



Libertarian Party of Massachusetts

Newsletter for March, 2008

Ron Paul to Remain a Republican

By: Robert J. Underwood

Some libertarian Ron Paul supporters assured us that there would be incredible pressure on Dr. Paul to accept the nomination of another party if he were to lose the Republican nomination. The missing piece, of course, was a statement from the candidate himself that he would change party registration. As many of us predicted, he has not done well in the primaries or the caucuses. So his libertarian supporters are left like members of a UFO cult whose spaceship has not yet arrived.

Was Ron Paul ever really the threat? His announcement struck me as being honest. He could have just said nothing and further strung people along. If I were him I would have done the same thing, do the best one can at the convention while keeping the Congressional seat.

When I looked at his web site some people were angry because they had changed their party registration and there he was saying that he would always remain a Republican. I'm not sure what the posters expected from someone who never said he would change party registration. Of course many of these people would not listen to the voice of reason, so now they sample the taste of egg, rather than achieving liberty in their lifetime.

George Phillies has said that perhaps the "wayward lambs" will return. They may, but the money that they donated to the Republican Party will stay where it is. Will they help the Libertarian candidate as much as they helped the Republican candidate? I wonder.

This presidential race has put us in a better position than we have been, particularly in Massachusetts. People are more dissatisfied with the duopoly than they ever have been. We have a party which is trying to recruit candidates. And this is the time they picked to go "wayward." I guess I wonder if they will pick some other critical time in the future and once again go "wayward."

I am sure others have received emails and ads for libertarian books, events, discussions, etc, etc. We need to take building a party free of the duopoly seriously. If just ten State Representative races emerged with Libertarian candidates in Massachusetts, we would be taken seriously, and it would have cost a mere fraction of the money dumped in the Ron Paul nomination campaign.

March Libertarian Events

Mar. 10, 6:00 PM (2nd Monday): Boston Area Libertarian Meetup. Bertucci's Restaurant, Stanhope St. in Boston. Food and political conversation. Sign up at <http://libertarian.meetup.com/349/>.

Mar. 12, 6:30 PM (2nd Wednesday): Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association. Meet other Libertarians at the Hu Ke Lau Restaurant, Memorial Drive in Chicopee.

Mar. 24, 6:00 PM (4th Monday): Worcester County Libertarian Association. Starbucks Coffee, intersection of Grove St. and West Boylston, look for the Curry College sign.

Mar. 25, 8:00 PM (4th Tuesday): Lowell Area Liberty Association. Outback Steakhouse, 28 Reiss Ave., Lowell. RSVP: Arthur Torrey, (978) 663-0241. You must RSVP for this meeting.

LPMA would like your help

Our first two ways won't cost you an extra dime.

First, do you give money to our national party? If so, please designate your contributions for Massachusetts Ballot Access. Every dollar you give to the National Committee becomes two dollars from the LNC to pay Massachusetts petitioners. To designate your contributions, go to the Massachusetts donation page <http://www.lp.org/action/donatebama.shtml>. Our US Senate Candidate, Bob Underwood, and our Presidential candidate (to be chosen over Memorial day) both thank you.

Second, please run for office or help someone who is. To learn more about being or helping a candidate please contact LPMA Political Facilitator Carol McMahon, cjcmahon@verizon.net, 413-267-9339. If you'll collect signatures for the statewide candidates while you are collecting your own signatures, we can get you a voter list sorted by street.

Third, your State Committee raised matching funds to help the Presidential Ballot access drive. We need your help to free the matching funds. We need \$8000. So far, thanks to the generosity of your fellow Massachusetts Libertarians, we've raised \$1500. Please give generously.

Finally, your State Committee would like to support our other candidates. Thanks to absurd campaign finance laws, that money has to be kept totally separate from our big ballot access drive.

To donate by credit card, contact Carol McMahon cjcmahon@verizon.net or 413-267-9339.

To donate to our state campaign fund, please send a check labeled "OCPF" to

LPMA
30 East Chestnut Street
Sharon, MA 01057.

