

Libertarian Party of North Carolina

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

7 August 2025

In Attendance:

Ryan Brown, Chair¹
Bob Drach, Vice Chair
Kate Shawhan, Secretary
Bryce Acer, At large
Mac Browder, At large
Angela Humphries, At large
Nick Taylor, At large

LPNC Guest members:

Bob Derr
Stephen Sumner
Dee Watson

Absent:

Barbara Howe, Treasurer

Call to Order:

Bob Drach, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Chair Report:

Kate Shawhan read the prepared chair report from Ryan Brown. 8 registered Libertarians are running in local elections for 2025; most of those races are unaffiliated. Rob Yates (communications director) and Ryan will reach out to them. Barbara Howe is on track to finish securing the insurance for the upcoming state fair when she is back from vacation. Rob Yates is starting the 2026 Convention Committee meetings on Sunday and looking for volunteers; this will be the party's 50th convention.

¹Ryan Brown's attendance was limited to the executive session discussion of 2026 campaign strategy. Bob Drach, vice-chair, acted as chair in his absence.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes for the May meeting were adopted at 7:10 PM.

Electronic Voting:

- On June 10th, Mac Browder moved, "to provide funding of up to \$10,400 for communications campaign proposed by Rob Yates at the excom meeting this past Friday." The motion passed 5-0 with 2 abstentions.

Treasury Report:

Barbara posted a report to the state board of elections. There is not much change, pledges have been coming in as expected. Barbara expects to pay the balance on the state fair booth when she is back in North Carolina, and is working on securing insurance for the state fair.

Officer, Director and Committee Reports:

- No other officer, director, or committee reports were given.

Business:

- Bob Drach presented Daniel Cavendar's offer to run a booth at the Thomasville street festival on September 27 if the LPNC will register and pay the \$250 fee. Details of the event are here: <https://www.thomasvillechamber.net/everybodys-day.php>

Mac Browder moved to provide funding for the street festival. Nick Taylor seconded. The motion passed 6-0 with no objection.

- Bob presented a request for \$400 to fund the Cape Fear Fire Fest. Spike Cohen will be there as a guest speaker.

Mac Browder moved to provide \$400 for LPNC to sponsor the Cape Fear Fire Fest on October 4th. The motion was seconded. Bob Drach and Bryce Acer abstained. The motion passed 4-0 with no objection.

- Angela Humphries moved "to go to executive session to discuss election strategy for the 2026 season." Kate Shawhan seconded. The Executive Committee moved to executive session with no objections.

Ryan Brown joined to discuss 2026 election strategy, and left as the executive session ended. Regular session resumed to relay the outcome:

- Rob Yates has reached out to each NC libertarian candidate in the upcoming 2026 elections to offer support and find out what needs the candidates may have.
- Rob and Ryan will craft a strategy with each individual candidate on a case-by-case basis.

Bob Drach moved to go into executive session to discuss the report made by the subcommittee formed to investigate Dorothy 'Dee' Watson's communications ban appeal presented at the previous executive committee meeting on June 6th. The Executive Committee went into executive session with no objections; Ryan Brown was not present and did not participate in the discussion or the ensuing votes. Regular session resumed and Bob summarized the motions that had been made in executive session:

- Mac Browder moved, "to adopt the changes to the LPNC Communications Platforms Usage Policy proposed by the Subcommittee on Communications Platforms Moderation."

²

Bryce Acer seconded.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 6-0 with no objection.

- Mac Browder moved, "to uphold Dorothy 'Dee' Watson's suspension from Mattermost and the LPNC Facebook group and Bob Derr's suspension from the LPNC Facebook group."

Kate seconded.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 6-0 with no objection.

- Mac Browder moved, "to end Bob Derr's suspension from the LPNC Facebook group."

Kate Shawhan seconded.

² Attached to the end of the minutes for reference.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 6-0 with no objection.³

- Mac Browder moved, “to extend Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson’s suspension from Mattermost and Facebook to all LPNC communications platforms.”

Kate Shawhan seconded.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 6-0 with no objection.

- Mac Browder moved, “that Executive Committee adopt the following resolution: The LPNC hereby formally censures Ryan Brown for allowing his personal conflict with Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson to negatively affect his professionalism during their interactions.”

Kate Shawhan seconded.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 5-1 in favor, with Angela Humphries opposed.

- Mac Browder moved, “that Executive Committee adopt the following resolution: The LPNC hereby formally censures Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson for the following hostile, disruptive, and unprofessional behaviors.

Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson has engaged in a pattern of aggressive and abusive treatment of numerous LPNC volunteers. Multiple valuable volunteers have stated that they have resigned their positions or reduced their involvement in the party as a result of the way they were treated by Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson.

Dorothy ‘Dee’ Watson has allowed her personal conflicts with multiple members of the LPNC to spill over into party business in an extremely unprofessional manner.”

Angela Humphries seconded.

Ryan Brown not present.

The motion passed 6-0 with no objections.

Bob Drach adjourned the meeting with no objections at 8:07 pm.

Submitted by, Kate Shawhan, Secretary LPNC

³ Bob Drach made a note while announcing this change that Bob Derr’s suspension would lift as soon as the moderation team is ready to implement the new policy.

[LPNC Communications Platforms Usage Policy - V20250731:](#)

LPNC Communications Platforms Usage Policy.

REV 20250731

Purpose: To ensure a collaborative and respectful environment where everyone involved in the party feels welcome and free to participate.

Where this policy applies: Any public or private forum, social media account, or communications platform established or maintained by the LPNC to facilitate communications and collaboration between members, associates, and candidates of the LPNC. It applies to all actions after this policy has been adopted and noticed. (December 6, 2024)

Policy: LPNC reserves the right to moderate the actions of users on their platforms. Harassment, abuse, personal attacks, or persistent derogatory commentary may result in corrective action.

- a. The IT team should designate moderators for each platform (Facebook, each Mattermost server/channel, others as needed) and a hierarchy of moderators to include at least a lead moderator on the IT team.
- b. Moderators have complete discretion to take the following actions: warn, limit, suspend, block, delete, or other at their sole discretion.
- c. Moderators should attempt to communicate directly with the censured party to explain reasons and request corrective action.
- d. Moderator will document and log the incident, including screen shots where possible
- e. An initial moderation action greater than warning will be for one month, unless extended by the EC.
- f. The disciplined party may appeal to the moderators for the platform, then if

desired to the EC. Contact the EC using their group email: excom@lpnc.org.

g. Where the moderator may have even the appearance of a conflict of interest, that moderator should recuse themselves. When this is not possible, the moderation decision should be reviewed by the next level moderator ASAP, ideally within two weeks.

Repeated violations will result in permanent removal. By participating in these communities, users agree to adhere to these guidelines.