

Present: Scott Pettigrew, Tim Smyth, Bob Coogan, Linda Comstock, Dustin Nanna, (5 of 7 – quorum is 5 of 7)

Also present: Homer Taft (via phone), Tricia Sprankle, Harold Thomas, John Fockler

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Pettigrew called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM. The Secretary confirmed that a quorum was present.
- II. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Mr. Smyth disclosed that his wife is the Treasurer of the LPO Central Committee. Mr. Taft disclosed that he works with River Properties.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
 - A. Mr. Pettigrew asked for changes and additions to the agenda; he suggested shortening the time of the Division Reports.
 - B. Mr. Smyth added an item to New Business to discuss the National Convention.
 - C. Mr. Taft added an item to Old Business to discuss future mailings.
 - D. Mr. Smyth moved to accept the agenda as amended, Mr. Nanna seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for the February 24, 2018 Executive Committee meeting had been sent out prior to this meeting. Mr. Smyth made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Nanna seconded. The minutes as presented were approved with no objections. The document is available on the website.
- V. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED BETWEEN MEETINGS:**
 - A. There was no business conducted between meetings.
- VI. **OFFICER REPORTS, ACTIVITY UPDATES & COMMENTS**
 - A. **Chair Report –**
 1. Mr. Pettigrew informed the Committee that we now have internet access at Headquarters (from AT&T).
 2. He reported that he has been interacting with the Credentials Committee of the LP National Convention. We need to solidify our delegate list to national. 41 delegates will be able to attend. Scott Pettigrew will be delegate chair. Mr. Smyth would like to know the delegate list in the interest of making it public. Mr. Pettigrew and Mr. Smyth will discuss. LPO delegates must be locked-in 40 days prior to the National Convention.
 3. Regarding the LPO Convention –
 - a. The Platform Committee is moving forward well, and they may have a platform document to be shared at the Convention. It is intended to be 500 words or less.
 - b. The Constitution & By-laws Committee is moving forward with changes to those documents.
 - c. Mr. Pettigrew complimented all of the Committee members for their cooperation and mutual respect.

B. Vice Chair Report:

1. Mr. Nanna mentioned the issue of State Convention packages and price levels with respect to general affordability. Mr. Pettigrew suggested that discussion be deferred.
2. Mr. Nanna reported that he had followed up with Northwest Ohio Conservative Coalition regarding purchasing a table at their event. He told them that we cannot afford it, but perhaps next year we can have a speaker and generate greater interest from us.

C. Secretary Report – Mr. Coogan had nothing to report.

D. At Large Report – None.

E. Treasurer Report:

1. Ms. Comstock reminded ExComm that her full report is on Basecamp and Google Docs. She reviewed the summary of the current Treasurer's report:
 - a. As of February 28, net change in cash was (\$591.90) for the month.
 - b. The US Bank balance at 3/17/18 was \$5,421.22. Of this amount, \$3,276.00 is from 2018 Convention registrations.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ballot Drive Status: Mr. Nanna and Ms. Sprankle reported.

1. We obtained a significant number of signatures at a gun rally. Another opportunity is coming up at a rally at the State House on April 21.
2. Mr. Smyth suggested putting event dates on the website, and Campfire on Basecamp.
3. Petition counts and activities.
 - a. We have collected 52,310 valid signatures on 85,060 raw (61.5%).
 - b. National has \$20,000 left to spend on petitions. We are paying \$2.50 per signature with a guaranteed 75% validity rate.
 - c. 60,462 valid signatures is a reasonable goal.
 - d. We should expect a challenge from the established parties.
 - e. Mr. Pettigrew suggested that we try to get more signatures from the CDGs.
 - f. Mr. Thomas asked about the timing of Counties getting their percentages/credits for the signatures that they have gathered. Further discussion is needed on the process.
 - g. Mr. Taft mentioned that we can collect signatures at the upcoming Primary Elections.
 - h. LPO 15th Congressional District candidate Johnny Miller will speak at a candidate debate, but he is not able to participate in the debate. We will have a table and gather signatures at this event.

B. Central Committee Elections: Mr. Smyth provided a summary handout.

1. Nominations are closing. As the Districts close to further nominations, absentee ballots are being sent, with instructions.
2. Completed absentee ballots are being sent to Headquarters.

