTE:* The motion to have a roll call vote for instructing the Secretary of State to not hold Central Committee elections for the LPCA passed with two objections.

- Holtz read from the election code regarding Central Committee elections, focusing on provisions at the beginning of any convention, these rules allow candidates to band together and claim that they are the convention and do whatever they want.
- Selzer observed that this ruling gives people opportunities to be on the ballot, and so it allows us opportunities to put Libertarian on the ballot, which he himself has done.
- Brown responded to what Holtz read, reminding us that we have a very important third requirement to be a state Central Committee member that the Peace and Freedom Party doesn't have, which is to pay dues and make an application for membership. We recognize those people as our Central Committee members who are delegates to our convention, so we follow our own rules, and not the Peace and Freedom Party rules, and no one has ever forced us to follow the Peace and Freedom Party's rules.
- Holtz stated his concern that someone could try to bring suit against Party, and that by us voluntarily sustaining that we want to hold these elections, they could conceivably be used as evidence to force us to embrace the whole suite of rules. It takes 20 signatures to get on the Central Committee ballot, but they don't actually put your

name on the ballot unless there's actually going to be a contested election, with 7 or 10 or 12 people doing it before you'll see a name on the ballot.

- Dovner warned that regardless of what we do, under state law all of our candidates who make it to the Primary are going to be state Central Committee members, and they could stage a coup and inundate the Party with any number of their own people. Our candidates don't know about that provision, unless someone tells them that.

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to extend 5 minutes, which Holtz seconded

- Takenaga asked to extend by 5 minutes without objection, but Newell and Brown objected.

*VOTE:* The motion to extend time for discussion by 5 minutes failed.

*VOTE:* The motion to instruct the Secretary of State to not hold Central Committee elections for LPCA passed according to the following roll call vote. 10 for, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions.

- Thomas, for
- Moulton, against
- Cowles, for
- Collier, for
- Dovner, for
- Brown, for
- Barnes, abstain
- Selzer, for
- McMahan, for
- Johnson, abstain
- Holtz, for
- Newell, for
- Cain, for

*ACTION:* Takenaga and Cain to notify the Secretary of State not to hold Central Committee elections for the LPCA.

## ***Budget***

Don Cowles, Treasurer, 45 minutes at 15:45

In the spirit of “give or get” for members of the Executive Committee, at the last meeting I passed out five assignment sheets, each containing three contacts. The members of this group were to contact the donors and thank them for their ongoing support and attempt to increase their current giving to a higher plateau or perhaps become a member of the Coffee Club. I sent reminders to the five last Sunday in hopes that we could share some of their success with the other members at this meeting.

One item that I was unable to provide the group was a donor card. I promised to send them out when they became available. The donor cards have now been printed.

A Donor and Membership page on the website (ala ACLU type) is still in the future and slowly taking shape.

One bright spot is Mark Johnson who has shown an interest and requested a list of active donors in Northern California. We were able to provide Mark with this list on November the 13<sup>th</sup>, thanks to the efforts of Beau and his ability to manipulate the Donor Perfect database. Mark also hosted a networking party at his home with Bob Barr in attendance.

Due to the turbulent last few months caused by the departure of office staff in July, I have been unable to devote the type of time and effort necessary for a successful fundraising effort. The turbulent period is now past and I anticipate having more time to devote solely to fundraising.

I can't do this alone and I hope each member of the Executive Committee recognizes their individual responsibility to also devote a goodly amount of time in the efforts of achieving a solid recurring donor base.

