

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK
HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 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
Pietro S. Geraci, Outreach Director
Catrina Rocco, Volunteer Director

MEMBERS ABSENT

Christopher Skelly, Communications Director
Mark N. Axinn, Fundraising Director
Justin N. Carman, IT Director
Richard F. Purtell, Legislative Affairs Director
Paul M. Grindle, Political Director

OBSERVERS

E. Rose Leatherman, Member of the State Committee (JD5)
Mark S. Braiman, Member of the State Committee (JD6)
Steven G. Becker, Member of the State Committee (JD7)
James M. Ziobro, Member of the State Committee (JD7)
Wendi E. Szabo, Member of the State Committee (JD8)
Vincent J. O’Neill, Member of the State Committee (JD10)

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Duane Whitmer, Chair. Secretary Andrew Kolstee conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **approve the amended minutes of the December 15, 2024 meeting of the State Committee** passed without objection.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **approve the minutes of the January 19, 2025 meeting of the State Committee, and the January 26, 2025 meeting of the Executive Committee** passed without objection.

Chance Haywood issued a Treasurer’s report in writing (**Exhibit 1**). There was a discussion on bank accounts, certificate of deposits, incorporation status, Treasurer transition institutional knowledge, and QuickBooks.

Chair Duane Whitmer issued a Chair's report. He is working on candidate recruitment in Erie County.

Andrew Kolstee reported that the following counties are pending certification eligibility by March 31, 2025: Chemung, Erie, Queens, Richmond, Saratoga, Schoharie, Tioga, Wayne, and Yates. Only Chemung County and Queens County have reported that they have held a convention, but no minutes have been submitted. There was a discussion on the assets of inactive and defunct affiliates, including finances and social media accounts.

Motion by Andrew Kolstee to **direct the Rules Committee to draft a policy of procedures, standards, and expectations pertaining to the relationship between the State Committee and County Affiliates** was seconded by Daniel Castello and passed without objection.

Vice-Chair Daniel Castello issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 2**) on behalf of Communications Director Christopher Skelly. He also issued a report of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Chance Haywood discussed fundraising ideas regarding National Libertarian Party memberships.

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

Motion by Pietro Geraci to **appoint Kim Antonio as Acting County Chair of Bronx County for a six-month term set to expire on September 30, 2025** was seconded by Daniel Castello and passed without objection.

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

Motion by Daniel Castello to **allocate up to thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500) for a booth at the New York State Fair** was seconded by Catrina Rocco and passed without objection.

Chance Haywood issued a report on venues in Rochester and Albany he is checking for the in-person event (Empire State Freedom Summit and nominating convention) in October or November 2025. He is also looking into options for a two-year contract.

The State Committee meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Chance Haywood to **offer a National Libertarian Party membership to donors who donate a minimum of \$50 per year to the Libertarian Party of New York** was seconded by Andrew Kolstee and passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Andrew Martin Kolstee,
Secretary

Exhibit 1

[TO BE ADDED]

Exhibit 2

LPNY Communications Report (3-30-2025)

Social Media

1. Our social media presence received a big boost on Facebook due to a single post that to date has received a total of 12.3M views.
2. On the X Platform, we have received 23.8K impressions over the past month, along with 1.3K engagements. One upside here is our follower count, where we currently have 9,454 followers on X, an increase of 23 over the past month.
3. Our Facebook metrics have seen a major boost since that viral posting. Since the last meeting, we have had 12.4M views (29.9K% increase). Content Interactions are up 7.9K%, with 164.4K interactions. We also increased our following by 4.7K, for a current total of 17,563 followers.
4. We currently have eight Liberty Test episodes up on our Youtube account. We are currently sitting steady at 170 total subscribers on that channel. We hope to increase total subscribers as we post more content.

