POST-CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE MAY 29, 2022 SPARKS, NEVADA



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PREPARED BY CARYN ANN HARLOS, LNC SECRETARY

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LEGEND: <u>text to be inserted</u>, <u>text to be deleted</u>, 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/Incvotes2022

Points of Order and substantive objections will be indicated in **BOLD RED TEXT**.

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 29 May 2022

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

The QR codes lead to the video portion of the video being discussed. The code is also clickable for those viewing electronically.

OPENING CEREMONY

CALL TO ORDER AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT



Chair Angela McArdle called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. (all times Pacific).

HOUSEKEEPING

ATTENDANCE



The following were in attendance:¹

Officers: Angela McArdle (Chair), Caryn Ann Harlos (Secretary)

At-Large Representatives: Dustin Blankenship, Rich Bowen, Bryan Elliott, Steven Nekhaila, Mike Rufo

Regional Representatives: Miguel Duque (Region 1), Dave Benner (Region 2), Dustin Nanna (Region 3), Carrie Eiler (Region 4), Andrew Watkins (Region 5), Joseph Ecklund (Region 6), Linnea Gabbard (Region 7), Pat Ford (Region 8)

Regional Alternates: Kathy Yeniscavich (Region 1), Martin Cowen (Region 2), Connor Nepomuceno (Region 3), Joshua Clark (Region 4), Otto Dassing (Region 5), Mark Tuniewicz (Region 6), Donavan Pantke (Region 7), Robley Hall (Region 8)

Absent: See footnote 1.

Staff: Tyler Harris (Executive Director), Robert Kraus (Operations Director)

Additional Attendees: Richard Brown (Parliamentarian)

Gallery: The following members gave public comments, and the gallery contained numerous others:

- Nick Ciesielski (GA)
- Jeff Coleman (MO)
- Richard Brown (Parliamentarian LA)
- Brodi Elwood (MA)
- Michael Higgins (FL)
- Janel Holmes (MA)
- Andy Jacobs (PA)
- James Jenneman (MN)

¹ Joshua Smith (Vice-Chair) and Todd Hagopian (Treasurer) were in attendance remotely but were not permitted to vote.

- Jeinay LeBlanc (TX)
- Eric Linvor (NC)
- Rhett Lundstrom (OH)
- Evan McMahon (IN)
- Rachel Nyx (CA)
- Kevin Patten (Journalist-AZ)
- Rene Perez (TX)
- Timothy Perkins (OR)
- Starchild (CA)
- Brian Zakrajsek (MA)

The following LNC members also gave public comment:

- Dave Benner (TN Region 2)
- Caryn Ann Harlos (CO National Secretary)
- Angela McArdle (CA National Chair)

AGENDA

The Chair previously submitted a proposed agenda as follows:

Opening Ceremonies

- Roll Call
- Public Comment
- Adoption of Agenda

New Business Without Previous Notice

- Motion to Suspend any further disbursements from the line of credit until the next LNC meeting
- Motion to Rescind and Expunge from the Minutes the Censure of Joshua Smith
- Appoint Executive Committee
- Appoint APRC
- Appoint HPC Chair
- Appoint Temporary Assistant Treasurer

Administrative Announcements/Requirements by Secretary Set Date and Location For Next Meeting (date and city/state) Adjourn

Without Objection, Ms. Harlos moved to amend the agenda to add "Set date and time for electronic meeting to address the Bowen resolution made last term regarding the Massachusetts Party" to appear right after Administrative Announcements.

Without Objection, Mr. Ecklund moved to amend the agenda to add consideration of the Snowden Resolution requested in public comment by Mr. McMahon of Indiana to be taken up first on the agenda.

Without Objection, Mr. Rufo moved to amend the agenda to add consideration of the Defend the Guard Resolution requested in public comment by Mr. Zakrajsek of Massachusetts and Rene Perez of Texas to be taken up second on the agenda.

Ms. Harlos reminded everyone that public policy resolutions that are heard without notice will require at least unanimous consent of all LNC members present as per Bylaws Article 7.11.

Without Objection, Ms. Eiler moved to amend the agenda to add consideration of a resolution condemning the Southern Poverty Law Center as irrational and repugnant to be taken up third on the agenda.