#### Comments

- [1:18:45]
- Cowles noted that he and Kevin were optimistic about increasing the number of donors by 25%, and that this would take care of four areas of operation, which Takenaga listed as 1) Centralized membership processing and database management, 2) Production of *California Freedom*, 3) Distribution of *Libertarian Perspective*, 4) Holding a yearly convention for delegates. This would not include such things as Operation Breakthrough or other wonderful ideas to raise funds to support these operational activities.
- Annual renewals have also been bumped by 25% because we're doing membership renewal mailings, something that hasn't been done in three years.
- Recurring gifts were bumped by 25%, which currently is at \$1900 monthly and which we hope to increase to \$3000 monthly by the end of the year.
- Holtz questioned Cowles claim that LPCA had not done membership renewal mailings in three years, and further discussion revealed that LPCA membership renewals were UMP related, and did mail to some inactive counties so that the state Party could claim 100% of the donations, but the difference between then and now is that LPCA did not have a consistent ongoing mail campaign to renew memberships.
- The convention produced \$15,000 income, including personally solicited donations of about \$4000. Essentially the convention income and expenses are a wash.
- We rent out our mailing list once a year for \$5000, and maybe we can rent it out twice a year.
- Magazine advertising is \$3600, to buy advertising in such publications as the Independent Institute.
- Of the \$25 annual dues, the state Party keeps \$10, so we hope to get an extra 1000 members.
- Administrative includes an item for "Convention Advertising"
- Executive Committee Meetings pays for rooms such as the Executive Committee was using today.

- LPCA Headquarters includes \$3200 monthly for whomever is the COO or ED, plus rent, bank and credit card fees, data processing, equipment, insurance, office supplies, telephone, utilities.
- Member Communications show a loss of \$5600, partly due to the distribution costs of *California Freedom*.
- Newell asked if the is based on 700 members, which Cowles clarified as between 700 and 800 members. Newell further questioned if that would be the number in active counties, which Cowles affirmed. Newell then asked how many members total, which Cowles stated as around 900. Newell surmised that there's a pretty good percentage of members not in active counties. Cowles affirmed, stating that we distributed \$7600 to counties in October, and we captured about \$1600 [later corrected to \$900] from inactive counties.
- Cain asked the attendees to avoid miscalculating county shares of dues by making a distinction between *dues* and *donations*. Dues are set at \$25 annually, and anything over that amount is an unsolicited donation.

**MOTION:** Holtz moved to reduce *California Freedom* outside costs by \$7,000 per year, which Moulton seconded.

- Moulton raised a point of information, asking if Holtz volunteered to do the layout. Holtz clarified that he did not volunteer to replicate Muffet Brown's work, but that he does volunteer to layout future issues of *California Freedom*.
- Newell noted that in the breakdown of figures for *California Freedom* he sees fixed costs of \$13,200 and for Budget \$12,200. Takenaga conjectured that the two figures might not have been reconciled. Newell questioned whether the \$7000 reduction makes sense. Cowles agreed that the Budget item should be \$13,200.

**MOTION:** Johnson moved to amend, "...and Mr. Holtz volunteered to provide monthly layout," which Moulton seconded.

- Brown raised a point of information, asking if he missed some information. It seems the point of the motion is to have no cost for the layout. Holtz explained that the point of the motion is that given our financial situation, it seems irresponsible to spend \$9000 a year of members' money to layout *California Freedom*. He believes members won't mind going to a lower-budget layout.

**VOTE:** Amendment to add language about Holtz volunteering to provide monthly layout passed with one objection.

- Newell questioned the \$4200 for editing, if we budget \$5000 total, that leaves \$800. Holtz and Cowles clarified that this wasn't editing, it was for layout.

**VOTE:** The motion to reduce *California Freedom* outside costs by \$7,000 per year and have Holtz provide layout services passed without objection.

**ACTION:** Cowles to notify the Newsletter Committee of the change in their budget.

*MOTION:* Cowles moved to accept the 2008 Budget as amended, seconded by Moulton.

- Moulton raised a point of information, saying he thinks we should look at whether we should be paying an Executive Director or whether we should have an office, but he's willing to accept the budget as amended.
- Cowles noted that one thing that isn't in the 2008 Budget are \$20000 lumps that were found in past budgets that apparently hid questionable expenses.
- Newell noted that there's no line item for Legal. We used to carry such a line item.
- Holtz asked if we have any idea how long Cain would be filling the role of COO. He'll vote for the budget if it's for Cain, otherwise he'll want to interview the next candidate for that office.
- Takenaga stated his confidence in Cain for the job he's currently doing for the Party, with his experience in direct mail, writing, fixing computers and databases, and at this time in the Party's development, that's what Cain does.
- Holtz asked if Cain intends to fill the position for about a year. Cain responded that he intends to get so much money coming in to the Party that the Executive Committee cannot help but hire him.

