MEETING MINUTES

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

MAY 2, 2020

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

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PREPARED BY CARYN ANN HARLOS, LNC SECRETARY

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**LEGEND:** **text to be inserted**, ***~~text to be deleted~~***, unchanged existing text, ***substantive final main motions.***

All main substantive motions will be set off by ***bold and italics in green font*** (with related subsidiary and incidental motions *set off by highlighted italics*) and will be assigned a motion number comprising the date and a sequential number to be recorded in the Secretary's Main Motion/Ballot Tally record located at <https://tinyurl.com/lncvotes2019>.

All vote results, challenges, and rulings will be set off by ***BOLD ITALICS***.

The LPedia article for this meeting can be found at: <https://lpedia.org/wiki/LNC_Meeting_2_May_2020>

Recordings for this meeting can be found at the LPedia link.

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# OPENING CEREMONY

Prior to the meeting there was brief informal discussion of the issues.

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Nicholas J. Sarwark called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. (all times Eastern).

## OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Several members of the gallery expressed their opinions on the course of action that the LNC should take. There was a wide variety of views expressed both on the microphone and via the chat feature of the Zoom meeting room

## ISSUES CONCERNING CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

After discussion, Mr. Sarwark instructed the Secretary to forward the Convention Oversight Committee report to the public reflector list. It was previously distributed to the LNC under confidential cover. This report is attached hereto as **Appendix A**.

# HOUSEKEEPING

## ATTENDANCE

The following were in attendance:

**Officers:** Nicholas J. Sarwark (Chair), Alex Merced (Vice-Chair), Caryn Ann Harlos (Secretary), Tim Hagan (Treasurer)

**At-Large Representatives:** Joseph Bishop-Henchman, Sam Goldstein, Alicia Mattson, Bill Redpath, Joshua Smith

**Regional Representatives:** Richard T. Longstreth (Region 1), Steven Nekhaila (Region 2), Elizabeth Van Horn (Region 3), Jeff Hewitt (Region 4), Jim Lark (Region 5), John Phillips (Region 6), Whitney Bilyeu (Region 7), Justin O’Donnell (Region 8)

**Regional Alternates:** Francis Wendt (Region 1), Paige Sexton (Region 2), Dustin Nanna (Region 3), Tim Ferreira (Region 4), Susan Hogarth (Region 5), Erin Adams (Region 7), Pat Ford (Region 8)

**Absent:** Phillip Anderson (Region 6)

**Staff:** Daniel Fishman (Executive Director), Tara DeSisto (Director of Development)

**Non-LNC Members of the Convention Oversight Committee:** Daniel Hayes (Committee Chair), Ken Moellman

**Other Notable Attendees:** Oliver Hall (LNC Special Counsel), Richard Brown (2020 Convention Parliamentarian)

The gallery contained too many attendees to list.

# NEW BUSINESS WITH PREVIOUS NOTICE

## CONVENTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Daniel Hayes (Convention Oversight Committee Chair), deferred to Ken Moellman for the delivery and initial discussion of the committee report. The options outlined in the attached report were summarized. Mr. Hayes supplemented with additional information concerning potential sites for a postponed convention. Mr. Hayes and Mr. Goldstein answered questions raised by members of the LNC. Mr. Hall fielded questions and provided answers regarding legal restrictions in place.

**Mr. Goldstein moved the following on behalf of the Convention Oversight Committee:**

***Due to the continuing Impossibility of holding a 1046 delegate convention in Austin, Texas from May 19th to May 26th, 2020 resulting from continuing government actions related to the Covid-19 pandemic both in Texas and across the country, the Libertarian National Committee hereby directs the invocation of the Impossibility clause, terminating the contract between itself and the JW Marriott without any further liability by either party.***

**This motion PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.** **[200502-1]**

Mr. Hayes stated that this motion was passed without objection by the Convention Oversight Committee.

Mr. Sarwark summarized the meaning of the vote. The May convention in Austin is cancelled and the options before the LNC are as follows:

* Change the call of the convention to a postponed convention at a different time and place or different time and same city
* Change the call of the convention to an electronic convention for a date to be determined
* Not calling the convention at all and having the LNC make the needed decisions

***Ms. Mattson, on behalf of the Convention Oversight Committee, moved to postpone the 2020 convention to an alternate date and to a physical location to be chosen by the LNC.* [200502-2]**

*Mr. Goldstein moved to amend the motion to add “no later than July 15, 2020” to its end, so that the motion would then read:*

***Move to postpone the 2020 convention to an alternate date and to a physical location to be chosen by the LNC no later than July 15, 2020.***

