



Minutes

Libertarian Party of Florida
Executive Committee and Committees Meeting
Sunday, March 19th, 2017
Phone conference
7:30 PM/Eastern 6:30 PM/Central
641-715-3580 624-367#

[Playback Link](#)

Recording commencement was announced.

1. **Called to order** by the Chair, Char-Lez Braden, at 7:30 pm, EST.

2. **Roll Call** and Introduction of Guests

Members Present (16)

Char-Lez Braden, Chair

James Morris, Treasurer

Alison Foxall, At Large 1

Marc Tancer, At Large 3

Anna Marie Morris, Region 2

Raquel Okay, Region 6

George Lebovitz, Region 9

Karl Dickey, Region 13

Omar Recuero, Vice Chair

Suzanne Gilmore, Secretary

Russ Wood, At Large 2

James Campbell, Region 1

Ryan Ramsey, Region 4

Paul Stanton Region 7

Robert Enright, Region 12

Steven Nekhaila, Region 14

Members Joined Meeting in Progress or Late (2)

Joshua Folsom, Region 3

Audrey Capozzi, Region 11

Members Not Present (3)

James Chipman, Region 5 (Excused)

Darlene Underwood, Region 10

Stacey Selleck, Region 8

Open Seats (0)

Committee Chairs

Tony Sellers - Rules Present

Rob Lapham - Platform Present

Alison Foxall - Communications Present

[VACANT] - Legislative Review N/A

Marc Tancer - Convention Present

Omar Recuero - Selection Present

Jess Mears - Membership Present

John Thompson - Candidates Present

Russ Wood - Events Present

Ben Wasson - Fundraising Present

Invited Guests:

- None

3. **Determination of Quorum** - 16 Present at initial roll call. Quorum called by Chair.

4. Approval of agenda

Agenda as revised approved without objection.

5. **Motion by Omar Recuero to approve Minutes** of the February 19th, 2017 EC and Committees Meeting Revised, as posted, was seconded by Russ Wood. Motion passed without objection.

6. Officer(s) Reports or Comments**Chair's Report**

- a. The Chair reported being busy , especially with the planning of the "1984" screening event and preparing for Tallahassee on March 23.
- b. Chair's appointment of Chaz Sanders as a member of the Membership Committee was approved unanimously.
Chair's appointment of Derek Ryan as a member of the Membership Committee was approved unanimously.
Chair's appointment of Todd Dennison as a member of the Membership Committee was approved unanimously.
Chair's appointment of Steve McKnight as a member of the Membership Committee was approved unanimously..

7. Committee Reports:

- Convention - Marc Tancer - Committee is finalizing plans for 2017, including preparing to send to printer for programs and name badges.
- Rules - Tony Sellers - Rules Committee has been working diligently and has provided a number of motions in this agenda to be passed along to be presented to the delegates at the Annual Business Meeting. There will likely be more forthcoming, All the items are in a consent agenda. Can pull any that would cause an objection. He thanked all the members of the committee for their valuable contributions.
- Selection - Omar Recuero - Fairly quiet at the moment.
- Platform - Rob Lapham - Committee met 5 times this year. After consideration, committee has presented 9 motions for amendments to the Platform for consideration of the delegates.
- Membership - Jess Mears - Expanding members. All members are asked to become Third Party Voter Registrars (TPVRs). They will be positioned as representatives of their home region and, wherever possible, alternates will be appointed. During discussion, it was determined that robocalls to INTs did not get

finalized. Committee members are being asked to make calls to LPF members asking them to come to convention. Josh Folsom is entering the latest voter registration information. S. Gilmore, B. Bachrach, T. Sellers and J. Folsom are Holding down the fort for now.

- Communications - Alison Foxall - Thanks to Karl Dickey for writing the press release quickly, to D. Palmer for handling Instagram, and Macy John for curating and posting to Facebook every day. LPF redesign more user friendly. LPF store soon. Will take bitcoin. CRM migration in process. Thanks to Matt Wild and Tony Sellers.
- Candidates - John Thompson - Report in in googledocs. Met on March 11. Alison Foxall has added a run for office tab to the website.
- Legislative Review - Char-Lez Braden - Four bills are ready for presentation during Tallahassee day on March 23rd. Randy Wiseman is organizing that event.
- Events - Russ Wood - March 11 event went well and got media coverage from Bay News 9. Randy Wiseman announced his gubernatorial candidacy there. They came out just net positive on the cash flow. Will be participating in April 4 showings of 1984, May get a table for 3/26 Republican Liberty Caucus dinner.
- Fundraising - Ben Wasson - We brought in \$12,775 this year, much of it for convention. \$465 in recurring funds monthly from 29 persons. Wants to triple or quadruple recurring donations. In process of identifying past donors to ask to contribute again.

