

Maricopa County Libertarian Party – Minutes of March 8, 2023 Meeting

The Maricopa County Libertarian Party met via Zoom on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. Eleven members were present including the Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer. The following topics were discussed:

I. Call to Order/Adoption of Agenda/Welcome Remarks:

The meeting was called to Order at 7:04 p.m. The Agenda was reviewed and adopted without revision.

Time was allocated for public comment with no public comments presented.

The Chair welcomed new and returning members, including John Rojas, former Vice-Chair, returning as a PCM this month.

II. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ryan Simon presented the Treasurer's Report.

Current banking balance is \$3618.90; donations in the previous month were \$82.52. Expenditures were \$114.03; this included a banking fee (because the account was below a minimum deposit amount).

III. Secretary's Report

Secretary E. Goldberg presented the minutes of the February 13 meeting, which were adopted by acclamation.

IV. Chair's Report

Chairman Brandon Slayton presented the Chair's Report:

A. Dave Morris/Grassroots Training Meeting:

Dave Morris, Chair of AZLP's Legislative Committee, had conducted a grassroots training session on March 1, 2023. Eight people, including four new PCs attended. Lobbying and grassroots action are core party activities. Several future sessions will be held to train on additional functions including door knocking and canvassing. The next training will be held at Dave's office on March 22, 2023. People are encouraged to use the County RTS tool and become familiar with it; this is where the rubber meets the road in politics.

B. Defend the Guard Legislation

The Chair gave an update on the Defend the Guard legislation. As of the date of the meeting, it had passed the Senate, passed the House Rules Committee, and is due to go to the Committee of the Whole. Discussion was held concerning telephone calling to support it in the COW; it was anticipated that evaluation of the bill will break along party lines; the Chair of the MAPS committee had refused to look at it.

C. Recap of BOD Goal Setting Meeting

The Chair summarized the outcome of the Board's goal setting meeting, which took place on February 26, 2023:

A. Candidates need to be the Board's/the party's major priority.

We are now in a 6-7 month window for recruiting candidates. A timeline leading up to 2024 filing deadlines will be built out, with graphics placed on the website to demystify the process. The purpose is to create a more supportive and proactive party environment for candidates to run in – this will be a focused activity over the next several months, including:

- Leaning on the CRM, identifying people who have indicated interest in running, and high-efficiency voters;
- Identifying unopposed and obtainable races;
- 25% of the legislature was unopposed in 2022;
- LD 26 and LD 30;
- 9 congressional districts touch Maricopa County – look at congressional race breakdowns;
- 'Fill the funnel' with prospective candidates and triage from the prospects;
- Text blasting to start, educate and plant seeds;
- Text blasts will direct to Lp.org's "run for office" menu, which will then integrate into the CRM;
- 14k texts can be sent for \$370/mo (although some texting capacity is available through the CRM).

Discussion was held on analytics and data mapping related to candidate recruitment and district targeting, including evaluation of percentages of Libertarians in each district, "heat" maps of zip codes, identification of where we have strong presence in the county.

Although non-partisan races are easiest for candidates to get elected, these are the hardest to recruit for. School board races are easily obtainable; but candidates are more passionate about things like running for Senate.

Additional discussion addressed the County Board of Supervisors (District 4 has an unpopular supervisor). New county district maps will not be published until early 2024.

V. 2nd Vice Chair/IT Director's Report

2nd Vice Chair/IT Director Eric Fowler gave the IT Committee's Report:

The Voter Data is current parsing. Logic is updating the existing voter data. We have a unique state voter ID in the CRM. Data can also be sorted by congressional district and legislative districts (what hasn't been updated before). The final product will allow all of Arizona's output files to be run inside of 3 minutes.

Final implementation is pending additional action by Ken Moellman from national. There will be a test import run in a staging environment.

After the test run, a set of fresh SOS data should be sought, existing people will be output first (duplicates will be sorted).

Discussion was held concerning the Stripe contribution page. The page is created, but does not currently function – there are layers of problems. The goal should be to have it function better than the State's Stripe portal functions.

The goal is to embed the Stripe donation widget on the county's donation page, to fulfill the goal to get rid of PayPal. As of now Stripe donations won't populate to the CRM; eventually that will be accomplished.

VI. Events

The Chair introduced discussion about upcoming (2nd Q, 3rd Q) events, to be forward thinking and intentional in planning (and plan events further out than previously).

Juneteenth and 4th of July are the next events to contemplate. Summer events (including anti-war event around Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day) and Labor Day were discussed. The Secretary noted that she would provide information about potential Juneteenth tabling within two weeks. The April meeting will entertain appropriations/proposals for summer events.

Nathan Madden gave an update concerning Pints & Porcupines, the next scheduled for Tuesday, March 14 (the venue has changed). April's Pints & Porcupines will be held at the Beer and Research Institute in Mesa on April 17.

1st VC Brock Wilson noted that there will be a road cleanup in April, date to be announced.

VII. Old Business

Discussion concerning the party's mailing address was resumed. The Secretary affirmed that she had paid for a one-month extension of the shared AZLP/MCLP mailbox at the UPS Store at 24 W. Camelback.

A motion was made (B. Slayton) and seconded (R. Simon) to appropriate \$140.00 to obtain a P. O. Box at the post office on 7th Avenue and Indian School for the coming year; this will be obtained by the end of the month of March.

An additional motion was made (R. Simon) and seconded (B. Slayton) to reimburse the Secretary the \$50.00 spent on extending the contract on the UPS Store mailbox.

Nathan Madden raised the topic of high school/college outreach. The Secretary indicated she would obtain student voter registration fair information from the Phoenix Union High School District. Discussion was held concerning Theodore Gercken's newly launched Libertarian youth organization.

VIII. New Business

Nathan Madden raised the issue of Washington Elementary School District's decision to terminate its relationship with Arizona Christian University's education program (from which it had received student teachers) over the University's position on GLBTQ issues. Mr. Madden indicated his intention as a member of Buckeye's School Board to bring those student teachers to Buckeye.

The Chair indicated that he would put a draft agenda into MCLP's Discord ahead of each month's meeting, and requested that members add topics to the agenda there.

D. Conclusion

A motion to adjourn was made (E. Fowler) and seconded (B. Slayton) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Goldberg, Secretary