

Present: Tim Smyth, Bob Coogan, Linda Comstock, Ann Leech, Dustin Nanna, Aarica Burwell (6 of 7 – quorum is 5 of 7)

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Nanna chaired the meeting (Mr. Pettigrew is on a leave of absence). He called the meeting to order at 12:10 PM. 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 will be discussing a services proposal from River Properties, with whom he is associated.
- III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Burwell made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Mr. Smyth seconded, and the motion passed with no objection.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes for the November 11, 2017 Executive Committee meeting had been sent out prior to this meeting. Mr. Smyth made a motion to accept the minutes, and Ms. Comstock seconded. The minutes as presented were approved with no objections. The document is available on Dropbox for filing on the website.
- V. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED BETWEEN MEETINGS:**
 - A. A motion to give notice on the Tiller office space and to pay the application fee to lease office space at the Continent passed 5-1 on December 22, 2017.
 - B. The contract with the Holiday Inn for the 2018 Convention was approved.
- VI. **OFFICER REPORTS, ACTIVITY UPDATES & COMMENTS**
 - A. **Chair Report** – Mr. Pettigrew was not in attendance (leave of absence).
 - B. **Vice Chair Report:**
 - i. Mr. Nanna is assuming the duties of Chair until Mr. Pettigrew's return.
 - C. **Secretary Report** – Mr. Coogan has nothing to report.
 - D. **At Large Report** – None.
 - E. **Treasurer Report:**
 - A. Ms. Comstock reminded ExComm that her full report is on Basecamp and Google Docs. She reviewed the summary of the current Treasurer's report:
 - i. As of December 31, total income was approximately \$2,244.42 for the month.
 - ii. The total balance in the US Bank general account at 01/05/18 was \$5,814.65.
 - B. Ms. Comstock will be preparing 1099s for all paid contractors.

- C. She also informed the Committee that Basecamp and NationBuilder renewals are coming up. Ms. Sprankle suggested that county affiliates be given access to NationBuilder for a fee contribution.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ballot Drive Status: Mr. Nanna reported that we are at approximately 88% of the bare minimum number of valid signatures required (approximately 48.6K validated out of 75K received).
 - i. Ms. Sprankle reported that 1650 signatures have been received from volunteers and that there are 5,110 pledged (including CentCom). Mr. Nanna commented that we need to keep an accurate count of volunteer signatures and push to get more.
 - ii. Mr. Nanna said that production has been down due to weather.
 - iii. LNC remaining funding is \$35,507 (@ \$2.50 per signature).
 - iv. Mr. Nanna spoke with the owner of the company being paid by LNC, who said that he is coming to Ohio to train petitioners. He expects to be completed by the end of January.
 - v. July 5, 2018 is the last day for turning in petitions. Mr. Nanna estimate of the completion date is the end of March.
 - vi. Follow-up is needed for the CentCom signature pledges.
- B. Contract for contact clean-up
 - i. Mr. Smyth said that NationBuilder is automatically changing some correct address to incorrect addresses due to its geo-location function.
 - ii. Helen Gilson working on cleaning up the NationBuilder addresses. This clean-up is needed before further updating via software services can be performed.
- C. Other Old Business – Ms. Comstock said that she needs access to NationBuilder account information in order to see payments made and due and to make payments. Mr. Smyth provided her access.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Budget for Submission for 2018
 - i. Mr. Smyth reviewed the budget draft that he had prepared. He divided expenditures into fixed (\$17,540) and variable (\$38,545).
 - ii. Mr. Nanna said that we need a 2018 budget line item of at least \$5,000 for ballot access.
 - 1. Mr. Thomas suggested that we have a bigger push for signatures from volunteers.
 - 2. Mr. Taft said that he has sent emails to approximately 7,500 LP members, so they know we need petitioning help.
 - 3. Mr. Thomas said that Franklin County is pushing for signatures at various events.
 - 4. Ms. Burwell suggested that we express thanks/appreciation for signatures turned in. Ms. Sprankle said that she is doing this, but we can always do better.
 - 5. Ms. Leech commented that we need to show we are working on gathering signatures.