8. Unfinished Business

None

9. New Business

Consent Agenda Items - Changes to Platform, Constitution, and By-Laws for presentation to delegates at the Annual Business Meeting

Motions: 459, 460, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 472, 473, 474, and 475.

Pulled motions: 459, 463, 464, 465, 470.

Disposition: George Lebovitz requested to table the consent agenda until the next meeting. There was no second.

James Campbell requested to pull 467, 468 and 469. He withdrew his motion.

Omar Recuero moved to call the question, and was seconded by Joshua Folsom. Motion passed without objection.

Consent Agenda comprising items 460, 462, 467, 468, 469, 472, 473, 474, and 475 passed without objection.

Motion # 459

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee was seconded by Josh Folsom

Title: [Motion to amend Constitution Art I](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

ARTICLE I Name & ~~Object Purpose~~

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Libertarian Party of Florida, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the LPF.

Section 2. ~~The object and purpose of the LPF is to engage in political action in the State of Florida, to serve as an affiliate organization of the Libertarian Party in national politics, and to serve as a nucleus for designated county affiliate organizations and for LPF members in matters of statewide political action.¹~~

Section 3. ~~The purpose of the LPF is to implement and to give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles currently adopted by the LPF by:~~

~~A. Supporting candidates for national office, recruiting and supporting candidates for state and Congressional offices, and aiding local affiliates upon request.²—~~

~~B. Promoting, chartering, and coordinating county affiliate parties within the State of Florida.~~

~~C. Entering into political information activities, including the promoting and securing of party members.~~

The LPF adopts the Libertarian Party Statement of Principles and is organized to implement and give voice to it by: functioning as an affiliate of the Libertarian Party in national politics and engaging in political activity in the State of Florida as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; promoting Sustaining Membership in the Libertarian Party; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the State of Florida and promoting their growth and activities; supporting Libertarian Party candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States, and recruiting and supporting LPF candidates for state and Congressional political office; and entering into public information activities, including securing LPF voters.

Disposition: Motion carried with 1 Nay vote.

¹ And LPF members added April 9, 2017 at convention

² Amended at Annual Meeting 2009

Motion # 460

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Constitution Art II](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 1. LPF membership is open to any LPF voter who ~~whoever~~ signs the pledge: "I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals," and asks to be a member of the LPF.

Section 2. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules may have the effect of imposing a head tax on the membership.

Section 3. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules may have the effect of disenfranchising a member.

Section 4. No change in the Bylaws or Standing Rules shall deny the autonomy of an individual member or an affiliate party, except as provided in the Constitution.

Section 5. Certain rights and privileges of membership, including delegate status, committee appointments and observation of committee meetings, holding party office, exercise of voting rights in the conduct of any Libertarian Party of Florida business, and the right to bring business before the Annual Business Meeting, shall be available only to LPF members who are registered LPF voters in the state of Florida and shall not be available ~~unavailable~~ to members and officers of any other political party, ~~registered in the state of Florida. Members and officers of other political parties registered in the state of Florida.~~ Persons ineligible for such rights and privileges may participate in discussion on items of business brought before the membership, subject to the discretion of the Chair or by a two-thirds (2/3s) majority ~~majority~~ vote of the body.

Motion # 461 (moved below Motion # 470)

Motion # 462

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Statement of Principle](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE

~~The Libertarian Party of Florida does not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals. We, the Libertarian Party of Florida, oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals.~~

Motion # 463

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee was seconded by Joshua Folsom

Title: Motion to amend Platform Item Inclusion, moving it from Item XIII and adding language

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

INCLUSION

The Libertarian Party of Florida ratifies and hereby includes in this document the platform of the national Libertarian Party, the “LP Platform” published at <https://www.lp.org/platform/>.

Disposition: Motion passed without objection.

