



Minutes

Libertarian Party of Florida
Executive Committee and Committees Meeting
Sunday, May 21st, 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, Marcos Miralles, at 7:31 pm, EST.

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

Members Present (19)

Marcos Miralles, Chair
James Morris, Treasurer
Alison Foxall, At Large 1
Greg Peele, At Large 3
Anna Marie Morris, Region 2
Ryan Ramsey, Region 4
Kristen Daniel, Region 6
J. D. Pierce, Region 8
Rob Tolp, Region 12
Steven Nekhaila, Region 14

Omar Recuero, Vice Chair
Suzanne Gilmore, Secretary
Russ Wood, At Large 2
Ray McGee, Region 1
Joshua Folsom, Region 3
Joe Martin, Region 5
Paul Stanton Region 7
Shawn Elliott, Region 11
Karl Dickey, Region 13

Members Joined Meeting in Progress or Late (1)

George Lebovitz, Region 9

Members Not Present (1)

Char-Lez Braden, Region 10 (E)

Open Seats (0)

Committee Chairs

Tony Sellers - Rules Present
Rob Lapham - Platform Absent
Alison Foxall - Communications Present
[VACANT] - Legislative Review N/A
Marc Tancer - Convention Present

Omar Recuero - Selection Present
Jess Mears - Membership Present
John Thompson - Candidates Excused
Russ Wood - Events Present
Ben Wasson - Fundraising Present

Invited Guests:

- Susan Stanley
- Rose Lipke
- Marialexandra Garcia
- Pete Blome
- Heather Schieferle Preysz
- Chaz Sanders
- Brandi Hicks
- Megan Killion
- Brian McLaughlin

3. **Determination of Quorum** - 19 Present at initial roll call. Quorum called by Chair.

4. Approval of agenda

Motion to approve agenda by Karl Dickey and seconded by Russ Wood.

Agenda, as amended, was approved without objection.

5. **Motion by Alison Foxall to approve Minutes** of the March 19th, 2017 EC and Committees Meeting, as posted, was seconded by Joshua Folsom. Motion passed without objection.

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

a. Chair's Report: Marcos Miralles

- Motion to affiliate Hillsborough County by J. D. Pierce and seconded by Suzanne Gilmore
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0ZWG90TW9LYnFZTXM/view?usp=sharing>
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0ZeEsyblp6VXBWenM/view?usp=sharing>
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0ZMmxISWhEdFlybGg4aUs3bGFIUGg1Rk9XTIlv/view?usp=sharing>
 - Disposition: Motion passed without objection
- Motion to affiliate Manatee County by Alison Foxall and seconded by Suzanne Gilmore
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0Zdk1fV3BycjBaOVE/view?usp=sharing>

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0ZN0lodlNqddKQUk/view?usp=sharing>
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0zUMyC1iJ0ZM005ZHhYS0pyMmM/view?usp=sharing>
 - Disposition: Motion passed without objection
- Motion to accept George Lebovitz' resignation as a member of the Selection Committee was seconded by Alison Foxall.
 - Disposition: Motion passed without objection.
- Appointment of Marialexandra Garcia as Chairperson of the Selection Committee
 - Marialexandra is one of our few elected officials in the State of Florida. She is also the Chair of the LP of Miami-Dade County and has shown great ethic when it comes to being a leader. The Selections Committee is a crucial committee that decides which candidates the LPF needs to support. It cannot be a bureaucratic committee that drags its feet along the way and wastes the time of our candidates. Marialexandra has an extensive business experience and her leadership in her affiliate shows us that she does not drag her feet.
 - Disposition: Paul Stanton asked that the Chair rule out of order as the LPF Constitution Art III, Sect 5, states that appointments by the chair are to fill vacancies but the office is not vacant, and there is a requirement to appoint from diverse regions of the state and this would be another appointment in SE Florida. The Chair ruled that the motion was not out of order. Paul Stanton questioned the ruling of the Chair and called for a vote against the ruling of the Chair.
 - Aye (13) - Recuero, J. Morris, Gilmore, Foxall, Wood, Peele, McGee, A. Morris, Folsom, Daniel, Stanton, Tolp, Dickey
 - Nay (5) - Ramsey, Martin, Pierce, Elliott, Nekhaila
 - Motion passed.
- Appointment of Heather Schieferle Preysz as Chairperson of the Legislative Review Committee.
 - Ayes (15) - Gilmore, J. Morris, Foxall, Peele, McGee, A. Morris,

