



Meeting Minutes

Call to order

A meeting of the Unified Libertarians of Massachusetts was held at 8:00 pm on July 17, 2024 via Zoom. Attendees included Jason Brand (chair), Thomas Eddlem (treasurer), Rebecca Lau (secretary), at large members Sean Kennedy, Al Ozonoff, Brian Zakrajsek, Brodi Elwood, and Aaron Morse. Members not in attendance included David Burnham and James Parent. Guests included Pat Ford, Ben Weir, Brandi Bishop, and Ryan Sullivan.

Approval of Agenda/Previous Minutes

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the June 2024 meeting were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Chair's Report

Al Ozonoff and Brian Zakrajsek voted on to join the SC
Bylaws and Rules working committee formalized
Special Convention and May meeting minutes posted
Regular convention minutes properly posted
Emails sent to lapsed members, 2 rejoined
Flodesk accessed and reviewed
Emails sent to upcoming expirations using Flodesk

Treasurer's Report

State account
Beginning balance: \$2,874.77
Receipts/donations: \$104.70
Expenditures: \$35.19 (bank fee/Flodesk)
Ending Balance: \$2,944.28

Federal Account
Beginning balance: \$35.00
Receipts/donations: \$0
Expenditures: \$15.00 (bank fee)
Ending Balance: \$20.00

Pat Ford, LNC Region 6 Representative Q&A

Pat Ford, Region 6 Representative and Ben Weir, Region 6 Alternate answered questions about the LNC's joint fundraising committee with Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Pat Ford reported that the pros of the agreement included a potential financial windfall. He likened it to a timeshare, where RFK would be using our FEC account, and there would be a 90/10 split. Kennedy claims they raise \$1 million a month. The agreement stays in effect until the new year.

The Chase Oliver ticket will continue to be on the ballot. Pat is on the reconciliation committee in the LNC.

The reason why the LNC should have this agreement is because it needs money. The LNC can't use convention funds until convention books are closed. It needs money to hire a development director.

Pat also believes that another benefit of the agreement is that it feels like RFK is endorsing the Libertarian Party which he shows by his willingness to partner with us.

Tom Eddlem: What does the LNC have to DO on our (the Libertarian Party) end in order to engage in this revenue sharing? RFK2 isn't giving us a split for nothing.

Pat Ford: We offer higher contribution limits.

Rebecca Lau: how much did the hotel "overcharge" the LP for the convention?

Ben Weir: Rebecca, the Treasurer hasn't finished correcting his reports with adjustments so we don't have any accurate numbers for that yet.

Sean Kennedy: This appears to violate Article 2 Purposes of the party

4. nominating candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and supporting Party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and

ARTICLE 14: PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS

4. The National Committee shall respect the vote of the delegates at nominating conventions and provide full support for the Party's nominee for President and nominee for Vice-President as long as their campaigns are conducted in accordance with the platform of the Party.

It looks like we are supporting RFK while giving crumbs to Chase

Pat Ford: I see it as an organization separate from the LP. It is an accounting mechanism created by the duopoly. It will not take party data, and will mine RFK data. I do not see it as an endorsement, only an accounting creation. I think the LP will look better in the eyes of RFK fans.

The party is in a dire financial condition. In my opinion, it is necessary in order to have continued operation of the party.

Al Ozonoff: Do we anticipate that this agreement would be widely reported. Whatever the truth, perception may be that this is an implicit endorsement of the RFK2 campaign. What are the risks that this will affect the reputation of the LP.

Pat Ford: I don't think media will care. We should be glad someone pays attention

Brandi Bishop: So LNC is broke because they suck at budgeting and fundraising and now they have no choice but to hoe themselves to RFK because it's "our only hope"... am I paraphrasing the situation correctly?

Pat Ford: Prominent libertarians have said don't donate. LNC is good at budgeting.

Aaron Morse: My question is about the support of this plan from the Chase/MtM campaign. According to Steve Dasbach on Facebook, the campaign did not approve and raised objections. It's become a bit of he said/she said. What is their position according to what you have heard?

Pat Ford: Originally it was supported. Use it as a way to support someone else on the ticket other than Chase. Campaign is responsible for fundraising. We are offering to help.

Ben Weir: Dasbach and the Oliver campaign are very opposed to this agreement.

Sean: How are the donors being funneled to the LP? Are we collecting their donor data to be used later? Are they being polled on the intake forms so we can hone in on the potential voters for us to target for support? Are we advertising for RFK and/or vice versa? If we are broke why are we paying the previous chair of a caucus and a TBD helper for him?

Ben Weir: Donor data can be purchased from L2 and other methods, but it will not be freely given I don't believe. These donors are not being funneled to the LP, we are just taking a cut from RFK's donors. We are not contributing to any fundraising and RFK is not going to be promoting us at all with this. It's strictly a fiscally transactional agreement.

Pat Ford: They have donors that want to contribute more but they can't.

Ben expressed concern that the RFK agreement violates bylaws and could open up LNC to lawsuits.

(I have no clue who said this) LNC chair Angela McArdle thinks agreement is legally bulletproof.

Jason Brand said he is inclined to support the RFK agreement.

New Business

Certificate of Nomination

Thomas Eddlem received the Certificate of Nomination from the LNC and will mail it to Kevin Reed.

Fill Membership Director Vacancy

Jason Brand nominated Al Ozonoff to be membership director. Sean Kennedy seconded.

Al Ozonoff was elected unanimously by voice vote.

Announcements

Communications

Sean Kennedy reported that communications is good and growth has slowed down.

There is a Massachusetts gun bill being voted on the next day. He wants to work with GOAL (Gun Owners Action League) on this issue.

Pro-2A Rally

Ben Weir reported that he would like to organize a Pro-2A sign wave at the State House in the coming weeks and asked if anyone would like to help him.

Sean Kennedy said he would like to get shirts made up for the event.

Operations Director

The position is vacant.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Rebecca Lau
Secretary

8/21/2024
Date of approval