

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Present: Geoff Neale (TX), Chair
Ken Bisson (IN), Vice-Chair
Bill Redpath (VA), Treasurer
Steve Givot (CO), Secretary

Mike Dixon (NC), At Large Representative
BetteRose Ryan (SD), At Large Representative
R. Lee Wrights (NC), At Large Representative

Ed Hoch (AK), Region 1 Representative
Joe Dehn (CA), Region 2 Representative
George Squyres (AZ), Region 2 Representative
Mark Rutherford (IN), Region 3 Representative
Sean Haugh (NC), Region 4 Alternate
Fred Childress (VA), Region 5 Representative
Bonnie Scott (NY), Region 6 Alternate
Steve Trinward (TN), Region 7 Representative
Mark Nelson (IA), Region 8 Representative

Also Present: Mike Fellows (MT), Region 1 Alternate

Absent: Don Gorman (NH), At Large Representative
Austin Haugh (IL), At Large Representative
Mark Hinkle (CA), Region 2 Alternate
Scott Lieberman (CA), Region 2 Alternate
Jeff Zweber (OH), Region 3 Alternate
Michael "MG" Gilson de Lemos (FL), Region 4 Representative
Mark Cenci (ME), Region 6 Representative
Tim Hagan (NV), Region 7 Alternate
Bob Sullentrup (MO), Region 8 Alternate

Vacant: Region 5 Alternate

Staff: Joe Seehusen, Executive Director
Rod Severenson, Accounting Supervisor

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM MDT.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Item: ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements were made.

Item: CREDENTIALS

Givot reported Fred Childress has been appointed Region 5 Representative and that the position of Region 5 Alternate is vacant.

Item: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no potential conflicts of interest presented.

Item: AGENDA

Without objection, the Committee agreed to add an action item related to Ballot Access, an action item for the Committee to provide input to the Executive Committee regarding its budget proposal, and a discussion item relating to procedures to modify the strategic plan.

Without objection, the Committee modified the time allotted for the lunch recess and agreed to recess one hour earlier on Saturday.

The agenda, as modified, was adopted.

Item: MINUTES

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

The Committee proposed minor changes which were adopted without objection.

The minutes were approved as modified.

Dehn, Haugh, and Wrights voted against.

Item: CHAIR'S REPORT UPDATE

The Chair updated the Committee.

The Committee reached consensus that future reports showing variance from budget for revenues and expenses:

- should show revenue in excess of budget as positive variances and revenue below budget as negative variances
- should show expenses in excess of budget as positive variances and expenses below budget as negative variances

Item: TREASURER'S REPORT UPDATE

The Treasurer updated the Committee.

Haugh moved that a state of financial exigency no longer exists.

Dehn seconded.

The motion passed on a vote of 8 to 5 with 3 abstentions
Bisson, Childress, Dehn, Haugh, Hoch, Redpath, Trinward, and Wright voted in favor of the motion.

Dixon, Givot, Nelson, Rutherford, and Ryan vote against the motion.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Neal, Scott, and Squyres abstained.

Nelson moved that the Treasurer be directed to refrain from developing any new reports until such time as all reports mandated by the Policy Manual have been distributed for three consecutive months.

Squyres seconded.

The motion failed on a voice vote of 5 to 8 with 3 abstentions

Dixon, Nelson, Rutherford, Ryan, and Squyres voted in favor of the motion.

Bisson, Childress, Dehn, Givot, Haugh, Hoch, Scott, and Wrights voted against the motion.

Neale, Redpath, and Trinward abstained.

The Committee recessed at 9:53 AM MDT.

The Committee reconvened at 10:15 AM MDT.

Item: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Severenson updated the Committee on accounting and bookkeeping matters.

Givot moved to increase the budget line item for house fundraising letter expense be increased by 25%.

Bisson seconded.

Scott moved to substitute that Policy Manual Article V, Section 2 B 2 be amended to read:

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

“Expense items within one budget area may be amended with the consent of the Executive Committee, as long as the net revenue for that budget area is not decreased.”

Hoch seconded.

The motion to substitute failed on a voice vote.

The main motion failed on a voice vote.

The Committee recessed at 11:45 AM MDT.

The Committee reconvened at 1:22 PM MDT.