*VOTE:* The motion to adopt the 2008 Budget as amended passed without objection.

- Moulton asked if it would be appropriate to use the remaining 20 minutes in the agenda item to further discuss the status of the office. Newell suggested trying to finish some of the other items before allocating the extra time for a new item.

*MOTION:* Moulton moved to add discussion of the status of the office to the end of New Business.

*VOTE:* The motion to add discussion of the status of the office to the end of New Business passed with one objection.

## California Freedom Subscriptions and Costs

Treasurer Cowles, [1:55:10]

			\$ Cost per Issue	Annual Issues	Annual Cost	
		Editing	350	12	4,200	
		Layout	750	12	9,000	
						Fixed Costs (Internet Edition) <u>13,200</u>
						Less Advertising Revenue 4,500
						Total Annual Cost Internet Edition <u><u>\$8,700</u></u>
*Copies Printed	Paying Subscribers					
1,100	700	Printing	890	12	10,680	
		Postage	320	12	3,840	
						Variable Costs <u>14,520</u>
						Less Advertising Revenue 4,500
						Total Annual Cost of Print Edition <u><u>\$23,220</u></u>

\*Copies printed exceed paying Subscribers by 338 Life Members And a few extra (62) for advertisers And interested parties.

		Annual Costs for Print Edition			Annual Cost for Internet Edition		
		Per Paying Subscriber	Per Subscriber	Per Subscriber	Per Subscriber	Per Subscriber	
		700	33.17	1,100	21.11	1,100	7.91
Increase 10%		770	30.16	1,120	20.73	1,120	7.77
20%		840	27.64	1,190	19.51	1,190	7.31
30%		910	25.52	1,260	18.43	1,260	6.90

- Cowles noted that in the spreadsheet below, there's 700 annual subscribers, there's 1100 copies printed, 338 go to Life members. It costs us \$33 per individual to



produce the newsletter. If we can increase our membership by 10%, we'll just about break even on *California Freedom*.

- Collier raised a point of information, asking if we have 700 paying subscribers, that does not include the 338, which Cowles affirmed. The paying subscribers are in effect subsidizing the Life members' subscriptions.
- Newell asked if we have any money accrued for the Life members, to which Cowles replied that there had been \$5000.

**MOTION:** Barnes moved to bring Life members into parity with the rest of the members and separate the California Freedom subscription from the membership dues, which was seconded by McMahon.

- Barnes spoke in favor of his motion by stating that if regular members are not getting subscriptions for their dues, Life members shouldn't either.
- Moulton asked what promises were made to Life members.
- Holtz stated that as a Life member, he'd be disappointed not to receive the subscription to *California Freedom*, but that he's willing to receive it electronically and believes we should make an effort to offer that option to Life members.
- Cain spoke against the motion. He stated that whatever we agreed when we offered Life membership we should honor. However, the motion to impose parity between Life members and other members bothers Cain because there are some details about Life membership that need to be addressed. Currently, Cain is going through the list of Life members to see which of them have donated nothing beyond their Life membership donations, and which of them continue to donate. The results of this research will somewhat ease the financial burden of providing ongoing services to Life members, and so a blanket motion to impose the proposed parity would be unwarranted in some cases.
- Newell raised a point of information, asking how much of the variable is variable, and how much of the variable cost is actually fixed cost. Cowles stated that we can probably print it cheaper as well as holding the line on mailing costs. Takenaga observed that we don't have an accurate projection.
- McMahon addressed the matter of people still using the old membership enrollment forms that offered \$25 annual membership for new members and included a complementary subscription to California Freedom. He surmised that this could be abused to continue getting complementary subscription longer than they should have.
- Barnes noted that Moulton's original question had not been answered, and so asked again what we promised Life members. Brown replied that despite any other changes that might have been made to membership, the subscription has been included as part of membership until recently.
- Selzer observed that he was told that his Social Security was guaranteed, that it was in a lockbox. We now have donors among our Life members, and he believes it would be discourteous to stop sending them California Freedom.
- Cowles noted that he and Cain are planning a mailing to Life members to encourage them to continue to donate.

