

MINUTES OF THE 2017 CONVENTION OF THE
LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NORTH CAROLINA
Lake Lure Inn, Lake Lure, NC
August 11-13, 2017

The 2017 Convention of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina convened at 9 a.m. August 12.

Convention Chair James Hines addressed the convention, and welcomed the delegates.

CALL TO ORDER

Brian Irving, LPNC chair, called the convention to order at 9 a.m.

Thomas Hill gave a remembrance speech for Lee Wrights, followed by a short memorial.

The secretary reported there were 74 registered delegates at 9:18 a.m.; 37 constituted a majority and 49 constituted two-thirds (2/3).

Brian Lewis moved, Matt Clements seconding, that in accordance with the LPNC Bylaws Article XI, Section 4, the convention designate any LPNC member present as a delegate. The motion carried.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ralph Lake moved, Michael Monaco Sr. seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion carried.

The convention adopted the following agenda:

Saturday, August 12

9:15 am	Reading of Resolutions
9:30 am	State of the LPNC
9:45 am	Bylaws & convention Rules Committee Report
12:00 pm	Recess
12:00 pm	Lunch Program: <i>Being a Concealed Weapon</i> - John Sophocles
1:30 pm	<i>Growing Local</i> - Larry Sharpe
1:30 pm	<i>Introduction to Campaign Management</i> – Dena Espenscheid
5:00 pm	Gala Banquet
5:30 pm	Recess

Sunday, August 13

9:00 am	Convention Reconvenes Secretary's Report Report from the Libertarian National Committee – Jim Lark
9:30 am	Debate and Voting on Resolutions
9:45 am	Election of Officers & At-large members of Executive Committee

Election of Judicial Committee

Other Business

Noon

Convention Adjourns

Brian Irving asked that all motions be submitted in writing.

Bylaws Committee Report

Tim Cole, chair of the Bylaws Committee, proposed the changes offered by the bylaws committee in the bylaws committee report.

The proposed changes were accepted 49 to 18, with the following recommendations:

1. Insert new Convention Rule 6.3

“Resolutions must be submitted to the Secretary in writing at the convening of the State Convention.”

This motion received both opposition, and support. Michael Monaco proposed the amendment, seconded by Michael Monaco Jr. that “this can be overturned in convention”, the vote to consider the amendment failed 31-17.

The vote to call the question passed, 49 to 18, and the new rule was accepted by the majority.

2. Amend Bylaws Article XIII. Parliamentary Authority, which changes the requirement for suspending the rules during a meeting from a 3/5 majority to 2/3 vote, Barbara Howe called the question, seconded by Tom Howe. It passed by majority vote.

3. Delete Convention Rules 9 and 10, and amend rules 7 and 8.

Ray Ubinger moved that 7.5 also be stricken, seconded by Matt Clements. The vote to discuss this amendment passed 34-21. The vote to strike 7.5 was a tie – 31-31 – and the motion failed.

The Bylaws Committee's proposed changes were accepted by majority.

4. Delete Bylaws Article V. Executive Committee Section 3. Directors, and Insert new Article VI Executive Director.

Brad Hessel offered a friendly amendment that the Executive Director should be a non-voting member, consideration of which was accepted by majority. Brad Hessel's amendment, carried 30-23. The Bylaws Committee's proposal passed, by majority.

5. Enumerate officer duties.

Motion was made by Kathy Cockerell, and seconded by Ryan Teeter, that the words “other duties” be stricken from the Secretary's role. Approved by majority.

The motion, with the amendment, passed by majority.

6. Amend Bylaws Article X. Local Organization, Section 1. Organizing, #4.

The recommendation is that the officers of affiliates cannot be registered with another

party.

Michael Monaco Sr. proposed the text be changed to “may be registered Libertarian or unaffiliated”, seconded by Michael Monaco Jr. This amendment was not accepted.

David Perry proposed changing the text from “cannot be registered with other parties” to “must be registered Libertarian”, seconded by Steve Difiore. This amendment was not accepted.

The discussion went over time before the question could be called. Matt Clements moved to extend time, seconded by Ray Ubinger. Discussion went over time again, and Cory White moved to extend time 5 minutes. Discussion again went over time. Brian Lewis moved to table the motion, seconded by Ryan Teeter. Brian Lewis's motion passed 48-21.

7. Amend Article III. Membership

The bylaws committee proposal states: “A resident of North Carolina becomes and remains a member of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina by submitting a written or electronic affirmation to the Party secretary that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals, and by fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:

1. Maintaining voter registration as a Libertarian, as long as the party is recognized by the State of North Carolina, or;
2. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
3. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, defined as a donation of \$25 in a calendar year for any purpose.”