Suzanne Gilmore moved to suspend the rules to hear motions 464, 465, and 470 at this time. Motion was seconded by Joshua Folsom. Motion passed without objection.

Motion # 464

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee was seconded by Josh Folsom

Title: [Motion to strike Platform Item Preamble](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

PREAMBLE

~~Libertarians seek a society based on personal liberty and responsibility—a society in which all individuals are sovereign over their own lives. This most desirable method of organizing society is the natural order that arises when the unalienable rights of individuals to life, liberty and property ownership are respected and protected.~~

~~People have the right to engage in any activity that is peaceful and honest, and pursue happiness in whatever manner they choose so long as they do not forcibly or fraudulently interfere with the equal rights of others. Libertarians welcome the peace, prosperity, and diversity that freedom brings.~~

Disposition: Motion passed without objection.

Motion # 465

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee was seconded by Suzanne Gilmore

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Item I State Government](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

I. STATE GOVERNMENT

1. In the absence of a declaration of war by the United States Congress, for any purpose other than natural disaster relief, we oppose any use of Florida troops by the federal government without the approval of both the Florida Legislature and Governor.
2. ~~Individuals have the right to defend themselves and others. We oppose any law that dilutes the right of any citizen to own a firearm or other means of self defense. We~~ In addition to the self-defense clause in the national Platform at Paragraph 1.9, we support any laws that further the rights of both concealed weapon permit holders and all ~~Citizens of Florida~~ persons to openly carry arms.
3. We endorse the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which reserves to our state and its people all powers not expressly delegated to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution, or prohibited from the states or the people by the U.S. Constitution.
4. We support Equality under the Law, and condemn any law that either rewards or punishes any individual based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other group identification. Each person has the same inalienable rights. It is the State's duty to protect those rights for each individual equally.
5. State government should be removed entirely from the licensing process, including occupational licensing. It has produced no better results than private licensing and amounts to another tax. ~~For example, marriage licenses are contracts between individuals and should be left to the individuals, their attorneys and religious officials, without the need to pay the state for a stamp of approval.~~
6. We advocate a sunset law requiring an automatic end to most government offices, agencies, departments, laws, regulations, taxes, and expenditures within ten years if not reauthorized.
7. We oppose immunities for any public officials or employees for illegal acts or omissions. ~~Like any citizen, they should be subject to criminal prosecution and held liable for any injuries caused by their actions.~~
8. Sunshine laws should apply to all public employees working in any public place. With modern technology virtually every person has the ability to record and report on the actions of our public officials and workers. There should be no laws prohibiting or limiting the electronic recording and reporting using any means of any public official, including law enforcement officers, while performing their duties.
9. ~~The Libertarian Party of Florida opposes~~ We oppose the participation by the state of Florida in the Real ID Act or similar federal identification database mandates.
10. ~~Privacy—Just as it is true that the only economic situation consistent with individual rights is the free market, so is it also true that life, liberty and happiness cannot prosper under continuous state surveillance. The LPF opposes the use by the state of people or~~

~~technology to monitor, account for, and keep Floridians under surveillance, especially where there is no evidence of criminal behavior, and thereby restrict the normal interaction of peoples. The LPF opposes passive, yet compulsory, surveillance legislation, such as laws that require individuals and businesses to report legal activities without evidence of criminal acts. The first, second, fourth, fifth and fourteenth amendments to the Constitution are all threatened by unfettered state surveillance. The LPF supports an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the right of privacy of all citizens, a right that is implied throughout that document, so as to² defend individuals from state intrusion, to limit state intervention in private lives, and allow the free exercise of liberty away from the overbearing power of government. [see LP Platform Paragraph 1.3 Privacy]~~

We oppose compulsory surveillance without evidence of criminal acts. We support an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of privacy of all people.

11. We oppose using state and local resources to enforce federal immigration laws against foreign nationals who do not pose a credible threat to security, health or property.

Disposition: Motion passed without objection.

Motion # 466

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Item II Elections](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

II. ELECTIONS

1. The only electoral duty of the State government should be providing for fair and efficient conduct of elections. Political parties, like any private voluntary group, should be free from government control and allowed to establish their own rules for nomination procedures and conventions. All taxpayer-funded subsidies to candidates for public office and political parties, including primaries and conventions, should be eliminated.
2. We support the addition of the alternative option "None of the above is acceptable" to all ballots. We further propose that in the event that "None of the above is acceptable" receives a plurality of votes in any election, a new election shall be held ~~for~~ in which none of the losing candidates shall be eligible. Other forms of voting should also be considered, such as instant runoff voting or proportional representation.
3. ~~Campaign finance laws are unwarranted restrictions of free speech or association and should be repealed. Keeping in accordance with the tradition of all government being run in the Sunshine, we~~ We support making all political contributions public records.