6. Mr. Smyth and Mr. Nanna both commented that we need more publicity.
7. Mr. Thomas suggested a tip sheet for volunteer petitioning.
- iii. Mr. Smyth suggested that we minimally approve a bare-bones budget at this meeting. Mr. Coogan agreed and said that we could raise/spend funds separately for ballot access expenditures.
- iv. Mr. Taft said that he needs budgeted funding in order to raise the funds that he is expected to provide.
- v. Ms. Comstock suggested that we should solicit CentCom members for donations, and solicit former recurring donors. A list is available, and Ms. Leech offered to call those former donors and to call CentCom members.
- vi. Mr. Nanna questioned the Mail-chimp amount. For now, we will continue to include the \$75/month as part of the fixed budget.
- vii. Mr. Taft responded to Mr. Coogan's questions regarding the fixed component of the funds that he is requesting for the Finance budget. Mr. Taft wants a base amount that can cover contacting 10,000 people who voted in the most recent Libertarian primary. He needs \$2K for envelopes and \$2K for printing and mailing costs for sending out 3,000 pieces.
- viii. Mr. Coogan made a motion to approve Mr. Smyth's draft "fixed expense" budget with the addition of \$3,050 to the Finance portion of the budget, for a total budget of \$20,595. Ms. Comstock seconded. A roll-call vote was taken. The "Ayes" were five, and there was one abstention.

There was a recess for lunch at 2:00. The meeting was called back to order at 2:20.

B. Confirmation of Office Lease and Move

- i. Mr. Nanna reported that he and Ms. Comstock gave the "hold fee" for the office space at the Continent.
- ii. Mr. Smyth has a list of items for the new landlord to address. He requested that everyone provide input.
- iii. Ms. Leech commented that the Continent is a lower class of office space than Tiller; however, she thinks the move is a good deal, all things considered.
- iv. Mr. Nanna requested authorization to sign the lease.
- v. Mr. Smyth made a motion to authorized Mr. Nanna and Ms. Comstock to sign the lease with the Continent, after Ms. Sprankle reviews it. Mr. Coogan seconded, and the motion passed with no objection.

C. 2018 Convention Business

- i. Mr. Taft reported on the current status and issues to address:
 1. If we achieve 200 in attendance, the Party will clear \$8,000.
 2. Mr. Pettigrew is Convention Chair, and he is receiving significant assistance from Mr. Taft and Mr. Nanna.
 3. Mr. Thomas asked if there is a distinction between the Chair of the Convention and the Chair of the Convention Committee (the planning and work effort leading up to the Convention). Per the By-laws all of these items are part of the duties of the Chair of the Convention.
 4. Speaker invitations have been sent.
 5. Candidate training is part of the agenda.

6. A Gubernatorial debate is planned, consisting of presentations and responses to questions.
 7. Attendees will have access to other candidates.
 8. Mr. Smyth suggested looking into “Libertarian Jeopardy”, an idea from the Illinois Development Director.
 9. We need to get publicity out, especially after the agenda is set.
 10. We need to deal with the mechanics of registration.
- ii. Delegate Definition – There was discussion about delegates. Mr. Nanna suggested following the LNC’s process. Mr. Smyth suggested a broader definition. Mr. Taft pointed out that, per LPO By-laws, CentCom determines delegates per a formula.
 - iii. A Credentials Committee needs to be appointed by the Convention Chair.
 - iv. The By-laws Committee needs to be reconvened to address outstanding items.
 - v. Mr. Taft said that, per By-laws, CentCom must communicate the number of delegates allowed per County by February 18.
- D. Increased Mail-chimp costs – Mr. Smyth said that the increase from \$50 to \$75 per month is due increased numbers. He is looking into eliminating it, if possible.
- E. Central Committee Elections
- i. Mr. Smyth will coordinate the elections. He will contact all CentCom members for a date, time and location of the elections for their Districts, and he will provide a link to the Election Procedures.
 - ii. This information must be set by January 16, which is 75 days before the first possible election date of April 2. The latest possible date is the Ohio Primary date of May 8.
 - iii. Mr. Taft suggested that ExComm encourage counties to conduct County elections, as well.
- F. Sustaining Member Promotion
- i. Mr. Smyth suggested that we link the sustaining member promotion to the communication of the move to the Continent.
 - ii. Ms. Leech commented that we should be careful regarding terminology (e.g., use “sustaining supporter”).
 - iii. Mr. Smyth suggested that we get an inventory of items (e.g., T-shirts) to use to thank donors. He suggested considering levels of donors for recognition.
 - iv. Mr. Nanna commented that we need to keep pressure regarding the petition drive.
 - v. Mr. Taft suggested that we target people who have given before.
- G. Other New Business
- i. Mr. Nanna reported that Ken Moellman has stepped down from the LNC and Kentucky LP responsibilities. Ken is willing to help out with our IT, on the condition that we use a trouble-ticketing process. Mr. Nanna will approach Mr. Moellman to be the IT Deputy Director.