The agenda, as amended, **PASSED WITHOUT OBJECTION.**

NEW BUSINESS WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

SNOWDEN RESOLUTION

Mr. McMahon read aloud the following resolution for the LNC's consideration:²

Whereas, Edward Snowden did on June 5th, 2013, risk his own life, safety, and security to publicly expose the US Government's unlawful and unconstitutional domestic and mass surveillance programs;

Whereas, A US federal court held that the US Intelligence's mass surveillance program exposed by Mr. Snowden was illegal and possibly unconstitutional;

Whereas, Mr. Snowden tried to raise his ethical concerns on the NSA's mass surveillance program through internal channels but was ignored;

Whereas, Mr. Snowden, the Libertarian Party, and the American people, are aware of the brutal treatment by the US government of whistleblowers;

Whereas, The Espionage Act of 1917, which Mr. Snowden has been charged under, does not account for the illegal and abusive activities conducted by the US Government or its direct correlation to the alleged crimes Mr. Snowden has been charged with;



² As per direction of the LNC via motions of Ms. McArdle adopted *WITHOUT OBJECTION*, the Secretary was authorized to make non-substantive grammatical changes and to put the resolution into conformity with the format suggested by RONR. The corrected text is reflected above.

Whereas, The Libertarian Party has long held and defended the rights of all people to be free from unwarranted and unlawful government surveillance and spying; and

Whereas, The Libertarian Party Platform states "1.3 Privacy: Libertarians advocate individual privacy and government transparency. We support the rights recognized by the Fourth Amendment to be secure in our persons, homes, property, and communications. Protection from unreasonable search and seizure should include records held by third parties, such as email, medical, and library records."; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Libertarian Party calls on President Joseph Biden to grant an immediate and unconditional Presidential pardon to the privacy advocate and political prisoner in exile, Mr. Edward Snowden; and

Resolved, That the Libertarian National Committee directs the Libertarian National Committee Chair to submit and publish a formal letter addressed to the President of the United States and sent to the White House and the US Justice Department calling for the immediate and unconditional Presidential pardon to the privacy advocate and political prisoner in exile, Mr. Edward Snowden.³

Member / Alternate	Yes	No	Abstain
Benner	Χ		
Blankenship	Χ		
Bowen	Χ		
Duque	Χ		
Ecklund	Χ		
Eiler	Χ		
Elliott	Χ		
Ford	Χ		
Gabbard	Χ		
Harlos	Χ		
Nanna	Χ		
Nekhaila	Χ		
Rufo	Χ		
Watkins/Dassing	Χ		
McArdle	Χ		
TOTALS	15	0	0

A vote was conducted with the following results:⁴

³ This resolution regarding Edward Snowden was drafted by the Libertarian Party of Indiana (LPIN) delegation and presented by the LPIN Chair to the LNC after the resolution was unable to be presented to the 2022 Libertarian Party National Convention body due to lack of time.

⁴ The roll call votes were constructed after the fact after it was noted that these substantive votes required a roll call vote rather than a show of hands as they were originally passed.

This motion PASSED with a vote of 15-0-0. [20220529-01]

DEFEND THE GUARD RESOLUTION

Mr. Clark read aloud the following resolution for the LNC's consideration:⁵

Whereas, Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States vests in the United States Congress the exclusive power to declare war;

Whereas, In spite of the clear language of the U.S. Constitution, vesting the power to declare war exclusively in the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Executive Branch has unconstitutionally assumed that power while the Congress has abdicated its constitutional duty;

Whereas, The Father of the Constitution, James Madison, wrote, "The Constitution supposes, what the History of all Governments demonstrates, that the Executive is the branch of power most interested in war, and most prone to it. It has accordingly with studied care vested the question of war to the Legislature.";

Whereas, Although the U.S. Congress has not declared war since 1942, the nation has since gone to war repeatedly at the whim of the Executive Branch; and

Whereas, When such unconstitutional actions are taken by the federal government, it is the proper role of the states themselves to take action to remedy such situations, as outlined in the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions of 1798; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Libertarian National Committee:

