

Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 21 August 2010

Opening: The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met on the grounds of Dave Sten's home in North East, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

Attendance: the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; Dave Sten; and Bill Buzzell. It validated that 14 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. No proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 34 members.

Minutes: The minutes of the 13 March, 15 May, 19 June, and 21 July 2010 Central Committee meetings were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's report: Michael Linder advised of various county election board notices notifying us of pre-election run-throughs; previous reports to the BoE that had been rejected have been updated. The current Treasurer's report was accepted noting that the amount due the BLP requires an update.

Chair's Report: Bob Johnston thanked the Stens for hosting the picnic, and was pleased to see that Jim Lark and Denise Minter were present. He has been working to get lapsed members to renew: 10 of 19 from 2009, and 7 of 19 from 2008 have renewed; primary impediments are changed phone numbers and inability to pay dues. As of the end of June LP registration was at 8457; we are ahead of the GP by about 200; we added 800 in a year and we could achieve the 1% mark in about six years at the current rate of increase. John Kotmair's *Save-A-Patriot* group invited an MdLP rep to attend a "Freedom Lovers Unite" conference; there was a follow-up meeting; Tony Spezio attended both on our behalf, will continue. Ray Wodarski of Randolph Macon College in VA has interned this summer for the MdLP. He has gathered sigs, constructed a media list of state newspapers, and has composed a LTE supporting our candidates which he will send to each newspaper next week. Our 18 candidates are the most for a state 3rd party in the last 30+ years, in the existence of the MdLP, according to Richard Winger of *Ballot Access News*. CP has 10, and the GP has 5. State candidates using social media (Twitter, YouTube, Facebook) are now required to have an authority line in any political advertising. The Exec Board decided to transfer \$1000 from the MdLP treasury to Susan's campaign to run ads on WBAL 1090. Bob has written and sent out a fundraising letter for Susan and all of our candidates to raise money for more ads. Justin Kinsey stepped down from the Board; Bob appointed Arvin Vohra to fill in until today's meeting, where the position is to be filled for the remainder of the term.

LNC Rep Jim Lark: there are 5 congressional candidates in VA, several in DE, and some in WV. Several statewide candidates in PA withdrew after signatures were challenged (losing the case would have bankrupted the LPPA). The LNC finances are good, membership is fluctuating, we have candidates around the country. September 17 is Constitution Day and Jim urges candidates to use that to illustrate the differences between us and the R's, D's.

Executive Board Vacancy: Arvin Vohra was nominated and unanimously voted onto the Board, replacing Justin Kinsey.

Constitutional Amendment: on the table for yes/no from the 3/13/2010 meeting:

Append to Article VII Section 1: At the time of filing, all candidates of the Maryland Libertarian Party to public office must be registered Libertarian as defined in the qualification for Central Committee membership. Vote = NO unanimously by a voice vote (reason was to defer to newer version)

New proposed Constitutional Amendment: Append to Article VII Section 1: At the time of filing, and continuously through the date of the corresponding General Election, all candidates of the Maryland Libertarian Party to public office must be registered Libertarian as defined in the qualification for Central Committee membership stated in Article IV, Section 2. Should any candidate fail to meet this qualification after nomination and if the state has already been notified of that nomination, the Chairman and Secretary are directed to notify the State Board of Elections that the Party's nomination is rescinded.

Append to Article VII Section 2: Should the Local Central Committee of the corresponding jurisdiction not exist, or not be recognized by the appropriate County or State Board of Election, or the jurisdiction crosses the boundary of more than one such Local Central Committee, or the duly authorized Chairman of an empowered recognized Local Central Committee so request, the State Central Committee may nominate such candidates in the same manner as described in Section 3 of this Article.

Vote = YES unanimously by a voice vote (to be voted up/down at next CC meeting)

Candidates: Susan Gaztañaga has been very busy attending campaign-related events, on the order of 3 per week; Scott Spencer had a meeting at the Howard Co. library with the "Founders Freedom Club," was at the Pride Festival; Richard Davis was at meetings in Kent Island, Salisbury Rotary Club, Perryville, and the Tawes Clambake; Arvin Vohra is using social media (has more followers than Bob Barr), made a cable public access video; Dave Sten has been at NAACP, North East Chamber of Commerce forums and is advertising in Voter's Guides; Lorenzo Gaztañaga has been at Campaign for Liberty, and Tea Party forums, the Black and White Gala, and Pride Festival.

Announcements: Bill Buzzell requests assistance for the Reisterstown Parade on 9/11; and booths at the Reisterstown Festival on 9/11, 9/12; Essex Day 9/19; and Fells Point 10/2, 10/3. Robert Glaser advises that candidates can get state registration lists from him; and pushes for sig collection on Primary Election Day.

Adjournment: the Central Committee meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.

--Robert E. Glaser