

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Duane J. Whitmer, Chair
Mark N. Axinn, Fundraising Director
Justin N. Carman, IT Director

OBSERVERS

James B. Fitch, Member of the State Committee (JD5)
Mark S. Braiman, Member of the State Committee (JD6)
Steven G. Becker, Member of the State Committee (JD7)
Vincent J. O’Neill, Member of the State Committee (JD10)
Unknown¹

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Daniel Castello, Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair determined that a quorum was present.

Andrew Kolstee issued a Secretary’s report.

Communications Director Christopher Skelly issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 1**).

Legislative Affairs Director Richard Purtell issued a report. He reported that there is potential for Governor Kathy Hochul to push qualified immunity in the budget. He has been discussing the issue with others who are pursuing to end qualified immunity. The report was tabled until Purtell can establish a better internet connection.

Political Director Paul Grindle issued a report. There are several candidates running or interested in running. He has one candidate, Maurice Waldron, running for New York State Assembly

¹ An individual with the email sjamiru@aol.com was present but not identified.

District 120. He requested that the committee interview the candidate. Chance Haywood and Christopher Skelly objected to interviewing the candidate during the meeting.

Outreach Director Pietro Geraci issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 2**).

Volunteer Director Catrina Rocco issued a report. A meeting was held regarding helping activists reach out to their elected officials. She will also be working on reengaging those on her volunteer list.

Convention Oversight Committee Catrina Rocco has several potential venues for the convention: Manhattanville University in Purchase, Hotel MTK in Mount Kisco, and the VFW Empire Post in Yonkers and provided details for each (**Exhibit 3**). She is still gathering more information and will provide additional information to the committee to decide within the next two weeks.

Legislative Affairs Director Richard Purtell finished his report.

There was discussion on the statewide petitioning drive.

The appointment of Kim Antonio as Acting County Chair of Bronx County was not considered. Pietro Geraci reported that he has not heard any reports from her in a while.

Andrew Kolstee reported that the Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Libertarian National Convention were entered in the National Libertarian Party Credentials system.

Pietro Geraci requested a discussion on the National Region agreement. Andrew Kolstee reported that he has a draft template from Anthony D'Orazio for a Regional Agreement between New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

There was a discussion to schedule a meeting to vet candidate Maurice Waldron. Paul Grindle stated that the candidate was expecting to be on the call. Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **invite the candidate to be interviewed now** was seconded by Pietro Geraci, debated, and passed by voice vote. Mark Braiman was permitted to speak and requested that the candidate state whether they intend to be on a petition with the full Libertarian Party slate. Maurice Waldron entered the meeting and was interviewed. He stated that he would be willing to be on the petition with the statewide candidates. The interview ensued with a series of questions and answers.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **schedule the next meeting of the Executive Committee for April 7, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.** was seconded by Pietro Geraci and passed without objection.

Motion by Christopher Skelly to **adjourn** was seconded by Andrew Kolstee and passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Andrew M. Kolstee
Secretary

Exhibit 1 (page 1 of 2)

Libertarian Party of New York Communications Report

Reporting Period: March 2026

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the Libertarian Party of New York's (LPNY) communications activities through the first quarter of 2026, building on strong performance in 2025. Key highlights from the prior year include robust engagement across major platforms, the successful launch and ongoing growth of the podcast *The Liberty Test*, and initial expansion into emerging channels. In 2026, efforts continue to prioritize enhancing the monthly newsletter and website to spotlight governmental overreach in New York State, while ramping up communications to support the LPNY gubernatorial ticket of **Larry Sharpe for Governor** and **Dr. Mark Braiman for Lieutenant Governor**.

Social Media Overview

2025 marked significant progress in LPNY's social media engagement, with millions of views accumulated on Facebook and X, driving substantial follower growth on both platforms.

Early 2026 has shown continued momentum across platforms, with strong impression growth on both Facebook and X in the first three months of the year.

Social Media Engagement Metrics

As of End of 2025 (Baseline):

Platform	Impressions (Millions)	Follower Count
X	5.3	10,610
FB	15.5	19,496

As of March 2026 (Current):

Platform	2026 Impressions (YTD)	Follower Count
X	725.8 thousand	10,613
FB	2.6 million	20,223

Exhibit 1 (page 2 of 2)

Scaling from 2025 to 2026

LPNY's social media presence has demonstrated steady scaling from 2025 into 2026. Follower growth remains positive:

- On X, followers increased modestly from 10,610 at the end of 2025 to 10,613 as of March 2026 (a net gain of 3 followers).
- On Facebook, followers grew from 19,496 to 20,223 — a net gain of 727 followers in the first three months of the new year.

