**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA**

Call in telephone number: 630-868-9596 (There is no code)

URL link: [www.uberconference.com/chairlpil](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cmandy%5CAppData%5CRoaming%5CMicrosoft%5CWord%5Cwww.uberconference.com%5Cchairlpil)

**January 18th, 2022 – 7:30 PM**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

State Chair: Steve Suess Director: Amanda Parsons

Vice Chair: Donny Henry Deputy Director: Nathan Florey

Secretary: Vacant Broadcasting Director: Stacy Apel

Treasurer: Russ Clark Social Media Director: Chase Renwick

Executive Director: Justin Tucker Deputy Social Media Director: Alex O’Dell

**IT DIVISON**

Director: Deborah Renwick **POLITICAL DIVISION**

Deputy Director: Carter Mitchell Director: Jake Leonard

Platform: Vacant Deputy Director: Vacant

Operations: Kelly Liebmann Legislative: Bennett Morris

Coding: Vacant Campaigns: Jon King

 Candidate Recruitment: Vacant

**FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION** Deputy Recruitment: Vacant

Director: Les Deffner Ballot Access: William Redpath

Deputy: Blake Hanson Precincts: Vacant

Chapter Development: Ian Peak

Activism: Keith Zelinske

Events: Vacant

Membership: Kevin Mahoney

Campus Outreach: Elizabeth Arnold

Volunteer: Lorraine DeNardis-Albert

**AD-HOC and NATIONAL**

LP National Rep: John Phillips Jr.

Convention Committee: Vacant

**STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

1st District: vacant 10th District: Les Deffner

2nd District: vacant 11th District: vacant

3rd District: vacant 12th District: Scott Schluter

4th District: Justin Tucker 13th District: Andy Apel

5th District: Bennett Morris 14th District: vacant

6th District: Julie Fox 15th District: vacant

7th District: vacant 16th District: vacant

8th District: Steve Dutner 17th District: vacant

9th District: vacant 18th District: Damon Dillon

**OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

**Ken Mattes, Daniel Robin, Adam Balling, Jacob Irish, Joseph Peterson**

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**AGENDA**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER – 7:37PM**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Moved to later in meeting. Approved unanimously.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**CHAIR:**

* **PETITIONING BEGINS IN ESTABLISHED COUNTIES**

Petitioning in McLean, Peoria, Tazewell, Kankakee, DeWitt, McHenry, and Cook Counties began last week for the 2022 Primary Election. Chapter Chairs in these areas have hopefully been recruiting local candidates to run over the course of the last few months. If Chapter leadership or candidates have questions about petitions, the petitioning process, or anything related to running, they should contact Political Director Jake Leonard. I am also happy to help, and I’m sure Donny, Russ, and Justin would be as well, even if it’s just another set of eyes on the petitions.

* **COOK COUNTY BALLOT ACCESS**

We may be gearing up for a legal battle in Cook County for ballot access. Cook County election officials have given our countywide candidates access to the ballot, but are not giving ballot access to political divisions within the county, including county board seats. This is a misinterpretation of the law by Cook County election officials. Not only did other counties (Kankakee and Mclean) set precedent for allowing access to the ballot to district-level candidates within the counties, but Attorney at LP National Oliver Hall believes we have a case as well. We have gotten a legal team involved, and while we hope to solve the issue without litigation, we will file suit if we need to. As for now, Cook County candidates are moving forward as if they have equal ballot access.

* **MONEY RAISED FOR EDWARDSVILLE COMMUNITY**

In December, I mentioned to everyone how we were raising money for storm victims alongside LP Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas. Together, our state parties raised just under $10,000 for victims of the early December tornados and severe storms. 70% of that went to victims in Kentucky, the areas hardest hit by the tornados, while the other three states, including Illinois, received 10% each. Shortly after our previous meeting, $933.07 was sent from this fund to the Edwardsville Community Foundation, a non-profit in the Edwardsville community that was actively aiding storm victims with desperately needed supplies. Edwardsville was the hardest hit community in Illinois and was the location of the collapsed Amazon facility where several employees died.