*MOTION:* Barnes asked to withdraw his motion to bring Life members into parity with other members in regard to paying for subscriptions to *California Freedom*. [2:06:50]

- Takenaga asked if there was objection to Barnes withdrawing his motion, to which Johnson replied that the motion belongs to the floor and can't be withdrawn. Takenaga stated that the Executive Committee can give permission to withdraw the motion.
- Brown continued the discussion about California Freedom by noting that the current arrangement with Greater Georgia Printers isn't working out because of the great length of time between publication and the time the issues are delivered to recipients.

*MOTION:* Brown moved to find a new printer for California Freedom to be printed locally and mailed in California, which Cowles seconded.

- Barnes called the question.
- Takenaga repeated the motion as locate a printer in California, which Cain attempted to correct by saying the motion is just to locate a new printer. Cowles mentioned that we'll want a local printer in California to improve delivery time. Cain countered by asking what we'd do if we find a good deal in Arizona or Nevada, to which Cowles acquiesced.

*MOTION:* Takenaga asked to extend time by 5 minutes without objection, which Thomas seconded, but Moulton objected.

*VOTE:* The motion to extend time to discuss finding a new printer for California Freedom failed.

- Barnes called the question.

*VOTE:* The motion to find a new printer for California Freedom to be printed locally and mailed in California passed with few objections.

*ACTION:* Cain to research printers and mailers who can produce California Freedom cost effectively and mail it to reach subscribers in significantly less time than is currently the case.

## *Convention 2009*

Takenaga, 5 minutes at 16:11 [2:12:10]

- Takenaga stated that it's the right time to form a committee to find a location for the 2009 convention. He proposes that we establish the committee.

*MOTION:* Cowles moved to establish the Convention 2009 Committee, which Barnes seconded

- Moulton called question.

*VOTE:* The motion to establish the Convention 2009 Committee passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Executive Committee to establish the Convention 2009 Committee.

### *Endorsement of Norm Westwell*

Chair Takenaga [2:13:50]

*MOTION:* Moulton moved to endorse Norm Westwell, Cowles seconded.

- Takenaga stated that Westwell was endorsed by the Libertarian Party of Orange County, and his campaign contacted him, and asked to be endorsed by the Libertarian Party of California.
- Barnes spoke in favor of the endorsement by stating “Norm rocks!”

*VOTE:* The motion to endorse Norm Westwell passed without objection.

*ACTION:* Studier to inform Westwell of the Party’s endorsement.

### *Election 2007*

Chair Takenaga [2:15:30]

- Sonia Sigler almost won her election, and had there been a little more effort the LPCA would have claimed a school board seat in San Mateo County. Newell mentioned that he contacted her more than 60 days before the election to offer to help, but she contacted him only three days before the election to ask if he’d walk the precinct for her. She didn’t give LPCA much time to rally support. Takenaga wanted to put her in touch with other candidates who could advise her about her campaign.
- Collier noted that this campaign wasn’t for a lower-level elected office, this was for a School Board seat in San Mateo County. If we have quality candidates with reasonable resumes, we can be competitive.
- Takenaga mentioned that the San Mateo LP focused on a couple of ballot arguments and defeated a sales tax by a small margin. He got their Secretary Christopher Schmidt to point him to their ballot arguments, so that we can publicize what the issues were and what arguments the San Mateo LP used to defeat them. Takenaga noted that Samuels in Monterey County helped defeat a parcel tax by publishing a ballot argument. Takenaga wishes to create a resource where our ballot arguments can be published in a central location, and messages can be sent out to call LPCA officers’ attention to them.
- Newell mentioned that one issue to making such an effort successful seems to be keeping atop the calendar.
- Takenaga closed by stating that we need to create networks among state and county parties to facilitate helping our candidates with their campaigns.