1. Calls upon the State Legislatures to enact legislation to prohibit the States' National Guard and any member thereof to be released from the state into active duty combat unless the U.S. Congress has declared war pursuant to Article I, § 8, Clause 15 of the U.S. Constitution, and only for the express and explicit purposes enumerated in the Constitution: to "execute the Laws of the Union," repel an invasion, or suppress an insurrection;

2. Calls upon the Legislatures and Governors of the States not to comply with any order from the federal government to release the State's National Guard into federal service unless the U.S. Congress has declared war pursuant to Article I, § 8, Clause 15 of the U.S. Constitution, and only for the express and explicit purposes enumerated in the Constitution: to "execute the Laws of the Union," repel an invasion, or suppress an insurrection; and



⁵ As per direction of the LNC via motions of Ms. McArdle adopted *WITHOUT OBJECTION*, the Secretary was authorized to make non-substantive grammatical changes and to put the resolution into conformity with the format suggested by RONR. The corrected text is reflected above.

3. Further, calls upon the States to bring home said National Guard troops already so deployed to foreign conflicts immediately.⁶

A vote was conducted with the following results:7

Member / Alternate	Yes	No	Abstain
Benner	Χ		
Blankenship	X		
Bowen	X		
Duque	X		
Ecklund	X		
Eiler	X		
Elliott	X		
Ford	X		
Gabbard	Χ		
Harlos	X		
Nanna	X		
Nekhaila	X		
Rufo	X		
Watkins/Dassing	X		
McArdle	X		
TOTALS	15	0	0

This motion PASSED with a vote of 15-0-0. [20220529-02]

SPLC RESOLUTION

Ms. Eiler moved the following resolution for the LNC's consideration:⁸

Whereas, the Southern Poverty Law Center has defamed the Chair of the Libertarian Party and several other great members in an attempt to slow the progress of freedom,

Be it resolved, that the Libertarian National Committee condemns the Southern Poverty Law Center as irrational and repugnant.

⁶ The was part of a resolution passed at the Libertarian Party of Texas Convention and forwarded to the Secretary by Rene Perez.

⁷ The roll call votes were constructed after the fact after it was noted that these substantive votes required a roll call vote rather than a show of hands as they were originally passed.

⁸ As per direction of the LNC via motions of Ms. McArdle adopted *WITHOUT OBJECTION*, the Secretary was authorized to make non-substantive grammatical changes and to put the resolution into conformity with the format suggested by RONR. The corrected text is reflected above.

WITHOUT OBJECTION, Mr. Ford moved to amend to add a phrase to the first clause as follows:

Whereas, the Southern Poverty Law Center <u>has strayed from its origins as a</u> <u>defender of civil rights and</u> has defamed the Chair of the Libertarian Party and several other great members in an attempt to slow the progress of freedom,

Be it resolved, that the Libertarian National Committee condemns the Southern Poverty Law Center as irrational and repugnant.

Mr. Nekhaila moved to postpone definitely until our next electronic meeting which **FAILED** by a show of hands.

Mr. Nekhaila moved to amend to add an additional whereas clause stating, "Whereas, the Libertarian National Committee rejects the false left/right paradigm and embraces its roots as being socially and economically libertarian."

The amendment FAILED FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

WITHOUT OBJECTION, Mr. Duque moved to end debate.

Member / Alternate	Yes	No	Abstain
Benner	Χ		
Blankenship	Χ		
Bowen	Χ		
Duque	Χ		
Ecklund	Χ		
Eiler	Χ		
Elliott	Χ		
Ford	Χ		
Gabbard	Χ		
Harlos	Χ		
Nanna		X	
Nekhaila	Χ		
Rufo	Χ		
Watkins/Dassing	Χ		
McArdle	Χ		
TOTALS	14	1	0

A vote was conducted with the following results:⁹

This motion FAILED with a vote of 14-1-0. [20220529-03]

⁹ The roll call votes were constructed after the fact after it was noted that these substantive votes required a roll call vote rather than a show of hands as they were originally passed.

SUSPENSION OF DISBURSEMENTS



Mr. Bowen moved that the LNC suspend any further disbursements from the line of credit until the next LNC meeting. [20220529-04]

The LNC heard from Executive Director Tyler Harris, Operations Director Robert Kraus, and Treasurer Todd Hagopian for their expert advice on this matter.

