

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Duane J. Whitmer, Chair  
Daniel J. Castello, Vice-Chair  
Andrew M. Kolstee, Secretary  
David B. “Chance” Haywood, Treasurer  
Christopher Skelly, Communications Director  
Mark N. Axinn, Fundraising Director  
Justin N. Carman, IT Director  
Richard F. Purtell, Legislative Affairs Director  
Pietro S. Geraci, Outreach Director  
Paul M. Grindle, Political Director  
Catrina Rocco, Volunteer Director

**OBSERVERS**

Mark S. Braiman, Member of the State Committee (JD6)  
Steven G. Becker, Member of the State Committee (JD7)  
Vincent O’Neill, Member of the State Committee (JD10)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Duane Whitmer, Chair. Secretary Andrew Kolstee conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

Andrew Kolstee issued a Secretary’s report.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **certify the dissolution of the County Affiliate in Putnam County, effective June 8, 2025, pursuant to Article 11.6 of the Rules of the Libertarian Party, and to recognize and affiliate the Westchester-Putnam Libertarian Party as the official Local Affiliate representing Libertarian Party members in Westchester and Putnam Counties, in accordance with Article 11 of the Rules of the Libertarian Party, effective June 8, 2025** was seconded by Pietro Geraci and passed without objection.

Chance Haywood issued a Treasurer’s report in writing (**Exhibit 1**).

Chair Duane Whitmer issued a Chair’s report. He is attending local meetings, including Orchard Park, Cheektowaga, and the Erie County Legislature. He also discussed the statewide campaign 2026 election.

Communications Director Christopher Skelly issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 2**).

Fundraising Director Mark Axinn issued a report. He has written a new fundraising letter. Fundraising ideas were discussed, especially regarding a potential 2026 petition drive.

IT Director Justin Carman issued a report. He made some edits to the website.

Outreach Director Pietro Geraci issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 3**).

Political Director Paul Grindle issued a report. He mentioned the campaigns of Matthew Morgan for New York City Council and Thomas Babilon for Mayor of Syracuse.

Volunteer Director Catrina Rocco issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 4**).

Duane Whitmer **called for the nominating convention to be held during the in-person event on the weekend of October 24-26, 2025 at Homewood Suites in Rochester, New York.**

Andrew Kolstee issued a report on legal matters.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **adjourn** was seconded by Catrina Rocco.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:53 p.m. without objection.

Andrew Martin Kolstee,  
Secretary

**Exhibit 1**

**[TO BE ADDED]**

## Exhibit 2

LPNY Communications Report (July 2025)

Social Media (Past Three Months)

We haven't quite reached our 5 million impression goal for access to Creator Revenue Share, but we have gotten a lot closer.

X:

Followers: 10,423 (+195)

Impressions- 4,459,484 (89.1% of 5M 3 month goal, +613K from June to July)

Engagements- 254,565

Profile Visits- 13,512

Replies- 6,026

Reposts- 6,144

Facebook:

Followers: 17,460

Views- 346K

Content Interactions- 17.9K

Youtube:

The Liberty Test Podcast has put out 15 episodes thus far, and the channel itself currently has 184 subscribers. The most recent episodes, titled "Permit Purgatory" featured Tom Babilon, who is running for Mayor of Syracuse on the Republican line. He was recently endorsed by the Onondaga County Libertarian Party.

### Exhibit 3 (page 1 of 2)

I don't know where this month went. I did not get to the tasks from June, so I'm getting that started now. Here's what I have for July:

- I. I move to certify the Westchester-Putnam Affiliate.
- II. I reached out to our Acting County Chairs and potential ACC; only Mason Hovick of Schoharie County and Kim Antonio of the Bronx answered; Mason reported success in finding two other interested folks; one of whom will reach out to her network for anyone interested. That leaves one more to go! Kim is dealing with some personal issues so things are delayed there temporarily, but there is someone else interested and we are supposed to have a three-way call at some point.
- III. I called and emailed Jacob Rodriguez of Oswego County, who recently submitted our interest form, but I was unable to get in touch.
- IV. I am moving to Albany this summer, which increases the likelihood of forming an affiliate combining Albany and Rensselaer Counties. There is some hesitancy in the latter county proto-affiliate among members when it comes to taking on leadership roles, but a combined affiliate will hopefully alleviate that.
- V. I got drenched tabling at the Town of Newburgh Community Day with the Orange County affiliate, but we got 10 new sign-ups. I plan on tabling next week with the Ulster County affiliate at the Ulster County Fair and with the Rensselaer County proto-affiliate at the [Schaghticoke Fair](#) over Labor Day weekend.
  - A. Any assistance in recruiting volunteers for these events would be greatly appreciated.
- VI. Michael Gibson and Robert Greibesland have stepped forward and are secondary contacts for Ontario and Rockland Counties. They are helping the Acting County Chairs get their affiliates launched.
- VII. I spread the word about Unite NY's statewide meeting to the State Committee, County Affiliate Chairs and Acting County Chairs. I think we should get more involved with their efforts, especially concerning ballot access.

### Exhibit 3 (page 2 of 2)

- VIII. Robert Cocomello will work with one of his members in Dutchess County, Joanna Rocco-Bodach, to start a College Libertarians chapter at Rockland(?) Community College.
- A. Rob has asked me to reach back out to colleges to see if we can make some headway.

To-Do List:

- I. Reach out to County Affiliate Chairs regarding progress and interest in Direct Action Plans
- II. Get in touch with Tony D'Orazio, my counterpart in Pennsylvania
- III. Disseminate the local action plan I drafted about regaining ballot access to county leadership and send them updates
- IV. Reach out to colleges regarding College Libertarians
- V. Edit the Protest ICE local action plan and disseminate it

Special thanks to Catrina Rocco for helping the Rockland County proto-affiliate!

Don't forget to register for our Hudson Valley Libertarian gala! \$5 discount ends June 30th! Register [here](#)!

## Exhibit 4

### LPNY Volunteer Director's Report

- Tabling at the state fair cancelled. Treasurer is refunding the MISES caucus the \$300 it contributed towards a section in the LPNY booth for the NY MISES Caucus. The caucus will refund the NY donors that contributed.
- I spoke with the legislative affairs director Rich Purtell, about drafting a joint letter asking county affiliates to reach out to their state legislators by scheduling a meeting or writing a letter regarding our specific concerns. The scheduled release of this letter would be early September, and the accountability report due back from the affiliates would need to be returned on a specified date in mid-December.
- Reached out to Matthew Morgan on 7/26 to congratulate him for getting out on the ballot. Inquired about how I could assist and asked for a campaign flyer to be emailed so I can send out an email blast to volunteers. Asked who his campaign manager is and if he'd be willing to keep me posted on campaign events. Offered his campaign the opportunity to place literature with a donation QR code at the attendees' 2 tables of the Mid-Hudson Gala on September 28 if he wants to attend. 2