

## LPNH Business Convention Minutes for September 24, 2016

Business Session called to order at 732p by Convention Organizer and LPNH Secretary, Darryl W. Perry; the Chair of LPNH was not present. 16 LPNH members were present at beginning of the convention, 4 non-LPNH members present including LNC Region 3 Rep. Brett Bittner.

Three LP candidates were in attendance and given time to address the audience. Those candidates were Brian Chabot for US Senate, Max Abramson for Governor & Robert Lombardo for District 1 US Congress.

One additional LPNH member arrived during the statements by candidates.

After the statements by the candidates, LPNH Secretary asked the Vice Chair, Brian Chabot, to head the meeting as the Chair was still not present, Mr. Chabot stated he would prefer if the Secretary chaired the convention after a 5 minute recess. Convention recessed at 805p.

Convention returned from recess at 813p with a report from the Treasurer, Tom Kershaw. LPNH has a balance of approximately \$4400 and a couple of things to get settled, eg reimbursements for petition printing and a payment from Secretary for monies raised at this convention.

Consideration of amendments to the Party Constitution & Bylaws were in order, with three amendments adopted at the Regular Convention in January needing to be ratified.

Motion by Rodger Paxton to ratify changes to Article IV Section 4 (relative to officer eligibility), seconded by Brian Chabot.

Sec. 4 - All officers shall be:

- (a) inhabitants of the state of New Hampshire for at least 180 days; and
- (b) shall be members of the State Party in good standing; and
  - (1) a members of the State Party for at least 180 days; or
  - (2) shall be a member of the national Libertarian Party for at least 2 years.

Ratified without objection.

Motion by Brian Chabot to ratify changes to Article IV Section 5 (removing language about multiple Vice-Chairs, as LPNH only has a single Vice-Chair), seconded by Rodger Paxton.

Sec. 5 - The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies in the offices of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. A vacancy in the office of Vice-Chair shall be filled in accordance with the By-Laws but subject to ratification by two-thirds (2/3) of the Executive Committee.

Ratified without objection.

Motion by Brian Chabot to ratify changes to Article XIII Section 1 (relative to modifying the manner in which the LPNH Constitution is amended), seconded by Rodger Paxton. Robert Lombardo spoke against the amendment, Brian Chabot spoke in favor.

Sec. 1 - This Constitution may be amended by a three-quarters (3/4) vote of the delegates at any Convention provided that such amendment be made available in writing to convention delegates.

Ratified with 16 votes.

Brian McQuade motioned to amend the agenda for purposes of approving a regional affiliate. Motion adopted. The acting Chair handed the gavel to the Vice Chair for the purpose of speaking in favor of ratifying the affiliate. Mr. Perry retook the gavel and Mr. Chabot also spoke in favor. There was no objection to ratifying the affiliation of LP Seacoast.

The floor was open to hearing amendments to the Party Constitution and Bylaws.

Someone asked if the amendments just adopted took affect immediately. Acting Chair stated that since the Constitution did not specify that amendments took affect at the close of convention, that it was his understanding that they would take affect immediately upon ratification.

Perry made a motion to add Article IV Section 5, relative to eligibility of Party Officers. R. Paxton seconded the motion.

Add Article IV Section 5 (renumber accordingly):

No person shall serve as an officer who has been a member of any party in the state of New Hampshire with ballot access other than the Libertarian Party in the previous 180 days.

Abramson spoke against, Carl Wikstrom spoke against. Matt Phillips asked a question, Rodger Paxton spoke in favor, Harrison De Bree had a point of information. Chabot offered an amendment to replace “a member” with “an officer”.

No person shall serve as an officer who has been an officer of any party in the state of New Hampshire with ballot access other than the Libertarian Party in the previous 180 days.

Kershaw offered an amendment to the amendment that was ruled out of order. Phillips & Abramson spoke against the amendment, R. Paxton in favor. Amendment to the motion was adopted with 14 votes.

Kershaw amendment changed the duration from “180 days” to “1 year.”

No person shall serve as an officer who has been an officer of any party in the state of New Hampshire with ballot access other than the Libertarian Party in the previous 1 year.

Chabot spoke in favor, Abramson against. The amendment to the motion was adopted with 13 votes.

The main motion, as amended, failed with only 12 votes in favor (13 votes needed to be adopted).

Perry motioned to add Article V (and renumber accordingly), relative to Delegates to the National Convention. R. Paxton seconded the motion.

Add Article V (renumber accordingly): Delegates to National Convention

Notwithstanding Article IV Section 4(a), no person shall be seated with the LPNH delegation to a National convention who is not otherwise qualified to be an officer of LPNH.

Lombardo spoke against the motion. Andrew Criscione spoke in favor, Abramson opposed, Perry spoke in favor of his motion. Amendment adopted with 16 votes in favor.

R. Paxton motioned to amend Article VIII Section 4 to add language allowing for officer elections during a business convention.