A vote was conducted with the following results:¹⁰

Member / Alternate	Yes	No	Abstain
Benner	Χ		
Blankenship	Χ		
Bowen	Χ		
Duque	Χ		
Ecklund	Χ		
Eiler	Χ		
Elliott		Χ	
Ford	Χ		
Gabbard	Χ		
Harlos	Χ		
Nanna			X
Nekhaila	Χ		
Rufo	X		
Watkins/Dassing	Χ		
McArdle			X
TOTALS	12	1	2

This motion PASSED with a vote of 12-1-2. [20220529-04]

RESCIND AND EXPUNGE FROM MINUTES CENSURE OF JOSHUA SMITH



Ms. Harlos moved that the LNC rescind the January 2022 censure of Joshua Smith and direct the Secretary to expunge from the minutes. [20220529-05]

The LNC heard from Parliamentarian Richard Brown on the parliamentary definition of "expungement" to allay concerns that this motion would have the effect of revising history, and he explained in concurrence with Ms. Harlos that this is a parliamentary procedure to express the strongest disapproval of an action.

¹⁰ The roll call votes were constructed after the fact after it was noted that these substantive votes required a roll call vote rather than a show of hands as they were originally passed.

WITHOUT OBJECTION, Ms. Harlos moved to end debate.

A vote was conducted with the following results:11

Member / Alternate	Yes	No	Abstain
Benner	X		
Blankenship	X		
Bowen	Χ		
Duque			X
Ecklund	Χ		
Eiler	Χ		
Elliott	Χ		
Ford	X		
Gabbard	X		
Harlos	Χ		
Nanna	Χ		
Nekhaila	Χ		
Rufo	Χ		
Watkins/Dassing	Χ		
McArdle	Χ		
TOTALS	14	0	1

This motion PASSED with a vote of 14-0-1. [20220529-05]

APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Harlos read aloud the Policy Manual regarding the appointment of the Executive Committee and noted that it included the officers and "any number of LNC members, excluding alternates." She further noted that it has traditionally been three (3) non-officer members.

- Mr. Bowen was nominated by Mr. Ford.
- Mr. Elliott was nominated by Ms. McArdle.
- Mr. Ford self-nominated.
- Mr. Nanna self-nominated.
- Mr. Nekhaila self-nominated.

¹¹ The roll call votes were constructed after the fact after it was noted that these substantive votes required a roll call vote rather than a show of hands as they were originally passed.

ELECTION OF NON-OFFICER MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BALLOT NUMBER: 20220529-06

VOTING METHOD: Pick up to three (3) candidates.

Vortivo Mierriob. Fick up to timee (5) candidates.				
CANDIDATE	VOTE TOTALS	15 BALLOTS CAST		
Rich Bowen	12	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Ford, Harlos, McArdle, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins		
Bryan Elliott	11	Benner, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Elliott, Gabbard, Harlos, McArdle, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins		
Pat Ford	6	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Eiler, Ford		
Dustin Nanna	5	Blankenship, Ford, Gabbard, Harlos, Nanna		
Steven Nekhaila	7	Bowen, Ecklund, Gabbard, McArdle, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins		
NOTA	0			

Mr. Bowen and Mr. Elliott received a majority and were elected.

Mr. Nanna moved to suspend the rules requiring a majority to be elected and to elect *Mr.* Nekhaila to fill the remaining seat which PASSED via a show of hands.

APPOINTMENT OF APRC

Ms. Harlos read aloud the Policy Manual regarding the appointment of the APRC noting it is up to five (5) LNC members including alternates and that the Committee appoints its own Chair.

- Mr. Benner was nominated by Mr. Blankenship.
- Ms. Eiler was nominated by Ms. McArdle.
- Mr. Ford was nominated by Mr. Bowen.
- Ms. Harlos was nominated by Mr. Nekhaila.
- Mr. Nepomuceno was nominated by Mr. Nanna.
- Mr. Smith was nominated by Ms. Harlos.

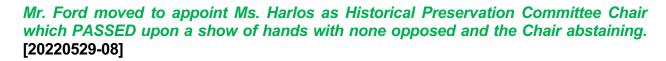
Each candidate was given thirty (30) seconds to speak for themselves.

