

Unified Libertarians of Massachusetts
Minutes of the State Executive Committee Meeting
May 11, 2023

A meeting of the Unified Libertarians of Massachusetts was held via Zoom. The meeting convened at 8:10.

Present were Brandi Bishop, Charlie Larkin, Dave Burnham, Tom Eddlem, Brian Zakrajsek, Scott Gray, Stephanie Pasniokas, Justin Costa, Jason Brand, Janel Holmes, Paul Lynch, Pat McDonough, Ken Luu, and Mike and Aimee Brigham. Brodi Elwood was signed in to keep the Zoom open, but not present due to a conflicting engagement.

Minutes: Approval moved by Janel, second by Justin.

Committee reports:

Treasurer: Tom reported that the bank account is transferred to his signature. The only treasury issue is paying NationBuilder, which is a \$312 invoice. Brodi may be discontinuing the service, or downgrading the service. We will wait to consult with Brodi before any payment is rendered. Janel asked about the billing cycle. Tom wasn't sure, which is another issue to consult with Brodi on. Current balance: \$2945.82. The bank is charging \$25/month in fees.

Political Director: Janel reached out to Ken Roberts about re-starting PVL. Lou Marino has dropped his campaign due to personal matters, and perhaps returning to the GOP. We may have another candidate. Details to follow.

Comms: Justin reports we've gained 200 new followers on Facebook, about 40k hits. Brian and Justin may do a video for Memorial Day for Defend the Guard, and a Mother's Day post/promotion.

Brian: We will be recording it something if decent voice recording equipment can be found.

Side-bar: Scott: Will members be able to access to members and agenda? Dave agrees, and Brodi should be posting them online. Dave asked Scott to e-Mail Brodi and ask him to do something with it.

Membership: No new members this month. Steph is trying to learn Nation Builder with its internal tutorials. She would like to get an automated welcome e-Mail set up, and work with Brian for a Defend the Guard e-Mail.

Brodi popped in for a moment, he recommended that we drop to NationBuilder's lowest-priced tier because of expense and needs.

Fundraising: Jason and Brandi reported that the Middle East in Cambridge, and they will let us use space for free, but we need to make sure we get people in the door. Perhaps some speakers and a comic to wrap up for a little entertainment. Possible speakers include Defend the Guard, a sex work advocate, noted civil rights attorney Harvey

Silverglate, and someone from Bay Staters for Natural Medicine. Timing would be summer or fall, probably, with a goal of 50-75 people minimum.

At-large: Brian exchanged e-Mails with a group called Mass Peace Action, a bit crunchy, Chris Panzika. They are very anti-war. Brandi noted this might a good speaker source. This organization has a lot of things going on, ranging from protests to peace negotiators working in global hot spots. MAPA also does some legislative work, and may be a good ally.

Other: Brandi said if we have any other people or organizations that might be good for a speakers' night, let her know. Janel suggested MassCan. Stephanie asked about potential candidates or office holders being allowed to speak. Brandi is open to this, and a membership table. Steph said she's advocates for right to farm, and this might be a good idea. Brodi suggested the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance as a speaker. Charlie suggested the Massachusetts Council of Car Clubs to speak on the anti private transportation bills.

New Business: Tom noted Brian gave a donation while we've been meeting. Thank you!

Dave: We need to be sure that we can get ballot access for 2024. Dave asked Charlie about his experiences and the present situation, which caught him terribly off-guard. Janel, to Charlie's relief, took the conversation.

We are considered a major party due to Cris Crawford's Treasurer run, and their committee can choose the presidential candidate, as the Commonwealth does not . Barring legal action, we will need to get our names on the primary ballot in our State Senate District (or Congressional? we will double check), and get one man and one woman. We each need to run, because no other libertarians will run, unless you share a district with "Team Purge." Brandi confirmed that this is their strategy. It is very likely we will have to share a committee with them.

The other issue is that we have a compressed time to get the same number of signatures, which is 10,000 valid signatures, approximately between February or March and June of 2024, unlike minor parties and independents, which have until mid-August. We will need a lot of people to do this. Note that the ballot elected committee will be a three-year term. Dave asked how this would be structured. Janel noted that as a PAC technically, the organization we now know as the "state party" would be separate, LAMA would be its own entity, and the party recognized by the Commonwealth will be yet a third party, most likely a composite of the two. While this was being discussed, Justin noted that it is in fact State Senate districts that control this.

Janel noted LAMA will try to run Bill Weld as their candidate. Anger was commonplace about the theft of the party by them. Justin noted someone needs to sue to stop them. Dave said, emphatically, that as painful as it may be, we need to set the anger aside, and prepare to work together.

Brandi went to LAMA. Chris Thrasher is now Chairman. Chris wants to do collations with us. Dave said "they can disband and join us." Brandi said there were 25-30 people there, perhaps a bit more. Steph and Brian expressed sincere doubts about Mr. Thrasher's veracity. Brandi noted neither camp has the numbers to make anything work, which was readily agreed with by several members of the committee.

Brandi noted she may run for Senator against Warren. She went over some things about how to do this.

Motion to close by Charlie, second by Justin. Close at 8:56.

A true abstract of the same,

Charles H. Larkin
Recording Secretary