Item: REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S CONTRACT

Dixon moved that effective Monday, September 15, 2003 Joe Seehusen be appointed Executive Director of LNC, Inc. with all of the authority and responsibility assigned to that position.

Givot seconded.

Nelson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the appointment of Joe Seehusen as Executive Director, to discuss aspects of the search process for the Executive Director, and to discuss other personnel matters.

Ryan seconded.

The Committee went into Executive Session at 1:41 PM MDT.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

The Committee returned to Open Session at 3:37 PM MDT.

The Committee recessed at 3:37 PM MDT.

The Committee reconvened at 3:58 PM MDT.

Item: REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CONTRACT (continued)

Dixon moved to amend the motion to add the following sentence: "The Chair is directed to negotiate a contract with the Executive Director to be signed no later than October 31, 2003."

Givot seconded.

The amendment was accepted as friendly.

Givot requested that the minutes reflect that the Committee reached consensus that the salient terms of the contract shall include:

- Annual salary of approximately \$77,500
- Quarterly bonuses of \$0 to \$5,000 dollars bonus of \$0 to \$5,000 based on membership growth, donor growth, and media placement
- an annual (calendar year) bonus of \$0 to \$5,000 based on membership growth, donor growth, and media placement
- Contract expires on June 30, 2005
- Early termination provisions initiated by either party with a notice period of 90 days
- Termination for cause provisions

Dehn moved to amend to add the following sentence: "The full text of the signed contract will be publicly available, except that employee personal information such as residence address or social security number may be struck out at the request of the employee."

Wrights seconded.

The amendment passed on a voice vote.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

The main motion passed on a voice vote.

Item: GENERAL COUNSEL'S UPDATE / LEGAL ISSUES

There was no update.

Item: REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT UPDATES

Regional representatives provided updates to their reports.

Item: AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee moved to postpone consideration appointment of a new Audit Committee as the first item of business on the following day.

Item: CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee affirmed that it is Chair's responsibility to set the convention agenda in consultation with the staff and Committee as deemed appropriate by the Chair.

The Chair asked that the minutes reflect that the Executive Director is the point of financial control for the national convention.

Givot asked that the minutes reflect that the Convention Organizing Committee was informed that current policy requires that staff time used in support of the national

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

convention be charged as a convention expense.

Bisson moved that the 2006 national convention be held on Memorial Day weekend.

Trinward seconded.

Dixon moved to substitute that the Executive Director be charged with reporting to the December 2003 meeting recommendations and dates for the 2006 and 2008 national conventions.

Dixon's substitution was accepted as friendly.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Givot moved at the Committee reconvene at 8:00 AM the following day.

Dehn seconded.

The motion passed on a vote of 10 to 5.

The Committee recessed at 5:01 PM MDT.

The Committee reconvened at 8:08 AM MDT.

Item: Convention Committee Report and Discussion (continued)

There was additional discussion of the 2004 national convention agenda.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Item: AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS (continued)

Dixon nominated Zweber to chair the Audit Committee.

Rutherford seconded.

Without objection, Zweber was appointed chair of the Audit Committee.

Wrights nominated M. Carling as a member of the Audit Committee.

Haugh seconded.

Haugh nominated Nelson as a member of the Audit Committee.

Givot seconded.

Nelson said, "I could light a fire under Geoff's ass."

Without objection, Carling and Nelson were appointed as members of the Audit Committee.

Givot asked that a limited audit of the balance sheet as of 12/31/2002 as currently stated be performed by an outside auditing firm for the purposes of assuring that the starting balances for 2003 accurately reflected the party's financial position on that date.

Item: APPOINTMENT OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

Givot suggested using "approval voting" to appoint convention committees – whereby members would vote for or against each nominee and the net number (for votes minus against votes) would be used to select who is appointed to each committee with a minimum net number of six (6) required for the first round of appointments.

The following individuals were nominated for the Credentials Committee:

Gary Johnson (TX)
Emily Salvette (MI)

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Dena Bruedigam (OH)

Without objection, these three people were appointed to the Credentials Committee.

Without objection, Johnson was appointed as Interim Chair of the Credentials Committee.

The following individuals were nominated for the ByLaws Committee:

Marianne Volpe (VA)
Ralph Swanson (FL)
Mark Nelson (IA)
M. Carling (CA)

Without objection, these four people were appointed as members of the ByLaws Committee.

