

Maricopa County Libertarian Party – Minutes of August 5, 2023 Special Election

The Maricopa County Libertarian Party's County Committee met at the Burton Barr Central Library at 10:00 a.m. on August 5, 2023, for purpose of the previously noticed Special Election to fill the vacancy in the 1st Vice Chair position resulting from the resignation of Mr. Brock Wilson.

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

The meeting was called to Order at 10:20 a.m. Eleven county committee members were in attendance. (A sign-in sheet, candidate statements of the two announced candidates, and ballots were distributed earlier).

II. Chair's Remarks and Acknowledgement of Brock Wilson

Chair Brandon Slayton welcomed attendees. Chair Slayton gave a brief acknowledgment to the work of Brock Wilson as 1st Vice Chair – the 'Adopt a Road' effort (and ongoing road cleanups) were Brock's vision with effort and action behind it. Chair Slayton also saluted Brock's transparency in recognizing life events could not allow him to occupy the role in the manner he wanted to, and that Brock's commitment to the party was too strong to remain as a 'placeholder'.

III. Call for (Additional) Nominations and Candidate Speeches

John Rojas (Old West, Mesa) and Eric Fowler (Paiute, Scottsdale) had each previously self-nominated and submitted their credentials to the Board. Chairman Slayton called for any additional nominations; no additional nominations were made.

Each candidate spoke to his candidacy.

John Rojas described his past service to the party as MCLP Secretary and 2VC and indicated his commitment to MCLP was ongoing, whether or not elected to the 1VC role.

Eric Fowler spoke of his information technology work in MCLP's digital space and recent activity mapping voter data to determine where in the county Libertarians live. He described his involvement in each Adopt a Road cleanup event and each Pints n' Porcupines event and desire to use the voter data to mobilize voters.

IV. Election Results

Ballots were distributed, collected, counted and verified (with the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary each performing one count).

Results were:	Eric Fowler	-	8 votes
	John Rojas	-	3 votes

A question was asked concerning the new vacancy of the 2nd Vice Chair role. Chairman Slayton responded that the 2nd Vice Chair role would require an additional special election.

A motion was made (E. Goldberg) and seconded (N. Madden) to suspend the rules to set aside time for a special election for the 2nd Vice Chair position during the September business meeting, with votes tabulated by electronic means.

There was no discussion and no objections, the motion passed.

V. Post-Election Comments

Chairman Slayton provided some closing comments. He thanked the candidates for standing for election and the CC members for coming out on a weekend. He noted that the current board had already completed one-fourth of its term, and reiterated the need to recruit candidates and provide support in getting them on the ballot. He noted the assertiveness of the 'No Labels' party in getting its name publicized.

He noted that County Committee members would receive an additional mailing concerning the timing of the special election for the 2VC role during the September business meeting, and that a midday Pints n' Porcupines would be held at Wilderness at Roosevelt following this meeting.

VI. Adjournment

The business of the special meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Attendees remained for informal discussion following the close of the business meeting (summarized below).

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Goldberg. Secretary

Informal Discussion

Newly elected 1st Vice Chair Eric Fowler gave a summary of his IT-related work with the county, state, and national parties. He noted the problems with the national CiviCRM database; that it is still there and still existing, but very poorly organized.

He described that Arizona's data cache is handled (and is correct now); that dynamic mapping has been able to show where the Libertarians are, that these were distributed differently than he had thought.

The highest concentration of Libertarians is in/around Luke Air Force Base. In terms of cities, Palo Verde, Buckeye, Youngtown and New River have strong concentrations, followed by Tonopah, El Mirage, Tempe, Queen Creek, Waddell and Mesa.

He described the use of mapping overlays for the legislative districts also.

Further discussion was held concerning the use of the mapping systems in planning activities like Pints n' Porcupines, as well as fundraising and similar activities.

Additional discussion was held concerning potential fundraising activities. Possibilities discussed included a calendar, events like a pancake breakfast series with speakers, a business directory.

Discussion was also held concerning potential modification of the bylaws to make accession from 2VC to 1VC automatic.

Discussion concerning the party's perspective opposing the war in Ukraine, and building on the anti-war sentiment in PR/marketing, was also held; 55% of Americans are opposed to involvement in the Ukraine war.

Additional discussion was held concerning the county supervisor redistricting process, and necessity of candidates to challenge the current supervisors.

Chairman Slayton reminded attendees that there would be no regular August business meeting, but there would be Pints n' Porcupines at Norterra.

(The informal discussion concluded at 11:00 a.m.)