

Libertarian Party of North Carolina

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

2 April 2026

In Attendance:

Ryan Brown, Chair
Bob Drach, Vice Chair
Kate Shawhan, Secretary
Barbara Howe, Treasurer
Mac Browder, At large
Angela Humphries, At large
Nick Taylor, At large

LPNC Guest members:

Timothy Conard, Head of IT

Absent:

Bryce Acer, At large

Call to Order:

Ryan Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Chair Report:

It was good to see you all this past weekend at the LPNC's 50th anniversary convention. I believe it was a successful convention. We had nearly 100 people there, which was quite an increase from our last convention. We also had some external exposure with some of the stunts we were doing on social media. It was great to see everyone, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the next one.

Minutes from the March meeting were adopted.

Electronic Voting:

- None

Treasury Report:

- Barbara delivered the preliminary convention expense report. While the convention was lovely, it did not make money. We fell \$2,000 short of breaking even, and do expect a few more expenses. The cost of the hotel was the biggest expense. Last year it was \$5,314.26. Lake Lure was \$12,546.61. Barbara recommends not returning for a few years. Barbara pointed out that a more central location would likely bring in more people. Rob pledged to cover some costs if we did not bring in enough revenue. Ryan plans on putting out feelers for the 2027 convention.
- The post office has been paid. Our current bank account balance is \$32,954. Rob Yates and Angela have some expenses to send to Barbara still. Cape Fear has revenue to send.

Old Business:

- Ryan would like to get the ball rolling on election code review and prefers to send the NC State Board of Elections a letter that outlines the process we intend to follow for the code review and ask for confirmation that the process is correct. Ryan feels it's better to send it in sooner rather than waiting to get the history.

New Business:

- Maad Abu-Ghazalah has expressed interest in taking on the position of membership coordinator and has ideas on how to engage and drive up membership. Mac Browder made a motion to make Maad membership coordinator, it passed with no objection.
- Mac Browder volunteered for the Bylaws committee. He has proposed a couple of preliminary bylaws, including going to every two years for convention instead of every year. Ryan has asked other state chairs and Virginia, Maine, and about 6 other states replied that they hold their conventions every 2 years so it's not entirely out of the norm. Cape Fear could hold Fire Fest every other year on the off years as a social outlet. Mac was appointed to find people for the Bylaw committee, and already plans to reach out to Phil Jacobson about Phil's plans to add an HR policy as a bylaw.
- IT virtual provider server migration: Timothy Conard - we have been using a virtual server provider, a liberty centric provider from a former NC libertarian. There have been some soft spots with the service in terms of professionalism, communication, etc. The IT team has found a replacement provider that we already know and trust. This is the server that runs our applications like

Mattermost, nexcloud, helpdesk, and the member's only website. Tim has signed up with the replacement provider; our current provider, Prometheus, is expiring in mid-May. The value is more peace of mind and a more fortified system. We will get four times the processing power, memory, and backup for data for a slightly lower cost. The nexcloud file service could replace the google drive and give us the ability to keep our data on our own server, free from prying eyes like Google. The biggest hurdle is that it would require some adjustment but it's worthwhile to take on that change. Timothy has renewed discussion in Mattermost. Timothy is comfortable getting the server migrated by mid-May; he is optimistic that there will be minimal downtime.

Other:

- Lessons learned from convention - The polar plunge and silent auction were some of the big fundraisers. Angela voiced concern over the costs incurred and would like to find ways to improve the process for our next convention. Mac requested a brief breakdown at the next excom meeting. Bob pointed out that there is value in increasing attendance; this was our biggest convention since 2021. Angela wants to modify the convention survey to be anonymous.

The meeting was adjourned with no objection at 7:51 PM.