

Convention Oversight Committee Report

This is by far the best Convention Oversight Committee I have been part of at the National level, aside from 2008. Participation rate is high from all members and everyone is working hard to ensure a good convention. We meet at least twice a month.

Ticket prices are set and the website should be live before the August LNC meeting. Because of accelerating costs in the area of A/V and F&B, the committee felt it necessary to accept a loss on each ticket sold hoping to raise money through higher ticket sales and increased sponsorship. We begin to recoup those losses after we sell 500 tickets. Our fundraiser on the convention theme has shaved off some of the loss.

Audio Visual Group is to supply our A/V needs at the 2018 convention. The contract should be signed either this week or sometime in the near future.

Significant progress in securing meal, opening and keynote speakers for little or no money has been made. Names will not be in a written report until contracts are signed. However, Daniel Hayes, who has been working on this, can speak to that privately. If he secures any signed contracts we will supplement the report.

The website is set up and we have an ad schedule for the future LP News publications. We are looking for suggestions for advertising the convention. Suggestions can be forwarded to Erin Adams and Whitney Bilyeu.

Volunteers are working on a silent auction and other ways to raise money during the convention. If you have something to donate, please contact me. Lauren is helping us to upgrade our fundraising to attract higher donors.

Next step is to schedule and assign rooms to our various seminars, trainings, and meetings. Once done, we will know what rooms are available for member led events. If you have seminar ideas, please pass them to William Brackeen.

We have narrowed the bids for 2020 convention sites to seven. If the committee has any questions about the process, they may direct their questions to me.

About future conventions:

We must find a way to fund the conventions other than through ticket sales. Because we have a set number of delegates but the price of putting on a convention keeps expanding, each ticket will cost significantly more each time, which means fewer ticket sales in the future. This could cause a spiral that we won't be able to recover from. Here are a few suggestions to help ease this burden.

1. Link the POTUS and the non-POTUS conventions together so that the proceeds from one can help support the other. Had we done this for 2016/2018 there would be no anticipated loss in 2018.

2. Raise annual dues \$5 per member and set aside that amount per year in an account strictly for the convention. The delegates are working on the behalf of all members, just as the office staff is, and therefore the membership should be responsible for the cost of the convention.

3. Increase awareness of the convention as a seminar and training get together to encourage non-delegates to attend. It can be billed as an event to inform, inspire, and invigorate (inform new people; inspire those who are involved to become more involved; invigorate those who are working hard.) It can be billed as a fun place to be. We simply need more than delegate ticket sales if we want future conventions to be successful.

Convention Oversight Committee

Meeting Dates and Attendance Roster for August 19-20, 2017 LNC Meeting

	Adams	Bilyeu	Brackeen	Goldstein	Hayes	Mattson	Ryan
04/24/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
05/08/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
05/22/17	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
06/05/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
06/19/17	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
07/03/17	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N
07/17/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
07/31/17	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
08/10/17	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y