IX. DIVISION REPORTS

- A. Political Division – Ms. Sprankle and Mr. Thomas reported.
- i. We have four candidates for governor

- ii. They are encouraging people to run for State House and Senate seats that are being vacated.
 - iii. They are encouraging candidates for County Commissioners and County Auditor positions.
 - iv. For state-wide offices, they are still seeking individuals interested in running for Secretary of State and Attorney General. They have a candidate for Auditor of State.
 - v. Mr. Taft suggested targeting running a full slate of candidates and that we focus on women candidates.
- B. IT Division Report – No report. Mr. Nanna mentioned that he had spoken with the LNC about a central site to store documents. This is an issue for IT to pursue.
- C. Communications –Mr. Fockler and Mr. Nanna reported.
- i. Mr. Fockler has identified two areas of focus:
 - a. He will become knowledgeable of everyone who has dealings with Communications.
 - b. He plans to issue new content on a weekly basis.
 - i. Approaching through the Ohio Libertarian Volunteers page.
 - ii. Set up a regular calendar of content.
 - iii. Will provide suggested topics, but will accept communications on all topics, but with no guarantee of publication.
 - ii. Mr. Taft mentioned the mail-out planned by Finance and offered to include an insert from Communications.
 - iii. Mr. Thomas mentioned communication of county events. Mr. Smyth said that this can also be done via the LPO website.
- D. Field Development – Mr. Smyth provided a handout and reported:
- i. Eursa Irvine has assumed the CDC role for Ross County.
 - ii. Mr. Smyth led discussion about Keith Castillo's request to be CDC for Cuyahoga County. Concern was expressed about the fact that he currently does not live in Cuyahoga County (currently in Summit). There may be other viable candidates in Cuyahoga County.
 - iii. The CentCom election is the top priority.
 - iv. Mr. Smyth spoke of the Outreach Campaign for exhibitors and sponsors. Mr. Taft said that anyone with contacts should come forward. Ms. Burwell discussed the contacts that she has regarding T-shirts. There was general discussion regarding vendors as exhibitors and sponsors.
- E. Finance Division –Mr. Taft's reported.
- i. Helen Gilson is organizing a phone bank targeting donors of less than \$100.
 - ii. Mr. Taft is building a list for his personal contact and working on a top 500 list.
 - iii. We need to clean up the contact list.
 - iv. He is looking to use Facebook to raise funds.
 - v. He will proceed with the mail campaign discussed earlier.
 - vi. At least one VOIP license/seat is need for making calls. Mr. Taft is willing to approach his employer (River Properties) for a \$30/month arrangement. Other options will also be investigated. To address the potential conflict of interest identified previously by Mr. Taft, Ms. Burwell made a motion that

ExComm acknowledges Mr. Taft's relationship with River Properties with respect to his acquiring VOIP licences/seats from them and has no objection regarding a transaction that may result. Mr. Coogan seconded, and the motion passed with no objections.

- F. New Business – Mr. Nanna reported that the Green Party approached him regarding a gubernatorial debate. There was discussion about this topic, with the primary points:
 - i. The decision to debate is up to each candidate.
 - ii. The associated publicity would be beneficial.
 - iii. The candidates will be made aware of the offer.

X. NEXT MEETING:

- A. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 11:00 AM at 6230 Busch Boulevard, Suite 102 (office at Continent). Mr. Smyth made the motion regarding scheduling the meeting. Ms. Burwell seconded and it passed with no objections.