### *Platform Committee*

*MOTION:* Moulton moved to appoint Brown Chair of the California Platform Committee, seconded by Dovner.

- Brown stated that he's been doing this for a long time and naturally feels protective toward it, but will welcome others running for the chairmanship or just offering suggestions for improvement.

*VOTE:* The motion to appoint Brown Chair of the California Platform Committee passed without objection.

### *Clarification of By-laws*

Selzer, 5 minutes at 16:20 [2:21:45]

- Selzer asked Brown if he thinks the Party's by-laws prohibit members from endorsing candidates from other parties. Brown stated Bylaw 9, Section 2, saying that no state officer shall use any office in the party to support a candidate of another political party. There's no mention of the rest of the Executive Committee or the county officers. The LP's by-laws state that local affiliates can't endorse candidates from other parties.
- Selzer stated that Ron Paul can be nominated as our presidential candidate at our convention because there's no per-party registration in Texas. Selzer simply wants to know what to tell people if they ask him about this.
- Barnes opined that we don't have the authority to tell people what to do with their personal lives, but we do have authority to tell what they do with the offices within our organization.
- Moulton stated his opinion that this discussion is out of order because the Judicial Committee is responsible for interpreting the by-laws, not the Executive Committee.
- Selzer asked for a sense of the body.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to declare that the sense of the body is that our By-law 9, Section 2 doesn't prevent any member of this party other than the five state officers of this party from supporting Ron Paul. [2:26:30]

*MOTION:* Barnes moved to extend time to consider the motion, which was seconded by two people, but Moulton objected.

*VOTE:* The motion to extend time to consider Holtz's motion to declare the sense of the body failed.

- Takenaga ruled that since he heard no second for Holtz's motion to declare the sense of the body regarding by-law 9, section 2, and since the majority of the body did not wish to extend time to consider the motion, the motion dies.

### *Disposition of the Office*

Chuck Moulton, 5 minutes at 16:26 [2:28]

- Moulton stated that at the previous Executive Committee meeting, Cain gave a report about the office, which raised doubts whether to keep it open. It is Moulton's understanding that Cain would investigate transitioning the office. Regardless of whether we've decided that it's a good idea to keep the office open and the acting Executive Director decided that it's a good idea to keep the office open, Moulton still

thinks it's a good idea to take steps to make the transition easy in case we decide to do so. One such step will be to get a mail forwarding address.

*MOTION:* Moulton moved that the LPCA obtain a mail-forwarding address and transition to that address within the next year so that if we decide to close the office, the transition will be easier, which Holtz seconded.

- Newell spoke against the motion as an unnecessary expense.
- Barnes raised a point of inquiry, asking how much such a forwarding address would cost. Moulton stated that he doesn't know, but the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania uses such an address and can easily afford it.
- Brown stated that it's not a bad thing to have a post office box, and the LPCA can use the Region 63 post office box in Pasadena which he pays for at \$43 a year.
- Cowles offered to let the LPCA use his office address.
- Thomas asked that if we used a post office box, where would the office stuff be kept. Moulton clarified that he's not suggesting closing the office now, but to get a forwarding mailbox in case the Executive Committee decides to close the office in the future. He also stated that it's not a good idea to use Cowles' or Brown's personal address. Cain supported that assertion by recalling his experience in association management, noting that it's a recognized breach of ethics to have association mail delivered to a member's personal address.
- Barnes spoke in favor of the proposal, citing Brown's revelation that the smallest post office box would be about \$40 annually, and since it would be a forwarding box, the small size wouldn't matter, and that this would give us flexibility for future situations.
- Holtz asked if anyone know if we can get a PO Box 1776.

