

Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Saturday, 17 April 2021

Opening: The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met at the *Bavarian Brauhaus* in Hanover, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 3:29 pm by chairman Bob Johnston.

Attendance: the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; Stuart Simms; and Dean Ahmad. It validated that 45 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. 13 proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 70 members. (Five minutes of attendance identification deleted from audio recording.)

Chair's Report: Bob Johnston thanks Phil Dassing, Krystal Woodworth, and Stu Simms for putting on this convention. He welcomes Executive Director Tyler Harris, Dan Fishman, LNC Chair Joe Bishop-Henchman, LNC representative Susan Hogarth, and Dr. Lark. We have 166 members and 15,675 registered voters. We are a recognized party and need 1% registrations or 1% vote for governor to maintain status. All partisan state offices are up for election next year, interested candidates contact Bob. Eric reports no ballot access law bill made it out of committee; he is requesting the BoE to continue accepting electronic signatures, gives it a 50% chance. The MdLP decided not to go with the national LP's CRM, we will have our own along with a new website from Krystal Woodworth.

The agenda: was agreed upon unanimously.

Minutes: The minutes of the 18 July and 17 October 2020 Central Committee meetings were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's report: was accepted as submitted by Eric Blitz after he distributed and described budget documents.

Bylaws change: Motion made by Dean Ahmad and Robert Glaser to amend the Bylaws as follows. In the "Transferable Ballot Method of Proportional Representation" bylaw, change this: "N offices; C candidates; B ballots: each ballot is a list of candidate names in order of preference with no minimum or maximum number. The voting algorithm is as follows:" to this: "N offices; C candidates; B ballots: each ballot is a list of candidate names in order of preference with no minimum or maximum number. 'None of the Above (NOTA)' is always included as a voting option, is treated as a candidate, and is never dropped. The voting algorithm is as follows:"; passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Officer Elections: Eric Blitz and Kyle O'Donnell were nominated for Chairman; Blitz 51, O'Donnell 10, NOTA 0; vote totals discrepancy noted, the body unanimously agreed to accept the results; Eric Blitz is elected. The following were nominated as officers: Kyle O'Donnell, Krystal Woodworth, Phil Dassing, Alexander Schlegel, David Dull, Robert Johnston III, Robert Glaser, and Stuart Simms. Ballots were distributed and tabulated: Krystal Woodworth, Kyle O'Donnell, Phil Dassing, Robert Glaser, David Dull, and Robert Johnston III are elected. (Voting from 5:03-5:11 deleted from audio recording.)

Tyler Harris, LP Executive Director: heartening to be in the room. Is very pleased to see that this growth is typical of what is being seen across the country. They are strengthening the pipeline of individuals who come to National. National wants to support the affiliates; has a team to assist in electing Libertarians. They are building out the infrastructure. Implores all to join National or become a monthly pledger.

Dan Fishman: proud to be an MdLP member; May 1 is national libertarian day of service; *working towards joy* People4Liberty.org/nldos.

Eric Blitz: Bob Johnston has been working very hard for this party for 14 years, thanks him. Presents a card for Bob and beer from various members for him is outside.

Dr. Lark: Congratulates Eric and thanks Bob, a good captain who takes responsibility and shares credit.

Joe Bishop-Henchman, LNC Chair: due to the pandemic, who do we need to hire, and who do we need to sue; Jorgensen/Cohen were on the ballot in all 50 states. We're growing 5-8% per year, Democrats 2%, Republicans 0%. 1 in 90 Americans voted for Jo. We have overcome ballot access challenges and being more pro-active on that issue. Working on getting elected to state legislatures: now we have two. National is rolling out a 16-course state campaign certification training program.

Chase Award: Dean Ahmad described the history of the Samuel Chase Award. Lorenzo Gaztañaga presented this year's award to Shawn Quinn for running for Governor so heartily twice; "he campaigned like it was the end of the world." Shawn pointed out that "You can't do it by yourself."

Constitutional Amendment:

In V6B, replace : "A written petition of twenty percent or more of the members of the State Central Committee may call a meeting of the State Central Committee for a specific stated purpose." with "A written petition of twenty percent or more of the members of the State Central Committee as of the close of the previous Central Committee meeting may call a meeting of the State Central Committee for a specific stated purpose." The Investigating Committee of Bob Johnston, Dean Ahmad, Eric Blitz, David Dull, and Brian Krahling recommend passage. The vote passes unanimously on a voice vote.

Recess from 5:23-5:46

Resolution: Phil Dassing offers: "*Whereas* the instituting of a database of citizens' personal healthcare decisions that tracks your health status is not a Constitutionally recognized function of government, and *Whereas* the collusion between government and private business in creating and implementing such a database creates an intrusive surveillance system and could result in a tyrannical medical caste system, and *Whereas* a resulting vaccine passport system infringes upon the peoples freedom of movement and to go about their normal lives, *Therefore*, the Libertarian Party of Maryland opposes, in the strongest possible terms, any and all attempts to institute a vaccine passport system in the state of Maryland." Passes on a voice vote.

Eric Blitz: because we do not have time to consider the Platform Committee's report as required by our Constitution, moves to suspend the Constitution's requirement to consider it at the convention and instead consider it at the next Central Committee meeting, which violates the 90-day Constitutional timeline; requires a 2/3 vote. Passes on a voice vote, the platform will be voted on at the picnic.

Outgoing Chair: Bob Johnston thanks donors, petition collectors, and most of all our candidates; candidates get the message out. The average person hears about the LP from candidates.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.