

Updated: 01/27/2022

LPO – PPB

Libertarian Party of Oregon

Public Policy Board

Scheduled Friday, January 27th, 2023 at 7pm PST

1. Present
 - a. Travis, Matt, Peter, Katy, Brendan, Tom, Marrion, Sonja, Risto
 - i. Not present: Ayden, Morey
 - b. Non voting- Will
 - c. Observing- Trevor Poulsen

2. Meeting start - 1908 hours
3. Present/accept/amend minutes from the November meeting
 - Discussion on uploading recorded meetings online
 - Tom moved to adopt minutes
 - Seconded by Peter
 - All aye, unanimous
 - Tom rescinded his vote due to Marrion having corrections to submit
 - Marrion offered an amendment to strike “Peter moves” and correct to “Peter Motions” from December minutes.
 - Floating quotation corrected
 - Change “words” to worded” in quote from Marrion
 - Floating T
 - Transitional misspelled
 - Tom pointed out notetaking errors are generally expected.
 - Tom moved to close discussion and approve minutes
 - Peter seconded

4. Present the agenda
 - No edits offered
5. Public comment- open for observers to speak on any agenda item
 - Matt brought up Ayden has not attended meetings recently and communicated he hoped he would see him in meetings. Meeting time may need to be changed to accommodate.
 - Trevor Paulson is introduced as an observer. Met with Pablo in North Portland in the past and connected with Peter at a Clackamas freedom rally. Runs a “freedom list” as an activist. Met Ron Paul in 1988, been a libertarian his whole life, currently a non voter but still likes to be active.

6. Reports
 - a. Chair

- Since last meeting has been coordinating with Vice chair and Secretary
 - No interviews to report, nothing else to report except specific agenda items
- b. Vice Chair
- Mentions working on resolution on agenda
 - Peter reports on Clackamas County Party, thanks Secretary for help
 - Peter and his wife are having a baby in June
 - Just bought a new motorcycle
 - Rage Against War Machine Rally, Will Hobson will be attending
- c. Secretary
- Reported on Social Media Kit and Press Releases.
 - Drafted first 4 resolutions as Press Releases.
 - Wants to send resolutions to offices and media with a Press Release attached.
 - Creating graphics and social media flyers for affiliates and social media to utilize.
 - Screenshared one Press Release for Public Policy Board to review.
 - Offers to throw the Press Release into discord for editing and review.
 - Peter asks if anyone has any issue with format.
 - Peter moves to use this format for all Press Releases past and post tense.
 - Point of Order from Matt, suggests we don't need a vote on this as it is the Secretary doing her job.
 - Matt is not sure if with this small of an organization if we need to approve every Press Release or formatting.
 - Sonja says she wasn't sure of protocol and that she at least wanted to present it as what she has been working on and make sure everyone has confidence in it.
 - Matt mentions until after convention he would not refer to it as an elected body.
 - Sonja Agrees to edit from "elected body" to "a body"
 - Marrion says this is exactly what she was hoping for, especially for people sharing info, managing social media etc. All resolutions passed should be made into memes, posts, mean tweets etc.
 - Sonja says she wants them to be as digestible as possible by the public and the resolutions as they are written can be a bit heady.
 - Sonja says she made a flyer template and will share in discord and be very open to that.
 - Katy mentions that there is a line repeated twice, may be intentional.
 - Katy says regarding the "Public Policy Board is an elected" line it could read as "Public Policy Board is a newly created body of the Libertarian Party of Oregon."
 - Matt Suggests we include vote counts with resolutions, especially if it's a close vote or a unanimous vote. Would be good for members who are a minority to identify with members of the PPB who may feel the same as them on certain issues.
 - Sonja Agrees with Tom's suggestion.
 - Sonja stops sharing draft of Press Release Template.

7. Old business

- a. Status check on plank drafts
- Travis shares the draft document for the LPO PPB Draft Agenda.