3. Mr. Smyth plans to send an email to CentCom candidates regarding their CentCom responsibilities and asking them to participate in the May 18 petition turn-in event.
- C. 2018 Convention: Mr. Taft reporting (a handout is available on Basecamp).
1. There are 61 individuals registered for the convention. Early bird registration end on March 25.
 2. The block of rooms will end with 50 rooms taken on April 18.
 3. We need to push registration and attendance.
 4. The current schedule indicates a fund raiser dinner on May 18 from 7:00 to 9:00. The cost is \$50 to attend. This event will include an introduction of candidates.
 5. An attendance of 100 is required to meet break-even vs. budget.
 6. Mr. Pettigrew mentioned that we should have a Convention Committee meeting, especially concerning paying for speakers and LPN Chair candidates.
 7. Mr. Taft has reached out to Americans for Prosperity regarding training. They may also have an exhibit. We have in-house talent to cover grass-roots activity training. He continues to invite organizations for various types of training (candidates, issues, media, fund-raising).
 8. Mr. Taft asked if we should be asking Mark Brown to do more than attend.
 9. The Committee had a discussion about the \$50 cost of the dinner on Friday. Mr. Nanna considers that amount to be too expensive, especially for younger members. Mr. Smyth suggested that we have no dinner but have a reception with a \$20 (or so) entrance fee and then a cash bar.
 10. Mr. Pettigrew called a Convention Committee meeting for 7:00 PM, Wednesday (3/20) for further discussion of all Convention-related items.
 11. Mr. Taft mentioned that Green Light is an exhibitor/sponsor and will have 1 or 2 tables. We need more sponsors. There has been much out-reach and gathering contact information. Prices are \$35 per table, \$35 for a business-card sized ad, and \$750 to be a sponsor.
- D. Mr. Pettigrew said that an announcement regarding the Champions of Liberty awards will go out Monday March 19. The Awards Committee is Scott Pettigrew, Dustin Nanna and Tim Smyth. Nominations are open until 5:00 PM, April 7, 2018. The categories are
- a. New Member Spirit
 - b. Local Grass-roots
 - c. Volunteer
 - d. Excellence
 - e. Impact
 - f. Petition Power-house
- E. Mailings: Mr. Taft reporting.
1. 5,800 items went out on Tuesday March 13. It could take 30 days or more to get significant responses.
 2. District Primary Elections – absentee ballots – It will cost about \$8,000 to mail out the Primary Election information to all the Districts. Mr. Taft would like authorization for \$3,000 to send out the information to the next four Districts with closed nominations (send out the election notice, the absentee

ballot and a request for donation). No motion was made. It is possible to take action between meetings electronically. Mr. Taft said that he needs 7-14 days to prepare the enclosures for the mail-outs. Ms. Comstock reported that the bank balance less Convention expenses is about \$1,500.

- F. Other Old Business – There was no other old business.

The Chair called for a 15-minute break (12:55 to 1:07),

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Plan for Post-Convention Meetings

1. Mr. Smyth spoke with Bob Frey regarding a May 20 Central Committee meeting at Headquarters, involving the newly elected CentCom members. We will need to have sufficient seating arranged in the building meeting room (Buckeye Room). Mr. Pettigrew asked that the meeting request be made in writing in order to make arrangements. He added that the Buckeye Room does not have internet access.
2. Mr. Pettigrew suggested that we hold the organizational meetings at Headquarters and that someone should contact building management to inform them. Mr. Nanna and Mr. Pettigrew suggested that we provide a list of “authorized” LPO individuals to building management. We need a “point person(s)”, e.g., Ms. Comstock, Ms. Sprankle, Mr. Nanna and Mr. Pettigrew.

B. Social Media/Text Marketing Budget

1. Mr. Nanna said that he plans to spend budgeted funds on boosting events through the Facebook page, such as petition turn-in and fund-raising events. Facebook can have great reach if managed properly.
2. Mr. Smyth suggested targeting various audiences using interest pages.
3. Mr. Nanna said that he is open to suggestions for what issues to boost.
4. Mr. Taft said that he would like to be involved with Facebook contacts (e.g., to approach them for training, as an exhibitor, and with respect to fund-raising).

C. National Convention (added item) – Mr. Smyth said that this item was covered sufficiently earlier in the meeting.

D. Other New Business – there was no other New Business.

IX. DIVISION REPORTS

A. Political Division – All issues were covered in the Ballot Access discussion earlier in the meeting.

B. IT Division Report – There was no IT Division report.

C. Communications – Mr. Fockler reported.

1. Mr. Fockler said that we have blog postings that have been put up.
2. He is looking for fresh content on a weekly basis.

D. Field Development:

1. Mr. Pettigrew confirmed as CDC Richard May (Cuyahoga County). There were no objections from ExComm members.
2. There was significant discuss regarding the disaffiliation of Affiliates.
 - a. Mr. Nanna made a motion to disaffiliate Wood County. Ms. Comstock seconded.

- b. Mr. Pettigrew made a motion to amend. He substituted more specific wording:

“Whereas the Wood County affiliate has been non-communicative with the LPO Executive Committee, and
Whereas the Wood County affiliate is in non-compliance with numerous provisions of By-law 710, it is
Resolved that the Wood County affiliate is disaffiliated effective immediately.”

Mr. Nanna seconded the motion to amend, and it passed with no objection.

- c. The motion, as amended, was put to a roll-call vote. The motion passed 5-0.

- d. For reference, examples of By-law 710 provision non-compliance by Wood County are no election held, no filing with the Board of Elections, and no reports filed with the State Party.

- e. The Hamilton County affiliate has similar issues with respect to non-compliance, including being non-responsive to requests for communication. Mr. Pettigrew asked for one week to attempt further communication, as he had attempted with Wood County as ExComm Chair.

- f. Mr. Thomas suggested that a procedure be established for Affiliates to provide the required communications with the LPO with a stated date for submission.

- g. Mr. Smyth will ask for annual reports from CDCs. He proposed keeping these reporting requirements vague to allow for flexibility.

E. Finance Division –Mr. Taft’s reported:

1. The mailing of the initial 5,800 items was covered earlier in the meeting. There were few items that were undeliverable.
2. Mr. Taft has several large contributor contacts outstanding.
3. Mr. Taft asked that members share contact information for individuals who could be solicited for contributions.
4. We need to reach out to businesses that may be willing to provide funding.
5. We need to promote and fund-raise on Facebook.

Mr. Pettigrew expressed appreciation to the Directors for providing timely reports.

X. NEXT MEETING:

- A. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 3:30 PM at LPO Headquarters, 6230 Busch Boulevard, Suite 102. Mr. Pettigrew made the motion regarding scheduling the meeting. It passed with no objections.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.