

## **Maricopa County Libertarian Party – Minutes of February 8, 2021 Meeting**

*The Maricopa County Libertarian Party meet via Zoom on Monday, February 8, 2021. Eleven members were in attendance, including three officers and the communications director. The following topics were discussed:*

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. and the proposed Agenda adopted.

### **I. Secretary's Report**

Secretary Emily G. presented Minutes of the 1/11 meeting, which were adopted upon voice vote.

### **II. Treasurer's Report**

Chair Brandon Slayton presented the Treasurer's Report in the Treasurer's absence. January's ending bank balance was \$2972.37. One donation had been received (from a new monthly donor, and others were encouraged to become monthly donors), and no expenses were recorded. The report was adopted on voice vote.

### **III. Chair's Report**

#### **A. Election Audit Update/Lawsuit**

Brandon Slayton discussed the current (purported) Maricopa County election audit, and the Board of Supervisors' decision to exclude political party representatives from it in contravention of statute. He discussed MCLP's intention to file suit and seek an injunction halting the audit until all required participants have a seat at the table.

Discussion was held concerning background to the issue, including Arizona's electoral process being party-driven and county parties' role to participate in election oversight under that model. (Existing controversy between AZ senate members and the Board of Supervisors, and the supervisors' lack of response to a subpoena served by the senate, was reviewed).

Brandon reviewed the difference between demand for the paper ballots (which are held and protected) and demand for electronic ballot images (which are created when each ballot is scanned for tabulation), and that electronic images may be produced without disturbing either close custody in which paper ballots are held, or confidentiality of any voter's information or preferences. Prior to 2016, electronic images were not retained post-election, but now are, allowing for audit of the electronic images.

Brandon noted that the senate subpoena only sought the physical (and protected) paper ballots, not the available electronic images. The LP was out ahead here in advocating for win-win solutions, and that the goal of trustworthy election results is a goal supported across the electorate.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### **1. Communications**

Communications Director Lauren S. presented elements of the media release around the elections audit/lawsuit and potential to use the same for fundraising purposes.

##### **2. Events**

Chair Brandon S. discussed plans for upcoming Arizona Central Pride celebration scheduled for April 4-7, 2021. He requested that people interested in representing the party at Pride develop a committee to work on staffing, budget, and similar. (*n.b., Pride 2021 has been postponed to November since the time of this meeting.*)

##### **3. Voter Guide Review/Goodyear City Election**

Vice Chair Nicholas M. presented his proposed responses to propositions featured on the upcoming Goodyear City Elections ballot. Discussion was held concerning certain proposal numbers.

A motion was made (John R.) and seconded (Emily G.) to accept the proposed guide in its entirety. The motion passed, with the guide to be posted to the MCLP website.

It was noted that the election this guide references is due to be held in Goodyear March 9, and that opportunity existed for members to act as precinct observers during that election.

Additional municipal elections are coming up, among them in Cave Creek in May; discussion was held concerning a development of a similar voter guide for Cave Creek.

## **V. Old/New Business**

There was no old business.

### **A. New Business**

#### **1. Congressional Redistricting and Congressional Candidates**

Jeff Metrick announced his candidacy for congress in District 6, and his website, winwithJeff.us.

Chair Brandon S. reminded members that census data (which may affect how many districts Arizona has) is late arriving, and that a new redistricting project is underway (meaning that it may not be entirely possible for candidates to know what the boundaries of their districts are until much later in the year).

#### **2. Proposal for MCLP Fundraising Committee**

Chair Brandon S. discussed the need for a fundraising committee, and the need to employ fundraising strategies MCLP has not previously utilized. He suggested use of a commission model to reward successful fundraisers for their efforts. Some discussion was held concerning what received funds would be applied towards. Expanded presence at events, and candidate training, were immediate suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Emily S. Goldberg, Secretary*