David Ulmer proposed changing the text to:

1. Member
 - a. A resident of North Carolina may become a member of the LPNC provided they are not a registered voter affiliated with another political party, and by fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:
 - 1) Maintaining voter registration as a Libertarian, as long as the party is recognized by the State of North Carolina, or;
 - 2) Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
 - 3) Maintaining current membership dues with the LPNC established by the state Executive Committee, or;
 - 4) Submitting a written or electronic affirmation to the Party Secretary that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.
 - b. Only LPNC members may serve on state or local affiliate executive committees and delegates to the state and national Libertarian party conventions.
2. Associate
 - a. A resident of North Carolina who is a registered voter affiliated with

another political party may become an associate of the LPNC by fulfilling one of following criteria:

- 1) Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
- 2) Maintaining current membership dues with the LPNC established by the state Executive Committee, or;
- 3) Submitting a written or electronic affirmation to the Party Secretary that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.

b. Associate members may not serve on state or local affiliate executive committees and may not serve as delegates to state or national conventions.

This motion was seconded by Patrick Bowersox. The motion carried by majority vote.

A motion was made by Brad Hessel in order to extend time 5 minutes for his amendment, seconded by Michael Monaco Sr, and approved by the majority. It was stated thus:

Article III Membership

A resident of North Carolina becomes and remains a member of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina by fulfilling at least one of the following criteria:

1. Maintaining voter registration as a Libertarian as long as the party is recognized by the State of North Carolina, or;
2. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian National Committee, or;
3. Maintaining current membership dues with the Libertarian Party of North Carolina (counting, at the discretion of the EC, donations to LPNC-recognized affiliate parties), or;
4. Maintaining a written or electronic affirmation to the Party that they do not advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals.

Discussion of this motion closed due to the agenda's recess. Business to reconvene in the morning.

Sunday August 13, business reconvenes

9:01 Call to order

9:02 Phil McCanless (Henderson County) spoke on behalf of the LPNC and awarded Todd Stimson a "Leadership in Civil Disobedience" Certificate.

9:11 Corey Fauconier performed.

9:30 Jim Lark took questions regarding the LNC.

10:10 Matt Clements moved to suspend the rules to (re)consider David Ulmer's amendment to the bylaws committee's proposed changes to Article 7. Ray Ubinger seconded. It passed 45-13.

10:16 Tom Howe moved to suspend the rules to discuss the bylaws – the motion was defeated.

Election to fill executive committee positions

Chair -

Brian Lewis nominated Susan Hogarth, seconded by Christopher Nance.

Ray Ubinger nominated himself, Matt Clements seconded.

Tom Howe moved to suspend the rules for voice voting, Barbara Howe seconded. This motion carried by majority.

Susan Hogarth was elected Chair, with 62 votes.

Vice Chair –

Susan Hogarth nominated Nate Phillips, seconded by Patrick Bowersox.

Ray Ubinger nominated self, seconded by Matt Clements.

David Perry moved to suspend the rules for voice voting, seconded by Ryan Teeter. This motion was accepted by majority.

Nate Phillips was elected Vice Chair 58-2.

Secretary –

Chris Dooley nominated Windy McKinney, who declined.

Susan Hogarth nominated Brent Deridder, seconded by David Perry.

Patrick Bowersox moved to suspend the rules to allow for voice voting, accepted.

Brent Deridder accepted as Secretary by majority.

Treasurer –

Ralph Lake nominated Clement Erhardt, seconded by JJ Summerell.

Matt Clement moved to suspend the rules to allow for voice voting, accepted.

Clement Erhardt is elected treasurer by majority.

Election of At-Large positions in the Executive Committee

The following delegates were chosen to fill the at-large positions on the executive committee by paper ballot:

Chris Dooley

Angela Anderson

Amy Lamont

Matt Clements

JJ Summerell

James Hines

Ryan Teeter

Alec Willson

Andy Steude

The Judicial Committee was elected as such:

Tom Bailey (chair)

Barbara Howe

Ray Ubinger

Joy Elliott

David Perry

11:47 Phil McCanless moved that the rules be suspended, seconded by Christopher Nance "Be it resolved that the 2017 LPNC convention encourages that any awards for excellence in civil disobedience, given by the LPNC, whether given regularly or sporadically be named the "Todd Stimson Courage and Love in Civil Disobedience Award". Motion carried by majority.

The convention adjourned at 12:01 p.m.