Motion # 467

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Item III Courts](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

III. COURTS

1. ~~The common law authority of a trial by jury preceded our constitution and is the foundation of our legal system. If a jury of peers deems a law unjust, oppressive or inappropriately applied, it has the right and duty to acquit the defendant. We support the right of defendants to a fully informed jury, which would require judges to instruct jurors of their authority to judge not only the facts, but also the justice of the law according to their own good consciences. [See LP Platform Paragraph 1.7 Crime and Justice]~~
2. We support restitution for victims of crimes or civil infractions at the expense of the perpetrator. The victim should have the right to pardon the perpetrator, provided the victim is not threatened or coerced.
3. Private adjudication of disputes by mutually acceptable judges or mediators should be encouraged.
4. No-fault laws should be repealed because they deprive the victim of the right to recover damages from those responsible for causing harm.
5. ~~The right of trial by jury should be allowed in all civil or criminal cases where the value exceeds one oz of gold. [See LP Platform Paragraph 1.7 Crime and Justice]~~
6. The use of civil asset forfeiture to enforce laws circumvents constitutional protections and should be ended.
7. ~~Random police roadblocks and other~~ Searches without probable cause bypass constitutional protections and should be prohibited.
8. We support equal treatment and oppose sexual discrimination in any judicial proceeding adjudicating a parental right, privilege or obligation concerning his or her child.

Motion # 468

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Item VII Economy](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

VII. ECONOMY

1. ~~We believe in the free market, thus the complete separation of the economy and the state. [See LP Platform Paragraph 2.0 Economic Liberty]~~
2. No commercial enterprises should be granted legal monopoly status, including the so-called natural monopolies of electricity, natural gas, water supplies, telephones, and cable television. The Florida Public Service Commission should be abolished and all rate

regulation in these industries ended. ~~The right to offer such services in the marketplace should not be curtailed.~~

3. State regulation of industries such as insurance and communications, and professions such as medicine and law, should be ended. They should be regulated by trade or consumer groups.
4. ~~The condemnation of private property for public use should only be allowed when necessary for the protection of the rights of the citizens.~~ Eminent Domain is only appropriate for immediate concerns of public safety.

Motion # 469

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Platform Item XI Health Care](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

XI. HEALTH CARE

1. ~~The most fundamental property right is an individual's right to own and control his or her own body. All individuals have the right to determine their own health care needs and treatment. Government has no constitutional authority to interfere with the practitioner/patient relationship. [See LP Platform Paragraph 2.10 Health Care]~~
2. The right of people to extend or end their lives with dignity should not be infringed. We support the freedom to use living wills and durable medical powers of attorney.

Motion # 470

By: Omar Recuero for the Platform Committee was seconded by Josh Folsom

Title: [Motion to strike Platform Item XIII Inclusion](#)

Text: Motion by the Platform Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

~~XIII. INCLUSION~~

~~The Libertarian Party of Florida ratifies and hereby includes in this document the platform of the national Libertarian Party.~~

(moving it to the top and renumbering)

Disposition: Motion passed without objection.

Motion # 461 (heard out of order)

By: Suzanne Gilmore was seconded by Alison Foxall

Title: [Motion for Award to Lynn House](#)

Text: I move to give an Excellence Award to Lynn House for her many contributions and service to the LPF.

Description: Ms. House served as Vice Chairperson and Secretary of the LPF. She served as Chairperson of the Membership Committee and served as a member of the Rules and Communications Committees. She also administered the Facebook page Libertarian Solutions and was instrumental in getting the CRM database where it is today. The entire cost will be covered by a donation from Suzanne Gilmore. Wording and probable representation is here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TOKwV5xeMvu7EWuJITqpy3TiuXiDObPZQwv3yxNShgo/edit?usp=sharing>

Disposition: Motion passed unanimously. S. Gilmore will order and present as an in-kind Donation.

Motion # 471

By: Russ Wood for the Events Committee was seconded by Ryan Ramsey

Title: [Motion for Funds to Participate at the Commemorative Showing of 1984](#)

Text: As Chairman of the Events Committee, I move to appropriate up to \$1300 for the LPF as an investment to have a presence at ~~43~~ multiple locations around the state for the commemorative showing of the movie 1984, to conduct the World's Smallest Political Quiz, register voters and distribute literature and for future events.

Disposition: Russ Wood amended the motion to change from 13 to 9 locations. Motion passed without objection.

Omar Recuero moved to add language "up to" before \$1,300, and it was seconded by Joshua Folsom. Motion passed without objection.

Ryan Ramsey moved to reconsider the amendment to changed from 13 to 9, and it was seconded by Omar Recuero, Motion passed without objection.

Ryan Ramsey moved to amend the original motion from 13 locations to multiple locations, and it was seconded by Marc Tancer. Motion passed without objection.

Omar Recuero moved to call the question, seconded by Russ Wood.

Motion as amended passed without objection.

Motion # 472

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Constitution, inserting new Art VII and renumbering](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

ARTICLE VII Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly

Revised shall govern the LPF in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with other rules adopted by the LPF.

Motion # 473

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee

Title: [Motion to amend Constitution renumbered Art VIII \(formerly VII\)](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

ARTICLE VIII Adoption & Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution shall be adopted when approved by two-thirds of the delegates of the 1974 Convention.

Section 2. Amendments to the Constitution may be made in the following manner:

A. Amendments must be published among ~~the Executive Committee, the County Affiliates and~~ all members in good standing, thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting and passed by two-thirds of the members present at that meeting.

B. Upon establishment of affiliates in each county in Florida, a proposed Amendment can be accepted by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee and ratified by three-fourths of the county affiliates.³

C. If any term of this Constitution or any subordinate document is to any extent illegal, invalid, or incapable of being enforced, such term shall be excluded to the extent of such illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability; all other terms hereof shall remain in full force and effect; and, to the extent permitted and possible the illegal, invalid, or unenforceable term shall be deemed replaced by a term stated or implied by the adopted parliamentary authority that is legal, valid, and enforceable and that comes closest to expressing the intention of such illegal, invalid, or unenforceable term.

D. The LPF ByLaws shall be subordinate to this Constitution. The LPF Standing Rules shall be subordinate to the LPF ByLaws. Any other rule or procedure shall be subordinate to the LPF Standing rules. In any conflict between these documents, the conflicting term from the subordinate document shall be deemed unenforceable.

³ Sections A and B passed at the Annual Business Meeting, 6-6-93

E. Immaterial changes may be made under the provisions of Article III, Section 4, B. of this Constitution.

Motion # 474

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee

Title: [Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 3 C](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

C. The Secretary shall serve as recorder for all meetings of the party, conventions, and Executive Committee. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the minutes of all meetings, correspondence, committee reports, and the Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules, and shall make provision for legal service to the LPF. The Secretary of ~~The Libertarian Party of Florida~~ the LPF shall also serve as ~~the Secretary a member~~ of the Membership Committee, and ~~shall~~ be responsible for maintaining party membership records.

Motion # 475

By: Suzanne Gilmore for the Rules Committee

Title: [Motion to amend By-Laws Art III, Section 3 F ©](#)

Text: Motion by the Rules Committee to place the following amendment for approval by the delegates at the LPF Annual Business Meeting in 2017:

- F. (a) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for creating a committee to maintain a current contact list of experts in fields related to election issues or interest in Libertarian candidates for use as data and advisory sources.
- (b) The Executive Committee shall establish a legislative review committee for the purpose of identifying Florida laws for change or repeal, and for making specific wording recommendations for use by Libertarian candidates and officers.
- (c) LPF established committees may use ~~Facebook~~ an online platform as a forum for its meetings, providing notice of the ~~domain~~ meeting's website address on the LPF website and manner in which non-committee LPF members may enter credentials to view, but not participate, in committee discussions and business.

10. Next Meetings

- a) The next LPF EC Business Meeting will be on April 2nd, 2017
- b) The next LPF EC and Committees Meeting will be on April 16th, 2017

11. **Motion to adjourn** by Marc Tancer was seconded by Alison Foxall.

Motion passed without objection.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM EST.