*MOTION:* Holtz moved to extend time for 3 minutes, which Thomas seconded

*VOTE:* The motion to extend time to discuss a forwarding post office box passed without objection.

- Holtz asked if mail addressed to such a post office box would automatically be forwarded or would someone need to pick up mail. Moulton stated that there are several arrangements.
- Dovner believes that a USPS mail box would be about \$100 annually for a box that would accommodate a package. USPS won't forward for more than 30 days at a time. If we want long-term forwarding, we'd need to get PMB. An option would be to get private mail box that would automatically forward mail for about \$300 annually.
- Thomas asked how expensive it would be to change stationery. Cain answered that the cost of wasted stationery was a concern when he arrived at the office, because nothing was being done with it, and there were some old envelopes with invalid addresses. However, having gone through two membership renewal mailings, Cain is confident that there will be very little wasted stationery if the address changes in the future.
- Brown said that we can use his Libertarian Party of the Foothills address to avoid the difficulty of using a personal mailing address for the association's mail.
- Takenaga called the question when the extended time ran out. Cain read the motion.

**VOTE:** The motion to obtain a mail-forwarding address and transition to that address within the next year so that if we decide to close the office, the transition will be easier failed.

- Moulton called for division, which failed with 6 for, 3 against, and 4 abstaining.

**ACTION:** Moulton volunteered to investigate costs for forwarding boxes.

## Action Items

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### *Secretary (Cain)*

- Prepare Summary Minutes for Executive Committee review and for County Officers by Saturday, December 8, 2007, and for publication by January 1, 2008.
- Ask Robert Obreczarek to add Ted Brown to the Inquiry e-mail address.
- Takenaga and Cain to notify all candidates for internal office of their election. See Vacant LNC Regional Representative and Alternates Positions beginning on page 32.
- Takenaga and Cain to notify the Secretary of State not to hold Central Committee elections for the LPCA. See Central Committee Elections beginning on page 34.
- Cain to research printers and mailers who can produce California Freedom cost effectively and mail it to reach subscribers in significantly less time than is currently the case. See beginning on page 40.

### *All*

- The motion to commend Samuels for his work with JSA passed without objection.
- Executive Committee to establish the Convention 2009 Committee. See Convention 2009 beginning on page 42.
- Review, revise, and approve minutes.

### *Chair (Takenaga)*

- Takenaga to send the schedule of Libertarian State Leadership Alliance to the Executive Committee after the meeting. See Comments beginning on page 8.
- Takenaga and Cain to notify all of their election to serve. See Vacant LNC Regional Representative and Alternates Positions beginning on page 32.
- Takenaga and Cain to notify the Secretary of State not to hold Central Committee elections for the LPCA. See Central Committee Elections beginning on page 34.
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### *Northern Vice Chair (Newell)*

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### *Southern Vice Chair (Collier)*

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### *Treasurer (Cowles)*

- Cowles to notify the Newsletter Committee of the change in their budget. See Budget beginning on page 18.

### *Brown*

- Brown to convey information about a prospective chair pro tem for Stanislaus county to Newell. See Comments beginning on page 9 and beginning on page 23.
- Brown to contact Legislation Analysis Team regarding Prop 91. See page 24

### *Holtz*

- Holtz to provide the list of registered Libertarians to candidates. See Campaign 2008 beginning on page 23.

### *Minkoff*

- Publicize the following:
  - The motion to oppose Prop 92 passed without objection. See Ballot Propositions, February 200824 beginning on page 24.
  - The motion to oppose Prop 93, Term Limits, passed with one objection. See Ballot Propositions, February 200824 beginning on page 24.
  - The motion to endorse the Howard Jarvis Tax Center's *California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act* passed without objection. See Property Rights Initiative, Howard Jarvis Taxpayer's Association beginning on page 26

### *Studier*

- Studier to inform Westwell of the Party's endorsement. See Endorsement of Norm Westwell beginning on page 43.

### *Moulton*

- Moulton volunteered to investigate costs for forwarding boxes. See Disposition of the Office beginning on page 44.