Amen Article VIII Section 4, to add:

A business convention may elect party officers as well as standing committee chairs, upon the request of three members of the LPNH in attendance.

Chabot motioned to amend, Abramson seconded.

A business convention may elect party officers as well as standing committee chairs, upon the request of three members and the assent of a simple majority of the voting LPNH members in attendance.

Chabot spoke to his amendment, Kershaw opposed. Amendment to motion adopted with 13 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 registered abstention. Brent Tweed motioned to amend, Paxton seconded. Tweed amendment was a housekeeping amendment to modify Article 4 Section 1, relative to expiration of terms.

Simultaneously amend Article 4 Section 1 to read:

All officers shall be elected at a Regular Convention of the Party by attending delegates and shall take office immediately upon the close of the convention and serve thereafter until their successors are chosen.

Amendment to the motion was approved with 16 votes in favor. Kathleen Wikstrom motioned to amend, to modify that any member could request an election, Carl Wikstrom seconded.

A business convention may elect party officers as well as standing committee chairs, upon the request of any member and the assent of a simple majority of the voting LPNH members in attendance.

Kathleen spoke to her motion, which was approved with 15 votes in favor.

R. Paxton spoke in favor of the main motion, Chabot spoke in favor of main motion. Amendment adopted with 16 votes in favor.

Chabot said that LPNH needed to send the Secretary of State a list of Electors as well as a certification of our Vice Presidential nominee. Brian Chabot, Brian McQuade, Tania Butler & Brian Shields volunteered to serve as Electors, approved as a slate without opposition.

Chabot motioned to ratify the nomination of William Weld as the VP, De Bree seconded. Chabot spoke in favor, Criscione spoke against. Acting Chair asked LNC Rep Bittner what would happen if LPNH did not ratify Weld as the VP. Bittner advised that Bob Johnston or Alicia Matson could provide a letter of certification to the SOS. Chabot withdrew his motion.

Acting Chair opened the floor for setting a date for the 2017 Regular Convention. Abramson motioned to hold the convention on the Saturday after March elections. Date of 2017 convention set for March 18 without objection. The LPNH EC will be tasked with finding a location for the convention.

Floor was open for new business. Perry motioned a resolution in support of the right to bear arms. R. Paxton seconded, Chabot offered a friendly amendment, which was accepted by Perry & R. Paxton.

WHEREAS, Libertarians affirm that self-defense is an inherent human right;  
WHEREAS, the Platforms of the National Libertarian Party and the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire oppose all laws at any level of government restricting, registering, or monitoring the ownership, manufacture, or transfer of firearms or ammunition;  
WHEREAS, the Platforms of the National Party and the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire affirm the right of due process and deny the legitimacy of “victimless crimes”;  
WHEREAS, the government has steadily encroached upon these rights by illegitimately regulating and restricting access for firearms and ammunition and may further seek to deprive people without due process of their inherent right to full self-defense by denying their civil and inherent rights to obtain firearms and ammunition;  
BE IT RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire opposes any policy which would deny access to any firearms or ammunition to any person simply for being placed on any government watch or no-fly list and reaffirms its call to repeal and oppose any existing or proposed firearm and ammunition regulations.

Resolution adopted with 16 votes in favor.

R. Paxton motioned in accordance with Article VIII Section 4 to hold elections of officer and standing committee chairs. Chabot seconded. Kershaw asked if motion was in order. Acting Chair ruled the motion was in order. Motion to open elections was adopted with 15 votes in favor and 1 registered abstention by Perry.

Nominations for officers were open. R. Paxton nominated Perry to serve as Chair, Chabot seconded and Perry accepted. No additional nominations were made. Acting Chair asked the delegates if they wished to consider all officers simultaneously or individually, the sense of the body was individually. Nominations for Chair were closed, and Acting Chair reminded the body that None of the Above was always an option. 16 votes in favor of Perry, 1 vote for NOTA.

Nominations for Vice Chair: McQuade nominated R. Paxton, Jessica Paxton seconded, R. Paxton accepted nomination. 15 votes in favor of R. Paxton, 1 vote for NOTA.

Kershaw asked if he would remain Treasurer, upon agreeing to continue in that capacity, Perry made the nomination, Chabot seconded. 15 votes in favor of Kershaw, 1 vote for NOTA.

Abramson nominated Jillette Jarvis for Secretary, Chabot seconded. Jarvis has been a member of LP National for at least 2 years, thus eligible. 14 in favor of Jarvis, 2 votes for NOTA.

R. Paxton nominated McQuade to be Chair of the Membership Committee. Tweed seconded. 15 in favor of McQuade, 1 for NOTA.

Kershaw motioned to retain the current Judicial Committee, R. Paxton seconded. No objection.

Chabot asked if he could be the webmaster, no objection. Current webmaster will be contacted to hand over server access.

Motion to adjourn at 1003p. Acting Chair reminded attendees that there was still food and drinks that needed to be consumed. Convention adjourned without objection at 1003p.

Minutes taken by LPNH Secretary and Acting Convention Chair.