Without objection, Nelson was appointed as Interim Chair of the ByLaws Committee.

The following individuals were nominated for the Platform Committee:

Neale asked the minutes to reflect that one ballot was cast with 13 names and would not be counted..

Givot reported that this ballot would not affect the selection of the ten individuals to be appointed to the Platform Committee.

Givot reported the vote totals as follows:

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Nominee	Yes Votes	No Votes	Net Votes	Appointed
Hinkle	3	0	3	
Murphy	13	0	13	✓
Biterman	0	7	-7	
Gilson de Lemos	4	4	0	
Squyres	12	0	12	✓
Goldstein	11	1	10	✓
Southerland	7	0	7	✓
Copeland	0	6	-6	
Gaztanaga	10	1	9	✓
Scott	10	0	10	✓
Dixon	12	0	12	✓
Trinward	8	2	6	✓
Wrights	8	1	7	✓
Aitken	12	0	12	✓
Tomasso	5	0	5	

Givot moved that Tomasso be appointed as first alternate and Hinkle be appointed as second alternate.

Redpath seconded.

Without objection, the motion was passed.

Squyres moved that Dixon be appointed Interim Chair of the Platform Committee.

Nelson seconded.

Without objection, Dixon was appointed Interim Chair of the Platform Committee.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Item: QUESTIONS REGARDING REPORTS SUBMITTED IN WRITING

Squyres updated the Committee on the efforts at implementing Strategy 3. He said that every plank of the Platform has now been reformatted and is ready for consideration by the Platform Committee.

Neale asked the minutes to reflect the gratitude of the Committee for the efforts of Squyres and his team.

Item: MARKETING / BRANDING REPORT

Redpath moved that the staff be directed to spend no more time or money on branding and core constituency.

Hoch seconded.

Neale ruled that this motion would require modification of the Strategic Plan to become effective.

The motion failed on a vote of 3 to 12 with 1 abstention.

Dehn, Hoch, and Redpath voted for the motion.

Bisson, Dixon, Givot, Haugh, Neale, Nelson, Rutherford, Ryan, Scott, Squyres, Trinward, and Wrights voted against the motion.

Childress abstained.

Givot asked that the minutes reflect that the Chair has ruled that the net revenue from the branding fundraising letter (including direct costs and allocated staff costs) will be treated as temporarily restricted funds and that 10% of gross revenues will be transferred to cover common costs (overhead) and that the temporarily restricted funds will be used to pay project-related expenses such as staff salary to the extent that such funds exist.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

Item: POLICY GOVERNANCE MODEL

Givot updated the Committee on the progress of drafting a revised policy manual based on the Policy Governance Model. He said that the draft will be provided to the Committee in November.

Item: REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF DUES AND MEMBERSHIP

Discussion began with the motion tabled at the prior meeting.

Nelson moved to substitute that the price of a Life Membership under Policy Manual Article II Section 3 be set at \$2,500 and the amount to be retained by the affiliate party under Policy Manual Article II Section 8 B be set at \$1,250 effective January 1, 2004.

Rutherford seconded.

The motion to substitute failed on a vote of 6 to 7 with 2 abstentions.

Dehn, Givot, Nelson, Redpath, Rutherford, Trinward voted for the motion.

Bisson, Dixon, Haugh, Neale, Ryan, Squyres, and Wrights voted against the motion.

Hoch and Scott abstained.

Givot moved that the Executive Director be directed to review the current policies regarding automatic membership renewal or extension, the systems in place to implement those policies, any difference between these two, and his recommendations regarding what our policies should be prospectively.

Bisson seconded the motion.

The motion passed without objection.

The Committee recessed at 10:05 AM MDT.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

The Committee reconvened at 10:29 AM MDT.

Item: BALLOT ACCESS PLAN

Nelson moved that the Executive Director be directed not to pursue ballot access in OK and WV in 2004 and that the ED will inform the state chair in OK and WV of this decision.

Squyres seconded.

The motion was withdrawn with the consent of the second.

Ryan asked that the minutes reflect that the Chair will inform the states within one week about the limited ability of the national party to support ballot access at the present time.

Nelson moved adoption of the ballot access plan presented by the Chair.