Many thanks!

-- *Your Libertarian Party State Committee*

Federal and State Law require that we collect the name and address of each donor. Federal and State Law require that we make our best effort to collect the occupation and employer of each person who donates \$200 or more. Donations are not tax deductible.

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Minutes of the January State Committee Regular Meeting

January 23, 2008

Home of George Phillies, Worcester

[Editor's note: these minutes have been edited. Full minutes may be found at <http://lpmass.org/publicbb2/>.]

Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 7:00 PM. Present were David Blau, Carol McMahon, George Phillies, Art Torrey, Bob Underwood, and Mary-Anne Wolf.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved on the forum and are being distributed on the forum.

Officer Reports

The Political Facilitator reported that Bob Underwood has decided to run for United States Senate. We currently have \$8000 in matching funds and \$1500 in funds raised to match them. We may need \$20,000 to pay for ballot access.

The Operations Facilitator reported that the prizes won in the Ballot Access drive are on their way.

The Webmistress reported a need for access to donations and renewals via the Internet as soon as possible. A check box on the online donation form will allow people to sign the oath on line.

The Editor reported that new printing arrangements have met the cost objectives on dollars per copy.

Membership is up 17 since last month. A prior State Committee had created life memberships, which will be investigated further.

The State Committee observed that an ad for a certain Republican Presidential candidate has appeared on the LPMA.ORG web site. The Chair will contact the Presidential campaign and the two Republican State committees potentially involved to discuss the matter.

Annual Budget

The State convention was budgeted for 30 members

at \$30, leading to a break even for the state convention. We need more FEC-valid donations, and also need OCPF donations. The budget passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

The previous State Committee meeting adjourned with unfinished business regarding a by-laws amendment. After nonsubstantive corrections, the draft by-law became

(a) The State Committee may by two-thirds vote call a Special State Convention to resolve questions that in its judgement require a decision of the membership. The State Committee shall give thirty days notice to all members eligible to vote at the Special State Convention that there is a Special State Convention, including time and place. To be eligible to vote at a Special State Convention, a person must have been a member in good standing of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts on the date of mailing of the call to the Special State Convention.

(b) The Agenda of the Special State Convention, including necessary Rules of Business, shall be transmitted by the State Committee to all members with the call to the convention. The Agenda may not be amended by the insertion of topics or issues not germane to the issues proposed in the original agenda.

The motion to adopt the by-law passed unanimously.

New Business

The State Committee discussed at length the question of Libertarian National Committee (LNC) support for a Republican Presidential candidate. The Chair reported that the LNC had failed to supply promised matching assistance to Libertarian Presidential candidates in two state primaries. Mr. Torrey reported attending the New Hampshire event, and confronting LNC members Lark and Machia. Several members said that we are the Libertarian Party, and that the LNC had damaged our good name by linking it to a Republican. Options for defending our party were discussed, and it was agreed that whatever happens, we would continue within MA to earn the party name.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Give now to have Federal candidates! Give now for local and legislative candidates!

Your donation to the Ballot Matching Fund will help put our Presidential and Senate candidates on the ballot next Fall. We must raise \$8000, or Massachusetts voters will have no Libertarian choice. They might have to vote for a Democrat! Or a Republican. Please help save our fellow voters from this dire fate. Make your check payable to **LPMA-FEC Account**.

Your donation to our State Campaign Fund will help support Libertarians running for State Legislature and local office. Help build a strong Libertarian Party from the grassroots up. Make your check payable to **LPMA-OCPF Account**.

(Yes, state and Federal law require we ask for two checks.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

To pay by credit card, please circle: Visa Mastercard Discover Credit? Debit?

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Clip and mail in a sealed envelope with your check or credit card data to: LPMA, 30 East Chestnut Street, Sharon, MA 02067. Donations are not tax deductible.

FEC and OCPF regulations require us to ask your occupation and employer if you give \$200 or more.

Occupation _____ Employer _____

LPMA
30 East Chestnut Street
Sharon, MA 02067