* **2022 CONVENTION**

While the 2022 election is fresh on our minds right now, we cannot forget about the 2022 fall convention. If anyone would like to be on next year’s convention committee, please contact me. Also, we are looking for a host location, so if you’d like to see next fall’s Convention in your area and are willing to chair the convention, please let me know. I’m happy to help as much as I can, but it does help having a convention chair in the city of the convention venue.

**VICE CHAIR:**

* **Established County Petitioning**
	+ The Vice Chair has created petition and statement of candidacy templates for all established counties. They are fillable in Adobe PDF. Keep in mind that in established counties the rules for signing are different. You can no longer sign both a Libertarian and an R or D petition. They also cannot sign yours. Please reach out with ANY questions. I consider myself a saavy veteran at this now and can pretty much answer most of your questions that arise.
* **Party Leadership**
	+ As you all know, Steve and I are not seeking reelection for Chair and Vice Chair. I am asking you to step up. It is a lot of work but is very rewarding and it is vital to Liberty in our lifetime.

**SECRETARY:** N/A

**TREASURER:**



We ended the year on a positive note and beat our $47,000 goal this year by 8%.  We also spent 50% under budget for expenses.  I believe we were slightly too conservative as much of our Precinct Committeeman and advertising budgets went unspent.  Due to changes in Facebook algorithms and Apple's advertising policies, digital outreach will be a challenge in 2022 other than organic growth on social media platforms.  While Apple continues to only have 20% of the US Market, it is growing as more and more US consumers become aware of data privacy concerns on Android and Blackberry platforms.  This is a challenge for all political parties and candidates, not just us.  For those candidates running in the 2022 cycle or 2023 municipals, now is the time to investigate Search Engine Optimization (SEO) for your website as it takes up to 6 months for these strategies to work.  6 months from January is July so there is time for these to work and have minimal upfront costs.

I would like to make 2 notes to the board.

The first is that some chapters have received notices/requests from the IRS to file Form 990 for their chapters.  From 990 is the income tax form for 501(C)3 & 4 organizations.  In my research, we as affiliated political parties of a national party are exempt from filing provided we receive less than 100,000 in a given year and do not have actual income from investments or interest.  If your chapter was not set up as a 501(c)4 political organization, you may have questions from the IRS.  Please contact me for more detail.  I am still researching just to satisfy my own troubled mind to make certain this is still the case and would be happy to investigate a chapters particular needs.

The second is that I am running for re-election as State Party Treasurer.  All PCs will be receiving a nice note from me in the next few months asking for their vote.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:**

Fellow Libertarians - If you are not a recurring monthly donor to the LP Illinois, please visit [www.lpillinois.org/donate](http://www.lpillinois.org/donate) to set. If you cannot donate monthly, please consider a one-time donation.  Also, please become a Precinct Committeeperson if you are not already one.

Apologies for not sending a report last month. The meeting date moving up threw me off and I became distracted by the Holidays.

Since the beginning of my second term, I have collected $1204.45 in donations. The all-time grand total, minus the error from the recurring Lifetime donation, is $4721.85.

In early December, I sent out a Holiday appeal email which brought in $261.50.

Earlier this month, I send out two New Year's appeal emails, which brought in $105. Apologies again to Bill Redpath, who I accidentally left off the original email, even after having been proofread by a member of the Ex Comm and talking to him minutes before the email went out. I sent out a correction email the following day. I am a fallible human being sometimes prone to error.

The New Year's appeal got the attention of the State Journal-Register, who ran a story on Jesse White for Secretary of State.

I followed up with staff at the LP on a potential large donor. The LP wants to get this right for when they meet with the donor, but they are aware of our financial needs here in Illinois. I plan to touch base again with LP staff again before the meeting with up-to-the-date details.

I have been active in recruiting and petitioning for the Cook County primary.

I have also been to recent meetings of LPC, NWC Libertarians, and the Chicago Mises Caucus.

I encourage those who won auction items to secure those items in our archive at UIC to protect them from damage. I repeat: If you are not a recurring monthly donor to the LP Illinois, please visit [www.lpillinois.org/donate](http://www.lpillinois.org/donate) to set. If you cannot donate monthly, please consider a one-time donation.  Also, please become a Precinct Committeeperson if you are not already one.

**DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**Communications Division Report:**

Amanda is working on a newsletter in remembrance of Fran Holt. She also asked individuals to reach out if they had interest in assisting on the video commercial campaign. Chase has been working Social Media Campaigns that feature quotes from leaders. He foot stomped his desire to portray a professional image.

**Field Operations Division Report: None**

**IT Division Report:**

IT Division has been expanding. Kelly is adding new user in CiviCRM. Deb is documenting activity and process. There are various issues arising. Pending users have been having issues. AWS is new email server. Lex Green set it up. Info@LPIllinois.org is being researched and where email goes. It is not understood where donations are going through.

**Convention Report: N/A**

**Political Division Report:**

* **Divisional changes and vacancies**
* **POLITICAL**: Deputy Political Division Director, Candidate Recruitment Director, Deputy Candidate Recruitment Director
* **POLITICAL/FIELD OPS INTER-DIVISIONAL**: Precincts Director
* **Divisional communications**
	+ There’s a lot of stuff that should be covered from the past several months, but between a work transition back to contractor status and ongoing school, a lot of the information from the remainder of 2021 isn’t retained in memory anymore.
	+ The Division hasn’t had a meeting the past several months, but I feel sometime in January/February would be appropriate not only for our statewide ballot access battle, but also to garner updates on the primary elections in our seven established counties. This will include something else mentioned below.
	+ Petitioning in Cook, DeWitt, Kankakee, McHenry, McLean, Peoria, and Tazewell counties are underway, as they began last Thursday, Jan. 13. Filing will be March 7-14 with their respective election authorities.
	+ As likely mentioned by Chairman Steve Suess and Treasurer Russ Clark, we will have to seek injunctive relief in court due to restrictions to ballot access in Cook County. Since Cook County released the figures with restrictions on countywide only, they intentionally excluded figures for county board of commissioners, lesser political subdivisions like the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, and in the case of Cook County (excluding the City of Chicago), precinct and township committeepersons. (This does not impact the Libertarian Party’s ability to elect ward committeepersons within the City of Chicago, which will take place in 2024.)
	+ Regarding the ballot access, there has also been no answers to higher office, as countywide ballot access in Cook County also opens it up to any Congressional and General Assembly district whose borders are exclusively within the county’s borders. There’s no clearly defined language (for a lack of words, cryptic and confusing) for the 2022 cycle, but there’s apparently nothing prohibiting it in 2024.
	+ I would like to remind our established counties that you cannot prevent anyone from circulating petitions as a Libertarian. It is an open primary, meaning anyone can pull petitions to run on the Libertarian ticket. Instead of trying to kick someone who’s never been to a local Libertarian Party meeting, maybe take the time to get to know them.
	+ I encourage contested elections. Nothing is more boring than having an uncontested primary for a given office, regardless of the level of government. This is something we will have to prepare for as we continue to expand ballot access/major party status in more counties.
	+ While we fight the ballot access battle in Cook County, our other six established counties can petition for precinct committeeperson in addition to a countywide or county board position.
	+ I would like to get a final list of elected precinct committeepersons ASAP, it will make my job easier for when we hold our Executive Committee and State Central Committee elections sometime in July.

Appendix A

Libertarian Party of Illinois Political Division – Candidate Recruitment Report

Reporting Period: Post-State Convention 2021 to January 18, 2022

POLITICAL TIMELINE THROUGH 2025

**2022 GENERAL**: Candidate Recruitment and the Political Division reports the following regarding candidate status in the 2022 election cycle:

**STATEWIDE – 2022**

***Nominated at convention***

**Governor:** Schluter, Scott Marion

**Lt. Governor:** Phillips Jr., John Decatur

**Sec. of State**: White, Jesse Centralia

**U.S. Senate**: Redpath, Bill West Dundee

***Pending BOD approval***

Attorney General: Robin, Dan Cook

**CONGRESSIONAL/GENERAL ASSEMBLY (COOK COUNTY) – 2022**

If a court decision grants ballot access for anything higher that countywide in Cook County, such as the Illinois General Assembly, we will need to determine if the following are in districts exclusively within the county’s borders.