Exhibit 3 (page 1 of 2)

March 2025 Outreach Report

Due to parades and other St. Patrick's Day Activities, I did not accomplish much this month, but there are still a few items of note to report:

- I. I asked the State Committee Representatives to reach out to their constituent county affiliates and report on their progress. Only Mark Braiman responded regarding Madison County:
 - A. Vice-chair Chuck Dorgan has announced he intends to run for Lenox Town Council on the Libertarian line via an Independent nominating petition. He will need approximately 130 signatures. Any assistance with signature gathering will be greatly appreciated. Lenox includes 2 villages, Canastota and Madison county seat of Wampsville. Their next meeting is April 12, 12-1:30 at the Hamilton (Town) Public Library, Broad St. They will distribute copies of Chuck's petition and make plans for collecting signatures. The town board is all Republican, but with significant anti-Republican and anti-Democratic sentiment, Chuck stands a good chance of winning.
 - B. I sent the reminder on Discord later than intended, so that could explain the lack of reports. We'll try again next month.
 - C. Here is the [JD IX Report](#) (Orange, Dutchess, Putnam, Westchester and Rockland Counties)
- II. Kim Antonio reached out about starting an affiliate in the Bronx. I had a good initial conversation with her: she stated she already knew people she wanted in certain leadership positions and was excited to be part of the party. I spoke to her again on March 30th and she stated she was focusing on youth outreach and engaging with incarcerated individuals, giving them something to be involved in on the inside and something to look forward to on the outside. She is looking to hold the inaugural convention May 1st, but this needs confirmation.
 - A. **The Outreach Division moves to appoint Kim Antonio as Acting County Chair of the Bronx County Libertarian Party for a term of six months, starting March 30, 2025, and expiring on September 30, 2025.**

Exhibit 3 (page 2 of 2)

- III. I reached out to Queens and confirmed they had a convention. I have not been able to get in touch with Richmond or Schoharie Counties recently, but I did leave a message for Susan Cummings.
 - A. The Outreach Division moves to request a hearing under Article 12 for the purpose of revoking the affiliation of the Schoharie County affiliate for failure to hold a convention in a timely manner (Rule 12.4.4)**
 - 1. According to internal documents, no convention has been held since 2021, and there are no phone numbers available for anyone except Lora Newell.
 - 2. I emailed Vice-Chair Patrick Billings for information. If they are active the hearing can be canceled.
- IV. I reached out to every county affiliate except Erie regarding holding a convention. Several affiliates reported difficulty staying organized and getting people to meetings; I gave them ideas on how to turn things around.
- V. For next month, we need to focus on building up College Libertarians chapters at community colleges and other institutions

Exhibit 4

Volunteer Division Report March 30, 2025

1. The LPNY Quick Guide to Meeting With Your State Reps is close to finished. I just have to add a few addresses and party affiliations for some assembly members. Below is a link to view the guide. feedback is encouraged and this is slated to be complete Tuesday April 1 2025 and ready to disseminate to the county affiliates.

<https://1drv.ms/w/c/b1975a3572fb5056/EbsSCQKr1f5OgHHhsWiWLgYBOtD-RnGCHf0dhoiyviO1cQ?e=fMS8IS>

Note: The guide is intended to be a starting point for conversations in expressing our interests. It is not a comprehensive manual.

Perhaps we can ask counties complete a report in the fall about their meetings with state legislators?

Maybe we can make a report form to accompany the Quick Guide?

2. So far, we only have two people signed up to table at the state fair. John McLaughlin and Catrina Rocco. Sign up is still available at,

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DADA62FABFAC61-55334821-lpny#/>

If the LPNY tables the fair this year, the Mises Caucus (\$150 NAT, \$150 NY) will contribute \$300 towards it for a table spot at the LPNY booth.

3. New Contact James Triolo from Suffolk County Reached out to with Survey. New Contact, Ryan Smith in Westchester Reached out to via phone and with Survey. Is interested in our programming and writing in Libertarian on the Voter Registration as he is already listed as an independent.

4. Attending Rensselaer's next meeting on 4/2 to discuss becoming an affiliate. Will provide resources such as libertarian voter rolls for that county. Westchester has set up a meeting on 4/27 to formally discuss and prepare for calling a convention to reaffiliate. Pietro and I will attend and offer guidance and support.

Catrina Rocco