Folsom, Ramsey, Martin, Daniel, Pierce, Elliott, Tolp, Dickey, Nekhaila

- Nays (2) - Recuero, Wood
- Abstains (1) - Stanton
- Disposition: Motion passed
- Appointment of the following members to the Communications Committee: Chaz Sanders (of Citrus County), Brandi Hicks (of Bradford County), Megan Killion (of Seminole County), Ray McGee (our Region 1 Rep), Brian McLaughlin (of Pinellas County)
 - Disposition: Motion passed without objection
- Motion to accept Ben Bachrach's resignation as Volunteer Coordinator.
 - Disposition: Motion passed without objection
- Motion to accept resignation of Jess Mears as a member of the Convention Committee.
 - Disposition: Motion passed with 1 objection by Shawn Elliott
- Activities
 - Had a good meeting with Communications Committee.
 - Chair will appear on AmericaTV interview on Tuesday.
 - Has a couple people lined up to do bilingual interviews.
 - Sent out 700 letters seeking candidates for Operation First Step.

The only expense to the party is the stamps. He has discretionary funds of \$100/month.

7. Committee Reports:

- Marc Tancer - Convention - Convention just broke even. It did a little better than last year if purchased assets like banners are broken out. He spoke with each of the speakers. Sends thanks to the auction contributors. The convention committee and the volunteers, naming each.
- Tony Sellers - Rules discussed preparation for convention, changes at convention and plans going forward. Wanted to offer complete rewrite of governing documents but time, the presidential campaign, and other circumstances necessitated a change of scope. Thanked each member of the committee for their hard work.
- Omar Recuero - Selection May 18 meeting where they discussed the questionnaire and processing Randy Wiseman's certification request, streamlining and providing directional information for candidates. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for June 1. Everyone on the committee has contributed.
- Rob Lapham - Platform Rob Lapham has resigned from Platform and Candidates committees.

- Jess Mears - Membership Meeting last week. Discussed Membership/voter Registration contest with a prize for small and large county of \$370 each. Asking members to pledge hours to do voter registration.
- Alison Foxall - Communications Report on GoogleDrive. Discussed assistance to convention. Needs professional (3-5 years) Art Director. Meeting last week on the 18th. Sent list of requested appointees to the committees. Creating teams for specific tasks. Next meeting June 8 focusing on social media process.
- John Thompson - Candidates Not present.
- [VACANT] - Legislative Review Vacant
- Russ Wood - Events Report on forums. Organizing St. Pete Gay Pride event and Reg 12 conference with Rob Tolp in late August or early September. Marcos Miralles asked for events on July 4 regarding new citizens and voter registrations.
- Ben Wasson - Report is on googledocs. Fundraising Raised about \$10k in general fund, \$24K including convention, including good auction results. Will be presenting motions for committee members. Larry Sharpe mentored him at convention on some fundraising technique. Working on data sets and generating content. Working with Andy Burns of LNC; they started a Slack fundraising channel.

8. Unfinished Business

None

9. New Business

Motion # 491

By: Russ Wood and seconded by Joshua Folsom

Title: [Motion to Appoint Thomas Knapp as Alternate to LNC Platform Committee](#)

Text: I Move to appoint Thomas Knapp as a Florida Alternate to the LNC Platform Committee

Description: According to LNC Secretary, Alicia Mattson, affiliates which are entitled to appoint, do have the option of appointing alternates, but there is no requirement to do so. The alternates are included in all email communications. Alternates only step in to vote if there is an absence or a vacancy in the seat for which they were appointed as alternate (see LP Bylaws Article 11.5). The same email ballot rules apply here as apply to the LNC (see LP Bylaws Article 13), so the alternates only get to vote in the absence of the corresponding member. Florida may appoint an alternate and alternates may debate - and debate is often more important than votes.

