

April 2024 LPNH EC Meeting Minutes

April 7th, 2024. Meeting conducted via Zoom.

In attendance:

VC Nick Hubbard
Treasurer Zephan Wood
Secretary Ryan Bloodworth
At-Large Renita Susman
At-Large Matt Fletcher

Absent: Chair Joshua Holmes

Nick called the meeting to order at 12:41 PM.

Ryan moves to approve prior meeting minutes; Reinita seconds. Approved.

Officer reports: Nick talked to Pat Ford re: regional agreements. Need to wait until after their meeting. Nick to follow-up with Pat.

Ryan responded to a request from the Ballay campaign to speak at this meeting. Dr. Ballay is present.

Zephan spoke with an accounting office regarding the potential of accepting crypto donations on the website. Need to wait until after tax season. Also did research on his own; BitPay would allow us to accept crypto which would be converted to fiat right away. Zephan to follow-up with accountant re: potential tax issues after tax season.

Reinita has been working on website redesign with others. Next step figuring out what is needed on the website. Reinita focused on branding, design - intends to develop a new logo for the party. Reinita wants to bring material to hand out in DC and wants it to be in alignment with the new design of the website. Ben Weir to speak in the meeting today regarding CRM;ballot access.

Matt has nothing to report at this time but is available to help with the website.

Affiliate reports: None.

Old business: None.

New business:

Existing funds earmarked for ballot access. Nick recognizes Ben to speak on this topic. Ben is available to help with this. Funds left over for ballot access remain in the bank account; must be used for ballot access. Need to go through previous reports to find out how much was spent vs. pledged. National will be sending out money to any states that don't have ballot access. Ryan Hebert may be able to help look through old reports. Reinita and Ben speaking about CRM - Ben suggests that we touch base with National about what kind of CRM to use. Ben has prior experience working with a few different CRMs. This can be expensive. Ben speaking about purchasing voter data from L2 - can allow us to target specific voters / areas by issues. Reinita suggests starting with the most affordable CRM and going from there.

Bonnie had wanted to work on CRM; Ben suggested reaching out to her. She is still doing some updates for the website. Reinita asked Bonnie for any comments about CRM or website functionality we need. Bonnie speaking - says Civvy(?) CRM is best in breed; not necessarily user friendly. Just need a couple of people capable of navigating it. Bonnie has a demo setup. Reinita says we can figure out how to navigate it; Bonnie says it's complicated but manageable. Reinita and Bonnie talked about website redesign - Reinita requests Bonnie's feedback; Bonnie says she is more of a back-end person; says she needs to talk to Pat Ford to figure out National members in NH.

Ben spoke about his upcoming event at the AFP office with Spike Cohen this coming Thursday April 11th. Event is free; there will be food and beverages. Event will be three hours; Derek Proulx will also be speaking. Spike will also be at events in the upper valley. Reinita says we will help with promoting these events.

Nick calls for any further discussion on this item; there is none

Next item - survey responses regarding member support for potential Stephen Villee campaign. Stephen believes he can raise enough money in conjunction with National to pay a professional signature gatherer - believes the only question is whether we endorse his message. Nick says Patrick Binder has expressed interest in running for Mayor of Manchester. He says he believes that it is good that signatures for the Presidential candidate and Gubernatorial candidate could be gathered in one drive. Reinita supports Stephen; likes the message of getting more people to NH - says that if money is not an issue, she is in favor of endorsement. Questions whether membership will have the time to provide support.

Reinita motions to table the matter pending information regarding earmarked funds from National. Ryan seconds. Passed.

Next item: Dr. Ballay to speak about his campaign for the Presidential nomination. Dr. Ballay speaking. Dr. Ballay expresses that he hopes to meet us in DC. Dr. Ballay explained his career and background. Dr. Ballay says that ballot access down south is currently easier. Dr. Ballay says he is in it for the long haul; has developed a good relationship with the other candidates. Dr. Ballay explained his perspective and beliefs. Dr. Ballay plugged his campaign site: ballay2024.com

Dr. Ballay asks if we have any questions. Stephen asks if Dr. Ballay would support a Constitutional amendment allowing states to secede. Dr. Ballay says he'd have to support the amendment, but would be disappointed if a state seceded. Draws parallel to the fall of the Roman empire if we fall to division - goes on to explain his perspective on the state of the nation; his ideals. He thinks we can solve the situation without going off of the ledge.

Rich Tomasso asks Dr. Ballay about his approach to ballot access; goals for the campaign. Dr. Ballay says his goal has been the same from the start. He explained his support in LA are Ds and Rs that can't stand the two party system. Dr. Ballay said that small donations are great, but we need to get businesses involved. Goes on to expound about the problems with the two major parties and how middle America is fed up with the two party system. Rectifying the situation will be a matter of boots on the ground; it will be a hell of a lot of effort.

Reinita asks for Dr. Ballay's thoughts on the Free State Project. Dr. Ballay is unfamiliar. Reinita explains the notion of the project; Dr. Ballay expresses that he does not know enough to comment.

Nick calls for any other questions for Dr. Ballay. There are none. Nick thanks Dr. Ballay for taking the time; Dr. Ballay returned his thanks for our having him.

Next item: Patrick Binder's interest in running for Mayor of Manchester. This would be next year. Reinita suggests waiting to discuss until we can get Patrick on a call. Nick agrees; we move on without further discussion.

Next item: Zephan speaking about loss of the blue check on the Twitter account. Explains that this reduces our reach. Wants authorization to pay for the blue check. Ryan moves to give Zephan said authority; Reinita seconds. Roll call vote: Nick votes 'Aye'; Matt requests clarification re: exact authority being granted. Nick will entertain a clarified motion authorizing the use of party funds to pay for the blue check this year at \$114.99 and granting Zephan the authority to make said purchase. Reinita makes said motion; Matt seconds. New roll call vote:

Nick - Aye

Ryan - Aye

Zephan - Aye

Reinita - Yes

Matt - Aye

Motion passes.

Nick calls for any other new business:

Rich asks if LPNH is having a hub at PorcFest this year. Reinita speaks about Ben Weir's hub. Ryan agrees; says general consensus seems to be that the Emo Caucus hub will be the thing this year. Reinita thinks Ben will allow us to use it for some outreach; we should have some presence - Matt agrees that we should have some presence. It seems that Ryan made an error in the survey; the filing period is not the deadline for gathering signatures. He will send out a corrected survey if needed.

Nick recognizes Nolan. Nolan plugs his Matrix screening event to benefit Latitude next weekend.

Nick requests confirmation that the last meeting minutes were approved; Ryan confirms.

Discussion regarding next meeting date and time. Nick suggests May 5th. Zephan expresses a preference for an earlier time than the 12:30 PM time we have scheduled meetings thus far. Ryan expresses concern that this may not be conducive to Chair Josh Holmes' attendance; suggests additional discussion of better scheduling for everyone's attendance offline - consensus is that this discussion will take place. Meeting tentatively scheduled for May 5th at 11:00 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM.