

*Libertarian Party of Central New Jersey
Meeting Minutes - November 21, 2004*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m. at the Lone Star Restaurant in Scotch Plains. In attendance were members Brenda Bell, Frank Warren, Jim Harshman, Howard Schoen (chair) and John Paff (secretary).

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the October 17, 2004 were corrected to show the start and end times as 5:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and were approved as corrected.

**CORRESPONDENCE NOT RELATING TO A MATTER REPORTED ELSEWHERE
IN THESE MINUTES**

Received - Email from Don Baldwin (attached). Paff will respond.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Chair's Report

Schoen announced that he is not seeking and will not accept nomination for chair at the 2005 convention. He suggested that a nomination committee be formed.

Treasurer's Report

Lehmann was absent. Schoen reported a \$189.72 bank balance and that a \$10 donation, which was received at the Metuchen Country Fair, has not yet been deposited.

State Board Representatives' Report

Warren reported that there was no State Board meeting, but that there was a general meeting, since the last LPCNJ meeting. He announced that Vic Kaplan had resigned as chairman of the NJLP.

Paff will send another letter to Lou Stefanelli, NJLP Treasurer, seeking the status of the LPCNJ's dues share.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recruitment Committee

Warren will contact Robert Hull for a copy of the NJLP's database for Middlesex, Somerset and Union counties which will be discussed in January 2005.

Warren announced that he is the Libertarian "coordinator" for www.meetup.com.

Activities

Schoen reported that he had not yet received a response to his letter to Middlesex County's IT professional about deficiencies in the Freeholders' public web site.

The party discussed setting up OPH events in shopping malls. Harshman said that he will go to Bridgewater Commons to find out their policies regarding allowing groups to use their facility.

Schoen reminded the group that "Tax Day" is approaching.

Program Committee

Warren said that he has access to a video projector that can project DVD movies and Schoen said that he has a screen. Warren will compile a list of appropriate films for future presentations and encouraged others to think about films as well.

Public Relations Committee

Lehmann absent. No report.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The next meeting, which will be our holiday party, will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2004, 7:00 P.M. at the Lone Star restaurant on Route 22 W, Scotch Plains.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Open Government Task Force

Paff reported on the Task Force's ongoing projects including the fact that we lost our suits against the Middlesex Freeholder Clerk and the Edison Council Clerk and that Union Township defaulted by not filing a timely answer in its suit.

Moved by Paff: "Resolved, that we spend \$30 for filing a reconsideration motion in the Edison case." Seconded. Carried.

MUNICIPAL WATCH

Paff v. Perth Amboy - Loitering Ordinance

Paff reported that he has sent an OPRA request to Perth Amboy (attached) requesting documents showing any City Council activity on the loitering ordinance.

Nuisance Ordinance - Cranbury

Nothing further.

Nuisance Ordinance - Edison

Nothing further.

Peace and Good Order Ordinance - Franklin

Nothing further.

Readington Municipal Court

Paff read two letters, one to the Presiding Judge of the Municipal Courts for Vicinage 13 and the other to the Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct (both attached), regarding the Readington Municipal Court having made a probable cause determination in a matter where Readington police officers were defendants. The group approved the letters for mailing.

Franklin Municipal Court

Paff read a letter to Robert W. Smith of the Administrative Office of the Courts (attached) questioning a Franklin Municipal Court judge's policy that the court cannot determine constitutional issues. The group approved the letter for mailing.

Highland Park Loitering Ordinance

Paff announced that he had attended a November 3, 2004 Highland Park Council to follow up on his October 25, 2004 letter (attached) meeting and that Mayor Meryl Frank instructed the Borough's lawyer to investigate the loitering ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nuisance Ordinance - New Jersey Department of Health

No further activity.

NEW BUSINESS

Candidates

The vote totals of various Libertarian candidates were discussed.

Bylaws Changes

Schoen discussed the reasons why the bylaws ought to be amended.

Web site

Warren reported that pages for the minutes and the Open Government Task Force are now operational and that three sets of minutes are currently posted. He also will endeavor to sell lpcnj.org email addresses to others.

Other New Business

None.

Business being concluded, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

John Paff