Disposition: Motion passed unanimously.

Motion # 492

By: Paul Stanton and seconded by Ryan Ramsey

Title: Amendment to Standing Rules for Teleconferences

Text: I move to strike and insert the following in Article V Section 3 of the Standing Rules for the Libertarian Party of Florida:

Section 3.

Proxy voting shall not be allowed, but members can vote on specific questions by written notice. ~~Voting by~~ Participating in meetings via telephone is allowed ~~can be conducted if no objection is raised.~~

Disposition: Motion passed unanimously, (2/3rd vote required).

Motion # 493

By: Paul Stanton and seconded by Rob Tolp

Title: Public Email Transparency

Text: I move to add a publicly-viewable email address to the ec@lpf.org distribution list. The details of the publicly-viewable email address will be at the discretion of the Communications Committee.

Disposition:

- Motion to amend by Ryan Ramsey and seconded by Rob Tolp to add at the end: All Slack channel communications will be publicly accessible to all members of the LPF. Motion to amend failed with one aye vote.
- Original motion passed unanimously.

Motion # 494

By: Ray McGee and seconded by Ryan Ramsey

Title: Motion to Reverse the Decision to Disaffiliate the Northwest Florida Libertarian Party

Mover requested amendment before motion was seconded and indicated by strikethroughs and underlines in the text.

Text: I, Raymond McGee, Libertarian Party of Florida (LPF) Region 1 Representative, move to reverse the decision ~~made by the LPF Secretary~~ to dis-affiliate the Northwest Florida Libertarian Party (NFLP) effective immediately upon passage, due to the following:

- 1) The NFLP applied for and was accepted for affiliation in accordance with the LPF Constitution, By-laws, and Standing Rules,

- 2) the NFLP has continued to be an affiliate for many years, has always fully supported the LPF, and has always faithfully submitted the required paperwork,
- 3) the LPF and the NFLP organizations are working towards the same goals, and it would be counter-productive to the LPF to disrupt that synergy, and potentially create an adversarial relationship between the two parties over an administrative issue, and
- 4) on March 31, 2017, the NFLP submitted the re-affiliation paperwork, before the April 1 deadline, and did so with good intent.

And being that the Executive Committee of the LPF has sole authority over the affiliation process, and the suspension of an affiliate, and has not made provisions in the Standing Rules to delegate this task;

~~The LPF Secretary exceeded her authority as set forth in the LPF Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules in that:~~

- ~~1. The Secretary does not have authority to disaffiliate as set forth in the LPF Constitution and By-laws.~~
- ~~2. The Secretary unilaterally demanded that the NFLP Vice-Chair be a member of the LPF which violates the autonomy of the affiliate, and~~
- ~~3. There is not any justification in the governing documents requiring LPF membership by the Executive Committee members of an affiliated party.~~
- ~~4. There is no specific requirement in any of the governing documents of the LPF that copies of the signed original financial documents must be signed as well.~~
- ~~5. The Secretary did not provide a 30-day notification to the NFLP that they were in danger of disaffiliation, nor did she specifically notify the Executive Committee of the LPF, in any other way than to state that some affiliates were not in compliance with her requirements, before unilaterally deciding to disaffiliate the NFLP.~~

~~In summation, the NFLP did submit the required paperwork per the LPF governing documents, the Secretary erred in unilaterally disaffiliating the NFLP, and I ask that the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Florida vote to approve my motion to reverse the Secretary's decision and correct this injustice this error, with our apologies to the members of the Northwest Florida Libertarian Party.~~

Attached supporting document(s):

LPF Constitution

ARTICLE II Membership

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.

ARTICLE III Officers, Executive Committee & Standing Committees

Section 1.

The Officers of the LPF shall be a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The duties and election of the Officers shall be specified in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV Affiliates

Section 1.

Affiliate organizations which choose to become affiliated parties of the LPF shall apply for official designation on a standard petition form for County Affiliates, as adopted by the Executive Committee and subject to the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

LPF By-laws

ARTICLE I **County Affiliates**

Section 3

The autonomy of an affiliated party shall not be abridged by the LPF Executive Committee, or other officer, committee or agent of the LPF – except as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE II Membership

Section 4.

