

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF NEW YORK  
HELD ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026 ON THE ZOOM MEETING APP**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Duane J. Whitmer, Chair  
Daniel J. Castello, Vice-Chair  
Andrew M. Kolstee, Secretary  
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**

David B. “Chance” Haywood, Treasurer  
Mark N. Axinn, Fundraising Director  
Justin N. Carman, IT Director

**OBSERVERS**

Mark S. Braiman, Member of the State Committee (JD6)  
Vincent J. O’Neill, Member of the State Committee (JD10)  
Susan B. Overeem-Cummings, Member of the State Committee (JD13)  
Christopher M. Olenski, Broome County

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Daniel Castello, Vice-Chair. Secretary Andrew Kolstee conducted a roll call and determined that a quorum was present.

Andrew Kolstee issued a Secretary’s report.

Duane Whitmer issued a Chair’s report. He reported that Larry Sharpe had under 1,500 signatures on the Coalition Party line, which is not enough to get on the ballot. He is now pursuing a lawsuit. It was the intention of the Chair to be silent about the LPNY’s plans, out of respect for Larry Sharpe’s previous campaigns under the Libertarian Party. The Chair reported other potential developments in the statewide campaigns. He announced a plan to pursue a “None of the Above” write-in campaign. There was a discussion on strategies surrounding local candidates.

Communications Director Christopher Skelly issued a report. He will have a written report later this week. The Chair requested that a donate link be included in social media posts.

The Chair would like to send a fundraising mailer out to all enrolled Libertarians in the state and send press releases to promote wins.

The Chair would like to redesign the website and provide more educational information on it. Christopher Skelly and Daniel Castello volunteered to help with the website.

Legislative Affairs Director Richard Purtell issued a report. One major upcoming issue is a constitutional amendment that would have redistricting occur once every five years. The Chair reported on the Ballots Without Barriers presentation at the Libertarian National Convention. A meeting with the organization will need to be scheduled. The Chair would like to send a questionnaire to all members of the Assembly and Senate.

Outreach Director Pietro Geraci issued a report. He reported that UniteNY is close to placing Ranked Choice Voting on the ballot. There are several people who have reached out about establishing County Affiliates. He reported that Nathan Dingey has resigned as Acting Chair for Ontario County. The Chair requested a list of upcoming local fairs and festivals.

Political Director Paul Grindle issued a report. He will be searching for Libertarian candidates who may be on the ballot this year. He also had a conversation with Harrison Kemp of Ballots Without Barriers.

Volunteer Director Catrina Rocco issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 1**).

Conventions Oversight Committee Chair Catrina Rocco issued a report in writing (**Exhibit 1**).

Andrew Kolstee reported that New York is part of LNC Region 9 with New Jersey, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

The Humanitru CRM was discussed along with data management issues.

Duane Whitmer reported a petition with one signature for None of the Above was filed at the New York State Board of Elections.

A State Committee meeting was scheduled for Sunday, June 28, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. An Executive Committee meeting was scheduled for Sunday, June 28, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Daniel Castello to **adjourn** was seconded by Andrew Kolstee and passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Andrew M. Kolstee  
Secretary

## Exhibit 1 (page 1 of 3)

### Volunteer Director's Report June 7, 2026

#### Completed-

- I. Email sent to known libertarians and affiliate contacts titled LPNY: Volunteer Opportunities to Help Our Candidates, on May 3, 2026.
- II. Direct contact via phone or text to local libertarians interested in helping these two candidates. (Triesteman and Larkin)

#### In Progress-

- I. Legislative Contacts- This month Volunteer Director will both email and call county affiliates regarding any contacts that might have taken place between members of their affiliates and their state senate/assembly member.
- II. Free NY Newsletter- Will draft an article about the importance of legislative contact and provide sample templates for the June Newsletter to help readers with talking points and putting pen to paper. Will include some photos/graphics.

#### Conventions Oversight Committee

- I. Purchased book *The Liberty Candidates Guide to Practical Door Knocking* from Eric Brakey at Convention. Reaching out to him to be a breakout speaker at our fall convention.
- II. Tentative Convention Schedule: (coffee & tea service all day)  
Check in 9:30am  
LPNY Business 10am-4pm w/maybe one in between speaker at lunch (Diane Sare)?  
Lunch 12pm  
4-6:30 Break/Dinner/Stroll on own, around town (restaurants/attractions will be highlighted) or  
6:30-7:30 Break Out Session with Dinner (Tentative Speaker- Eric Brakey)  
7:30-10:30 Liberty After Dark- Meet & Greet with WPCLP Endorsed Candidate Brett Yarris for Putnam County Executive, Freestyle Roast of Libertarian Brethren, Entertainment by either No More Sun or Phenomenon, Raffle & Silent Auction, Cash Bar, open dessert table with coffee/tea.
- III. Vendor Tables, Program Ads, Sponsors (Will reach out to local businesses for advertisements and discounts)
- IV. Potential Packages (Prices will become available by next month's meeting)

## Exhibit 1 (page 2 of 3)

### Delegate Full Day Deluxe Package

- Business Floor Access
- All day coffee/tea
- Lunch w lunch time speaker
- Break Out Session w/ Dinner
- Liberty After Dark  
(Entertainment, Auction, Roast, Cash Bar)
- Desserts
- Candidate Meet & Greet

### Delegate Full Day Package

- Business Floor Access
- All day coffee/tea
- Lunch w lunch time speaker
- Liberty After Dark  
(Entertainment, Auction, Roast, Cash Bar)
- Desserts
- Candidate Meet & Greet

### Liberty After Dark w/ Dinner Breakout Package 6:30pm-10:00pm

- Evening coffee/tea
- Dinner with Breakout Speaker
- Liberty After Dark  
(Entertainment, Auction, Roast, Cash Bar)
- Desserts
- Candidate Meet & Greet

### Hotel Booking Information

(Checking in Friday 10/23- Check Out Sunday Morning 10/25)

Custom booking link for your guests to easily reserve their rooms:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/lgamkup-92r-909919b0-515a-402a-bfb5-3e858fb011f6/>

If your guests would prefer to call to make their reservation, they may use the code: **92R** and mention they are with the **Libertarian Party of New York**.

## **Exhibit 1 (page 3 of 3)**

Guests have until September 23, 2026, by 11:59 PM to make their reservation in the block. After this, any unreserved rooms will be released into our general inventory, and the discounted rate is no longer available for use.