*Mr. Phillips moved to amend the motion to add “with a decision to be made by the LNC within ten (10) days by electronic meeting” to its end, so that the motion would then read:*

***Move to postpone the 2020 convention to an alternate date and to a physical location to be chosen by the LNC no later than July 15, 2020 with a decision to be made by the LNC within ten (10) days by electronic meeting.***

A roll call vote was conducted on the Goldstein amendment with the following results:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Member/Alternate** | **Aye** | **Nay** | **Abstain** |
| Bilyeu/Adams | **X** |  |  |
| Bishop-Henchman |  | **X** |  |
| Goldstein | **X** |  |  |
| Hagan | **X** |  |  |
| Harlos | **X** |  |  |
| Hewitt/Ferreira | **X** |  |  |
| Lark/Hogarth | **X** |  |  |
| Longstreth/Wendt | **X** |  |  |
| Mattson | **X** |  |  |
| Merced | **X** |  |  |
| Nekhaila/Sexton | **X** |  |  |
| O’Donnell/Ford |  | **X** |  |
| Phillips/Anderson |  |  | **X** |
| Redpath |  | **X** |  |
| Sarwark |  |  | **X** |
| Smith | **X** |  |  |
| Van Horn/Nanna | **X** |  |  |
| **TOTALS** | **12** | **3** | **2** |

***This amendment PASSED with a roll call vote of 12-3-2.* [200503]**

It was noted that Mr. O’Donnell ceded his voting seat to Mr. Ford while he was having connectivity issues. Mr. Ford requested that the body consider hearing from Daryl Perry (NH) regarding New Hampshire ballot difficulties. An objection was raised. Mr. Ford agreed that he addressed the points that Mr. Perry would have addressed.

A roll call vote was conducted on the Phillips amendment with the following results:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Member/Alternate** | **Aye** | **Nay** | **Abstain** |
| Bilyeu/Adams | **X** |  |  |
| Bishop-Henchman | **X** |  |  |
| Goldstein | **X** |  |  |
| Hagan | **X** |  |  |
| Harlos | **X** |  |  |
| Hewitt/Ferreira | **X** |  |  |
| Lark | **X** |  |  |
| Longstreth/Wendt | **X** |  |  |
| Mattson | **X** |  |  |
| Merced | **X** |  |  |
| Nekhaila/Sexton | **X** |  |  |
| O’Donnell/Ford |  | **X** |  |
| Phillips/Anderson | **X** |  |  |
| Redpath | **X** |  |  |
| Sarwark |  |  | **X** |
| Smith | **X** |  |  |
| Van Horn/Nanna | **X** |  |  |
| **TOTALS** | **15** | **1** | **1** |

***This amendment PASSED with a roll call vote of 15-1-1.* [200502-4]**

Without passing the gavel, the Chair participated in debate and noted his intention to vote against the main motion. Ms. Harlos objected, citing *RONR* page 5.[[1]](#footnote-1) The Chair agreed to abstain from voting unless to cause or break a tie.

A roll call vote was conducted on the amended main motion with the following results:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Member/Alternate** | **Aye** | **Nay** | **Abstain** |
| Bilyeu/Adams | **X** |  |  |
| Bishop-Henchman |  | **X** |  |
| Goldstein | **X** |  |  |
| Hagan | **X** |  |  |
| Harlos | **X** |  |  |
| Hewitt/Ferreira | **X** |  |  |
| Lark | **X** |  |  |
| Longstreth/Wendt |  | **X** |  |
| Mattson | **X** |  |  |
| Merced |  | **X** |  |
| Nekhaila/Sexton |  | **X** |  |
| O’Donnell/Ford |  | **X** |  |
| Phillips/Anderson |  | **X** |  |
| Redpath |  | **X** |  |
| Sarwark |  |  | **X** |
| Smith | **X** |  |  |
| Van Horn/Nanna | **X** |  |  |
| **TOTALS** | **9** | **7** | **1** |

***This motion PASSED with a roll call vote of 9-7-1.* [200502-2]**

Mr. Sarwark passed the gavel to Mr. Merced and left the meeting.

**Ms. Harlos moved to adjourn this meeting to the following Saturday, May 9, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern.**

This motion ***PASSED*** without objection.

# ADJOURNMENT

The LNC adjourned for the day without objection at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Ann Harlos

LNC Secretary ~ [Secretary@LP.org](mailto:Secretary@LP.org) ~ 561.523.2250

#### APPENDIX A – CONVENTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT





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1. Ms. Mattson stated that she believed this understanding was incorrect as the text contains “should nots” and not “must nots.” Ms. Harlos referred the question to the official RONR forum for clarification. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)