Bisson seconded.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Item: LNC INPUT INTO THE BUDGET DRAFTING PROCESS

Givot moved that the Executive Committee be directed to present a budget which meets the following requirements:

- The budget should incorporate conservative revenue, expense, and membership assumptions.
- The budget should assume no major donor revenues.
- The budget should incorporate all UMP costs.
- The budget should recognize and fund increased media costs resulting from the president election cycle.
- The budget should recognize and fund increased inquiry response costs resulting from the presidential election cycle.
- The proposed budget should be distributed in both Excel and PDF

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

formats.

- The proposed budget should be presented to the Committee with necessary supporting documentation by no later than 11/1/03.

Dehn seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

Trinward moved that the Executive Committee be directed to base the draft budget proposal on continued use of the self-funding project model.

Givot seconded.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Redpath moved that the Executive Committee be directed to include ballot access projects in the draft budget proposal as core expenses.

Haugh seconded.

The motion failed on a vote of 4 to 10 with 1 abstention.

Dehn, Fellows, Haugh, and Redpath voted for the motion.

Bisson, Dixon, Givot, Neale, Nelson, Rutherford, Ryan, Squyres, Trinward, and Wrights voted against the motion.

Scott Abstained.

Redpath moved that the Executive Committee be directed to include the expense of hiring a Political Director by January 1, 2004.

Fellows seconded.

The motion failed on a voice vote.

Haugh moved that the Executive Committee's draft budget proposal be labeled "draft" and be considered not confidential.

Wright's seconded.

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Givot moved that the Executive Committee's draft budget proposal shall project a calculated reserve at least of \$150,000 on December 31, 2004.

Trinward seconded.

The motion failed on a vote of 5 to 8.

The Committee expressed its sense that the 2004 budget should include implementation costs for the database projects.

Redpath moved that a fundraising letter to the entire membership targeting funds for ballot access be sent during 2004.

Fellows seconded.

Neale moved the motion out of order.

Dixon moved that the Chair and the Executive Director be directed to make their best efforts to hire a new editor for LP News by January 1, 2004.

Wrights seconded.

The motion passed on a voice vote.

Item: STRATEGIC PLAN MODIFICATION PROCEDURES

Givot advised the Committee of his intention to draft a Policy Manual addition relating to procedures to be used to modify the Strategic Plan. He asked that time be reserved on the agenda for consideration of the language he will present at the December 2003 meeting.

Item: SETTING OF FUTURE MEETING DATES

LNC Meeting
Denver, CO
September 13, 2003
Page 1 of 19

No action was taken.

Item: OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

The Committee adjourned at 1:49 PM MDT.

LNC Meeting

Denver, CO

September 13, 2003

Page 1 of 19

PROPOSED AGENDA

	Call to Order - Saturday September 13	8:30AM
1	Moment of Reflection	1 Min
2	Announcements	2 Min
3	Opportunity for Public Comments	2 Min
4	Credentials Report	5 Min
5	Paperwork Check	10 Min
6	Submissions of Potential Conflicts of Interest	5 Min
7	Approval of Agenda	20 Min
8	Approval of Minutes of LNC Meetings	15 Min
9	Chair's Report Update	15 Min
10	Treasurer's Report Update	15 Min
11	Executive Director's Report Update	60 Min
12	Review of Executive Director's Contract	30 Min
13	General Counsel's Report Update / Legal Issues	30 Min
	Recess for Lunch	12:00PM
	Reconvene	2:00PM
14	Regional Representative Report Updates	15 Min
15	Audit Committee Report and Recommendations	15 Min
16	Convention Committee Report and Discussion	60 Min
17	Population of Convention Committees	30 Min
18	Questions Regarding Reports Submitted in Writing	15 Min
19	Marketing / Branding Report	30 Min
20	Policy Governance Model	15 Min
21	Review and Discussion of Dues and Membership	60 Min
	Recess for Day	6:00PM

LNC Meeting

Denver, CO

September 13, 2003

Page 1 of 19

	Reconvene - Sunday September 14	8:30AM
22	Action Items Previously Submitted in Writing	90 Min
23	Other Reports Previously Submitted in Writing	60 Min
24	Action Items Not Previously Submitted in Writing	30 Min
25	Other Reports Not Previously Submitted in Writing	15 Min
26	Setting of Future Meeting Dates	10 Min
27	Opportunity for Public Comments	5 Min
	Adjournment	12:00PM