

# Libertarian Party of Brevard County – Annual Business Meeting Minutes

DRAFT MINUTES - subject to changes and approval by voting membership

Meeting held on Saturday, January 27, 2023 at Cape Royal Professional Business Center 1980 N Atlantic Ave 2nd Floor Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Electronic Participation: Zoom

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85455147140?pwd=Snh3Z2NubWZmTnBTdW9IRGJBTUdEQT09

Voting Instructions

- LP Brevard voting members may vote on any item of business
  - Requirements: LPF voter registration, Brevard residence, signature of NAP, attend 3 meetings within 6 months or 6 meetings within 12 months
  - Only LP Brevard voting members may introduce or second motions
- Per the LPF Constitution, any LPF member who is a registered LPF voter residing in Brevard County may vote on election of executive committee members and on amendments to the LP Brevard Constitution and Bylaws
- The LP Brevard Secretary shall be responsible for credentialing prospective voters
  Recommend submitting credentials in advance to streamline verification
- 1. Call to Order at 1:22pm
- 2. Officer Roll Call
  - Executive Committee Nathan Slusher (Chair), Thai Heiler (Vice-Chair), Greg Peele (Secretary-Treasurer)
  - Voting Brian Fleming, Ashley Kautz, Mari Peele, Donna Wilson
  - Associate Grover Bentley, Rick Heffelfinger
  - Guest Katelyn Allbritton
  - ✓ Determination of Quorum (75% of Executive Committee or ⅓ of all voting members)
    - VExecutive Committee: 3 of 3 (100%) present
    - Voting Members: 7 of 8 (87%) present
- 3. Adoption of Agenda
  - Motion: Adopt Published Agenda
    - Moved by Thai Heiler, second by Brian Fleming
    - Passed by unanimous consent



- 4. Approval of Minutes
  - Motion: Approve December 18, 2023 Regular Business Meeting Minutes
    - https://lpbrevard.org/2024/01/07/december-18-2023-regular-business-me eting-minutes/
  - Moved by Mari Peele, second by Thai Heiler
  - Passed by unanimous consent
- 5. Annual Officer Reports
  - Chair Report Nathan Slusher presented
  - Vice-Chair Report Thai Heiler waived
  - Secretary Report Greg Peele presented
    - Reported 8 voting members, 6 active associate members, 14 inactive associate members
  - Treasurer Report Greg Peele presented
    - Assets \$5,707.47, income \$331.48, spent \$404.32, net \$(72.84)
    - 2023 annual income \$3,447.47, expenses \$4,157.54, net \$(710.07)
    - Written report filed on Google Drive
  - Director At-Large Report vacant
- 6. Libertarian Party of Florida Report presented
- 7. Annual Committee Reports
  - Outreach Mari Peele presented
    - Updates on texting and regulatory issues limiting progress
    - Updates to Mailchimp paid subscription
    - Voter registration increased from 1,908 to 1,989 (+4.2%)
    - Current Mailchimp cannot accommodate more than 1,500 contacts
  - Events Thai Heiler presented
    - Set up ABM barbecue
    - Plan to make affiliate signs that can be reused across events
    - Concept to set up a non-biased news source reporting on county
  - SMove for 5 minute recess Nathan, no objection
    - Resumed at 1:58pm
  - Gala vacant
- 8. Public Officials and Candidates Reports
  - Brian Fleming Brevard Soil and Water
    - Reported on legislation to abolish Soil and Water making it through committee to full Florida legislature vote
  - Nathan Slusher Brevard County Commission District 1
    - Town hall next one on February 6 by Sherwood
    - Focus on political science this election



- 9. Old Business
  - None
- 10. Elections
  - VElection of Chair Brian Fleming
    - Nominations: Brian Fleming
    - Votes: Brian Fleming 9, NOTA 0, 1 abstain
  - Version Election of Vice-Chair Thai Heiler
    - Nominations: Thai Heiler
    - Votes: Thai Heiler 9, NOTA 0, 1 abstain
  - VElection of Secretary Rick Heffelfinger
    - Nominations: none made
    - Motion: Suspend rules to waive attendance requirement to nominate Secretary per LPBC Constitution Article 3 Section 4 (requires <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> vote)
      - 1. Moved by Mari Peele, second by Brian Fleming
      - 2. Passed by unanimous consent
    - Nominations: Rick Heffelfinger
    - Votes: Rick Heffelfinger 9, NOTA 0, 1 abstain
  - VElection of Treasurer Greg Peele
    - Nominations: Greg Peele
    - Votes: Greg Peele 9, NOTA 0, 1 abstain
  - VElection of Director At-Large Nathan Slusher
    - Nominations: Nathan Slusher
    - Votes: Nathan Slusher 9, NOTA 0, 1 abstain
  - - Nominations: none made
  - Election of Deputy Treasurer vacant
    - Nominations: none made
- 11. New Business
  - Motion 2024-01: Certify and Submit 2023 Annual Audit
    - Nathan Slusher passed the gavel to Thai Heiler
    - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Rick Heffelfinger
    - Passed by unanimous consent
  - Motion 2024-02: Approve 2024 Petition to Reaffiliate with LPF
    - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Rick Heffelfinger
    - Passed by unanimous consent
  - Motion 2024-03: Approve 2024 Maintenance Budget Expending up to \$700
    - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Mari Peele
    - Passed by unanimous consent



- Motion 2024-04: Approve 2024 Events Committee Expending up to \$1,000
  - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Rick Heffelfinger
  - Passed by unanimous consent
- Motion 2024-05: Approve 2024 Outreach Committee Expending up to \$1,300
  - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Brian Fleming
  - Passed by unanimous consent
- Motion 2024-06: Approve Continuation of 2024 Gala Committee
  - Thai Hailer passed the gavel to Nathan Slusher
  - Moved by Greg Peele, second by Thai Heiler
  - Passed by unanimous consent
- Discussion: Options for Brevard-Only Private LPF Presidential Primary
- 12. Announcements
  - Next Business Meeting: February 19, 2024 at 6:30pm on Zoom
- 13. Adjourned at 2:52pm



#### Addendum 1 Motion 2024-01: Certify and Submit 2023 Annual Audit

Mover: Greg Peele

**Motion:** I move to certify the 2023 Annual Audit as presented at the meeting and submit it to the Libertarian Party of Florida Secretary and to the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections as required by law.