This is an action that will be the responsibility of the Libertarian Party of Chicago, other chapters within Cook County, and/or the Cook County Libertarian Central Committee.

**CONGRESSIONAL**

Cicinelli, Chris Oak Park

Cochran, Andrew Chicago

McDulin, Maxwell Chicago
Powell, Tracy Chicago

Seiler, Lucas Chicago

**ILLINOIS SENATE**Rowe, Phil Des Plaines **Senate District 28**

**ILLINOIS HOUSE**

Bailey, Marcelis Chicago **House District 25**

Mathews, John Berkeley **House District 7**

Wardman, William Chicago **House District 19**

**LPC/CCLCC:** If you need contact information for them to potentially get them to petition for a lesser race for the primary, please email me at political@lpillinois.org.

**OTHER ELECTION NOTES – COOK COUNTY**I will be reaching out to anyone who has not returned communications in the past relating to the Cook County local races.

LP Chicago/Cook County Libertarian Central Committee endorsed a “slate” for the June primary:

**Board President**: Dorothy “Thea” Tsatos
**County Clerk**: Joseph Schreiner
**Sheriff**: Brad Sandefur
**Treasurer**: Michael Murphy
**Assessor**: Nico Tsatsoulis

**Board of Commissioners 01**: Jim Humay
**Board of Commissioners 05**: Jason Ross Decker
**Board of Commissioners 11**: Brandon Sizelove

As a reminder, neither LPC nor CCLCC can keep anyone else from petitioning for their primary.

Therefore, I will follow up with those who did express interest in local office in Cook County, with the information they will need to submit their petitions for ballot access, if they haven’t already started by now:

**Board President**: Pantoja, Ruben
**Sheriff:** Kozlowski, Jack
**Board of Commissioners**: Mac, Ryan
**County Clerk**: Gomez, Marco
**Unspecified**:
Abour, Mo
Gomez, Marco
Kernagis, Anthony
Rowe, Phil

**OTHER NOTES**Since there haven’t been any real defined updates from most candidates despite my best-ditch attempt to get a response requesting an update on their candidacy interest, I am excluding further candidates for 2022 unless responses from candidates come in.

**OTHER CYCLE UPDATES:** Candidate Recruitment and the Political Division reports the following regarding candidate status in future election cycles:

**2023 CONSOLIDATED**:

* ***Paul Boucher*** is expressing intent to run for mayor or commissioner in the city of Hillsboro. Last communication 1/21/2021.
* ***William Ramsden*** expressed interest in running for alderman in the city of Chicago in 2019, but never responded in time. We are trying again for 2023. First contact 1/21/2019.
* Depending on status of 2021 consolidated election, ***Jake Leonard*** intends to run for full term for mayor in the city of Nokomis.

**2024 GENERAL**:

* Nothing to report currently.

**2025 CONSOLIDATED**:

* ***Jacob Loyd*** wanted to run for mayor of Herrin in 2021, but wasn’t even allowed to pick up candidate paperwork. Next race, barring a 2023 special election, will be in 2025. First contact 11/10/2020. Last contact 01/20/2021.

Submitted respectfully at 6:00 p.m. CST on this 18th day of January 2022 by the officers of the Political Division of the Libertarian Party of Illinois.

Jake Leonard, Political Director Bill Redpath, Ballot Access Director

Jon King, Campaigns Director Bennett Morris, Legislative Director

**LP National Report:** None

**CHAPTER REPORTS: *Please submit any chapter reports to*** ***Secretary@LPIllinois.org***

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Motion to nominate Ken Mattes to the LNC Platform Committee as the representative from Illinois (Suess, Henry)
	+ Motion passes unanimously
* Motion to nominate Dan Robin to run as a Libertarian for Attorney General in the 2022 General Election (Dutner, Renwick)
	+ Motion passes unanimously

**Next Meeting Date: 15 February 2022**

**Adjourn: 8:44PM**