Impression trends show encouraging early momentum in 2026:

- Facebook has already generated **2.6 million impressions** year-to-date.
- X has recorded **725.8 thousand impressions** in the same period.

When annualized, these early 2026 figures suggest a strong pace, but with room for improvement. Facebook's YTD impressions represent approximately 17% of its full-year 2025 total (15.5 million) in just the first three months, while X's 725.8K impressions equate to roughly 14% of its 2025 total (5.3 million) over the same timeframe.

Campaign Communications Expansion: Promoting Larry Sharpe for Governor and Dr. Mark Braiman for Lieutenant Governor

In 2026, the Communications Division is expanding efforts to promote the LPNY gubernatorial ticket of **Larry Sharpe** and **Dr. Mark Braiman**.

Key initiatives underway or planned:

- Regular social media posts, graphics, and short-form videos highlighting Sharpe and Braiman's key positions and contrasts with the major-party candidates.
- Cross-promotion of campaign events and possible media appearances through the monthly newsletter, website, and all social channels.
- Integration of campaign messaging into the ongoing series on governmental overreach, showing how Sharpe/Braiman proposals offer practical libertarian solutions to New York's challenges.

This expanded focus aims to leverage LPNY's growing audience to maximize the ticket's reach during the critical 2026 election cycle.

Exhibit 2

March 2026 Outreach Report

Four St. Patrick's Day parades cut into my efforts this month, but here's what I've got:

- I. Ron Schlag expressed interest in launching an affiliate in Schenectady County. He is currently a Republican Rotterdam Councilman who is fed up with the GOP
- II. David Menz of Steuben County expressed interest in getting involved. He wants to check out neighboring affiliates
- III. Professor Michael Kelly in Broome County reached out; I directed him to Tony Burshnick. Kelly is interested in helping launch a local affiliate as well as a College Libertarians affiliate
- IV. I helped Unite NY gather petition signatures at Albany's 3/28 No Kings Rallies. Anyone who wants to help should go to their website and sign up
- V. I reached out to Albany Libertarians and invited them to Rensselaer's April 1st meeting in the hopes that these extra attendees will help spur the creation of either a joint affiliate or a separate Albany affiliate
- VI. Cynthia Pooler interviews non-incumbent candidates. Reach out to her at localeverywhere@aol.com

Exhibit 3 (page 1 of 2)



Manhattanville University, Purchase	Hotel MTK, Mount Kisco	VFW Empire Post, Yonkers
Space: East Room, Benziger Hall, \$2000 Time: 10am-10pm Catering: Lunch Starting at 18.99pp Dinner on your own- Explore White Plain's culinary scene, Return for Keynote 7:30pm-10pm Conversation & Gathering, Desserts (Sampler selection with full coffee, expresso and tea service \$16 Addt. fees for catering captain, attendant (and linens \$12 per table or \$5 per table if plastic) AV Equipment: Podium, Mics, Large Screen Monitor \$200 Nearby Attractions: White Plains NY Nightlife, Dead Famous People in Valhalla, "Ayn Rand" Deposit: TBD Lodging: Nearby White Plains or Rye Quotes presently being sought	Space: Conference Room \$800 per day Time: 10am-10pm Catering: Lunch: 10/17 starting at \$32 pp Dinner on your own- Lovely variety of restaurants all over Mt. Kisco from Turkish, Indian, Italian, American and their famous diner that is notorious for their creative menu. Same nearby attractions as White Plains. Return for Keynote Speaker, 7:30-10pm Light Entertainment, Cash Bar & Desserts AV Equipment: Podium \$35 *See attachment for price list Nearby Attractions: Quaint Shops & Boutiques, and unique experiences. Metro North to White Plains or Manhattan Deposit: TBD	Space: Hall \$1200 (\$600 per 4 hours) Time: 12pm-8pm Catering: Bartender on site, reduced drinks Outside catering will be sought. Estimate \$15pp lunch \$22pp Dinner (to be included in convention ticket package) Including the costs of utensils, plates, table coverings ect. AV Equipment: Has Podium. Unsure of other available AV equipment. Nearby Attractions: Yonkers Raceway/Empire City Casino, McLean Avenue Pubs inc. Rory Dolans. Deposit: \$150 required to hold date Lodging: Room Block in Hyatt in Cross County Yonkers or other local hotels. Quotes presently being sought.