ELECTION OF APRC		
BALLOT NUMBER: 20220529-07		
VOTING METHOD: Pick up to five	(5) candidates.	
CANDIDATE	VOTE TOTALS	15 BALLOTS CAST
Dave Benner	13	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Ford, Gabbard, Harlos, McArdle, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins
Dave Definer	15	Duque, Elliott, Gabbard, McArdle, Nekhaila,
Carrie Eiler	6	Watkins

ELECTION OF APRC		
BALLOT NUMBER: 20220529-07		
VOTING METHOD: Pick up to five	(5) candidates.	
CANDIDATE	VOTE TOTALS	15 BALLOTS CAST
Pat Ford	14	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Elliott, Ford, Gabbard, Harlos, Nanna, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins
Caryn Ann Harlos	14	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Elliott, Ford, Gabbard, Harlos, Nanna, Nekhaila, Rufo, Watkins
Connor Nepomuceno	13	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Duque, Ecklund, Eiler, Elliott, Gabbard, Harlos, McArdle, Nanna, Rufo, Watkins
Joshua Smith	10	Benner, Blankenship, Bowen, Ecklund, Eiler, Harlos, McArdle ¹² , Nanna, Nekhaila, Rufo
NOTA	0	

Mr. Benner, *Mr.* Ford, *Ms.* Harlos, *Mr.* Nepomuceno, and *Mr.* Smith all received a majority and were elected.

APPOINTMENT OF HISTORICAL PRESERVATION CHAIR



APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANT TREASURER

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Hagopian, Ms. Harlos explained that the Party Bylaws require the Party to have an Assistant Treasurer who can be another member of the LNC and that the appointment need not be temporary, but it has been custom in the past solicit applications for the position. Mr. Hagopian requested that the LNC appoint Bryan Elliott as the temporary Assistant Treasurer.

Ms. McArdle moved to appoint Mr. Elliott as the temporary Assistant Treasurer which PASSED upon a show of hands with none opposed and the Chair abstaining. [20220529-09]

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUIREMENTS BY SECRETARY

Ms. Harlos noted various items that needed to be taken care of including exchange of email addresses in order to set up the email addresses and the compilation of potential conflicts of interests. She also let the new LNC members know to expect some training materials she has authored to help onboard.



¹² It appears that Ms. McArdle inadvertently voted for Mr. Smith twice instead of a fifth (5th) candidate.

SET DATE FOR ELECTRONIC MEETING TO HEAR MASSACHUSETTS MATTER



Mr. Nekhaila moved that the LNC hold an electronic meeting on June 5, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Eastern time to consider the Bowen resolution on the Massachusetts matter. [20220529-10]

Mr. Nanna moved to amend the start time to 5:00 p.m. Eastern time which **PASSED** upon a show of hands.

The main motion, as amended, PASSED by a show of hands with none opposed and the Chair abstaining. [20220529-10]

SET DATE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT IN-PERSON MEETING



Mr. Nekhaila moved that the next in-person LNC meeting be held in the DC area. [20220529-11]

Mr. Duque moved to amend to have the dates set for July 30-31st, 2022.

The main motion, as amended, PASSED by a show of hands with none opposed and the Chair abstaining. [20220529-11]

ADJOURNMENT

The LNC adjourned *WITHOUT OBJECTION* at 8:41 p.m. followed by announcements.

TABLE OF NUMBERED MOTIONS/BALLOTS

*Note that the master log of motions in 2022 can be found here: <u>https://tinyurl.com/Incvotes2022</u>

ID#	Motion/Ballot	Result
20220529-01	Resolution regarding Snowden	PASSED
20220529-02	Resolution regarding Defend the Guard	PASSED
20220529-03	Resolution regarding SPLC	FAILED
20220529-04	Suspend line of credit disbursements	PASSED
20220529-05	Rescind and Expunge from the Minutes Censure of Joshua Smith	PASSED
20220529-06	Election of Executive Committee	ELECTED
20220529-07	Election of APRC	ELECTED
20220529-08	Appoint HPC Chair	APPOINTED

20220529-09	Appoint temporary Assistant Treasurer	APPOINTED
20220529-10	Set electronic meeting to consider MA matter	PASSED
20220529-11	Set next in-person meeting	PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Caryo ann Harles

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