Suspension of county affiliated parties shall be reserved to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend affiliate status from any organization by two-thirds vote. Such notification of suspension is subject to a written appeal within thirty (30) days of the notification of suspension. Failure to appeal shall be interpreted as an act of secession by the affiliate. The suspension shall not be made within a period of six (6) months subsequent to an Annual Business Meeting.

ARTICLE III Executive Committee

Section 3. Duties

Paragraph C.

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 shall also serve as the Secretary of the Membership Committee, and shall be responsible for maintaining party membership records.

LPF Standing Rules

ARTICLE III; Sect. 5.

To continue affiliation, prior to April 1 of each year, County Affiliates are required to send to the LPF Secretary a current list of officers with their title, mail address, email address, phone number, and a copy of the annual audit required by their local county elections office.

Disposition:

- Rob Tolp moved to amend and seconded by Joshua Folsom to strike ~~decision~~ in the first sentence and replace with error.
- Paul Stanton moved and seconded by J. D. Pierce to refer motion to the Rules Committee with a report at the next EC Meeting.
 - Ayes (9) - Peele, McGee, Folsom, Ramsey, Martin, Daniel, Stanton, Pierce, Elliott
 - Nays (9) - Recuero, J. Morris, Foxall, Wood, A. Morris, Lebovitz, Tolp, Dickey, Nekhaila
 - Recusal (1) - Gilmore
- Main motion as amended by the mover before seconded passed.
 - Aye (10) - Recuero, J. Morris, Peele, McGee, Ramsey, Stanton, Elliott, Tolp, Nekhaila, Miralles (tie breaker)
 - Nay (9) - Foxall, Wood, A. Morris, Folsom, Martin, Daniel, Pierce, Lebovitz, Dickey,
 - Recusal (1) - Gilmore

Motion # 495

By: Alison Foxall and seconded by Russ Wood

Title: Motion to Create an Ad Hoc Committee Titled "Conduct and Behavior Committee"

Text: I move to create an ad hoc committee titled "Conduct and Behavior Committee" tasked to create a Code of Conduct that each Executive Committee Member adhere to. ~~The committee members will also create a set of penalties should an Executive Committee member violate the Code of Conduct.~~ The Code of Conduct and Code of

~~Conduct Penalties~~ shall be presented to the Executive Committee in ~~two separate motions to adopt in the August 2017 Regular EC Business Meeting~~ to the membership at Annual Business Meeting.

The committee members shall consist of the Chair and Vice Chair of the LPF, as well as all three Directors-at-Large of the LPF, and four regular, non-EC LPF members that are properly credentialed as LPF voters (9 members total).

Disposition: Original mover moved to amend the motion as indicated by strikethroughs and underlines and was seconded by Suzanne Gilmore. Amendment passed with one nay vote.

Ryan Ramsey moved to amend the third sentence, striking ~~August 2017 Business Meeting~~ and replacing with to the membership at Annual Business Meeting.

_____ Motion to amend passed.

Ayes (10) - J. Morris, Peele, McGee, Folsom, Ramsey, Martin, Daniel, Pierce, Elliott, Nekhaila

Nays (9) - Recuero, Gilmore, Foxall, Wood, Morris, Stanton, Lebovitz, Tolp, Dickey.

Main motion as amended passed without objection.

10. Next Meeting(s) (tentative)

- a) The Committee Chairs Meeting will be on June 4th, 2017
- b) The next LPF EC Meeting will be on June 18th, 2017

Suzanne Gilmore asked for the EC members to give direction regarding whether it was their will regarding motion 494 that we shall no longer require the affiliate members to be LPF members and whether audits need not be signed. The members who responded advised that this was considered a one time event (Recuero) and it was recommended (Ramsey) that the Rules Committee take it under consideration,

Marcos Miralles challenged the EC members to post the volunteer link from the LPF.org page to their pages by 8:00 am tomorrow morning.

11. Motion by Joshua Folsom and seconded by Alison Foxall to adjourn the meeting passed without objection. Meeting adjourned at 11:03 pm.