# Rationale Submitted by Mover:

Florida law requires us to submit an annual audit to the Supervisor of Elections no later than March 31 of each year. Our state party also requires us to submit this audit as part of our reaffiliation package. We have historically done a self-audit disclosing assets, liabilities, income, and expenses for the year that is signed by the newly-elected Chair and Treasurer. It is a formality because our itemized income and expenses are already public record through the quarterly reports to the Supervisor of Elections. Failing to submit such an audit would result in the dissolution of our affiliate by the government. The audit presented at the meeting was shared internally to the LP Brevard Discord server for review.

# Motion 2024-02: Approve 2024 Petition to Reaffiliate with LPF

Mover: Greg Peele

**Motion:** I move to authorize the Executive Committee to submit the 2024 Petition to Reaffiliate with the LIbertarian Party of Florida.

# Rationale Submitted by Mover:

The state party constitution requires all county affiliates to submit an annual petition to reaffiliate no later than March 31 of each year to remain in good standing. The petition requires the contact information and voter registration of our newly-elected executive committee and notification of any amendments to governing documents.



# Motion 2024-03: Approve 2024 Maintenance Budget Expending up to \$700

### Mover: Greg Peele

**Motion:** I move to authorize expending up to \$700 to maintain continuing operations of the party infrastructure itemized as follows:

- \$60 for monthly Clover credit card platform fees (\$4.95 per month)
- \$150 for annual Zoom subscription
- \$360 for annual fees for the website domain name registration, web hosting, email services, and e-commerce plugins
- \$130 for mail fees including USPS post office box rental, stamps, and other mail supplies

### Rationale Submitted by Mover:

The proposed maintenance budget is the minimum budget necessary to run the core infrastructure of the party. It is a balanced budget (assuming the Events and Outreach budgets are also approved at the requested levels) based on projecting \$3,000 of annual income from current \$250 per month contributions of party members today. Any additional funds raised beyond that projection should go toward discretionary efforts.

## Motion 2024-04: Approve 2024 Events Committee Expending up to \$1,000

Mover: Greg Peele

**Motion:** I move to reestablish the Events Committee for 2024, establishing a budget of \$1,000 to be used for planning and conducting events including but not limited to quarterly in-person business meetings, political rallies, park and beach cleanups, tabling at community events, charity events, social gatherings, and any other events not specifically delegated to another committee; and to give the LPBC Chair the ability to appoint a chair for this committee. This committee will need to be reestablished at the next annual business meeting.

### Rationale Submitted by Mover:

I've become convinced that improving our in-person events presence is necessary for membership growth and better reach in our community. I recommend continuing this committee with the same level of funding as 2023 and to prioritize finding volunteers to assist in locating and executing events.



#### Motion 2025-05: Approve 2024 Outreach Committee Expending up to \$1,300 Mover: Greq Peele

**Motion:** I move to reestablish the Outreach Committee for 2024, establishing a budget of \$1,300 to be used for outreach including but not limited to the use of email services, texting, phone banking, social media, mail, and other advertising strategies to encourage membership growth, promote the party platform and principles, recruit candidates and campaign staff, and solicit fundraising; and to give the LPBC Chair the ability to appoint a chair for this committee. This committee will need to be reestablished at the next annual business meeting.

### Rationale Submitted by Mover:

Outreach is critical to ensuring that more voters and the general public hear our message, know we exist, and to find and encourage people to become donors, volunteers, and candidates. I recommend continuing this committee to support these core operations and fund it at a level commensurate with actual expenses in the prior two years while maintaining a realistic balanced budget.

## Motion 2024-06: Approve Continuation of 2024 Gala Committee

## Mover: Greg Peele

**Motion:** I move to authorize the Gala Committee for 2024 to continue operations for the purposes of planning and executing the 2024 Golden Liberty Gala so that the committee may present a date, venue, and budget plan to the Executive Committee for approval and then following necessary action to execute the approved plan; and to give the LPBC Chair the ability to appoint a chair for this committee. This committee will dissolve after the presentation of the after action report at the next regular business meeting after the 2024 Golden Liberty Gala.

### **Rationale Submitted by Mover:**

When we realized we were unable to execute the 2023 Golden Liberty Gala, the Executive Committee approved Motion 2023-17 to rescind the 2023 gala budget and to authorize the committee to plan for the 2024 Golden Liberty Gala instead, repurposing the \$450 deposit we already made to the Brevard Zoo. This motion was contingent on reauthorization at the 2024 Annual Business Meeting. I recommend that we do so, as I believe having an inspiring large event such as the Gala is a draw for the party. In prior years, we saw many people attend the Gala who otherwise are not active in party business, and the 2022 Gala was net profitable.

I believe the 2024 Gala can take lessons learned from the 2021 and 2022 Galas and the failure of the 2023 Gala to present a credible fundraising plan and to present a plan to increase attendance and reach while reducing expenses so that the Gala is both more accessible to Brevard residents and more effective as a party fundraiser.