- You can add planks, offer suggestions for other planks you aren't signed onto.
- Living document so we can see our progress live and address at future meetings.
- Matt asked how do we resolve a dispute on a plank?
- Travis says you can offer several different versions of planks, debate in discord, tackle adoption in a few months. Approaching convention we can come to adoption or agreement or offer what we worked on to the new elected board.
- Matt points out a factual error, return to a republican government by going back to government by individual counties never actually happened in Oregon.
- Travis mentions these are just ideas we can flesh out on document or on discord.
- Travis is uncertain if we will finish by convention.
- Matt says if we can't get through the document by May, when we are about a month out then we go through the contentious sections and the majority can send the document to the convention. Platform will always have sections folks don't like.
- Matt says we go through votes for each section and then send it to the convention.
- Matt believes we do need a document to send to convention, through majority vote of the committee.
- Katy has input on getting more specific on plank topics, which would keep the document from being too broad and general.
- Katy mentions National Platform and how it has 20 different sections which gives the opportunity to tie back to the statements or if it says something violates the principles.
- Peter says that the taxation topic will be pretty concise in saying that it's theft, in the next resolution coming up.
- Matt disagreed with "taxation is theft" stance, says it would not speak to the vast majority of libertarians.
- Peter disagrees.
- Matt mentions that Travis is a police officer and asks if that's theft and Peter says "yes" and that Travis would probably agree.
- Matt says we are a party that is supposed to govern.
- Matt says a large amount of the party would roll their eyes when they see that line, and says taxation should be localized.
- Peter says there's a reason there's only 20k registered libertarians.
- Katy corrects by saying that's only in the state and it's not so bleak.
- Katy says that "taxation is theft" is a meme, it gets people's attention and it's the start of a conversation. We have to be able to have conversations and start somewhere especially if we have a libertarian in the legislature.
- Katy understands where Matt and Peter are both coming from.
- Tom said that it was mentioned there should be a taxation plank so he wrote one and we can go from there.
- Matt said we should have a taxation plank and we should do with it as we wish.
- Matt says he will respect the thoughts of the rest of the board.

- Peter says they can work together on future wording to hopefully find consensus.
 - Travis says we do not need to get into individual planks this meeting but just wanted to share the document with the board.
 - Matt says thank you to the people putting in the time to put this together.
- i. Resolution concerning Gender Reassignment Surgery for Children
- Resolution brought by Peter.
 - Peter says it was tabled last meeting due to not being able to reach a consensus, he had it in discord and due to no input has brought it back in its traditional form.
 - Matt says this is a solid resolution.
 - Matt says we should go with the definition of what is a child as defined by state law.
 - Matt says we should cut the national party verbiage. It's unnecessary about broader policy issues.
 - Matt offers to strip out the national verbiage and would make a motion on that.
 - Peter says he would be ok with striking that on the second aspect.
 - Peter says he doesn't think we need to define what a child is.
 - Matt motions to strike the language out from national platform.
 - Peter accepts.
 - Katy Seconds to strike the national platform comments.
 - Everyone but Brendan, Tom votes Aye.
 - Tom votes Nay.
 - Peter asks Tom his reason for voting Nay.
 - Tom says he likes to ground resolutions on what the National Party pulls from.
 - Travis asks if anyone abstains.
 - Sonja says she hasn't voted yet, she asks if clause is being striked for redundancy.
 - Matt replies because it gets into healthcare and becomes a distraction from overall purpose and the media will ignore it. Big newsrooms will ignore it if it's too long. Asks if there is a motion to consider.
 - Tom calls point of personal privilege, says that the media will be reading the press release not the resolution.
 - Matt says if they aren't reading the resolution what is the point of releasing this.
 - Sonja votes Nay.
 - Travis says no abstains.
 - Brendan says he votes Nay as he doesn't have a strong opinion.
 - Travis asks if its a Nay vote or abstain.
 - Brendan confirms Nay vote.
 - Peter motions to reconsider.
 - Katy asks if there's a way to recraft it.

- Travis says there's a vote to reconsider.
- Peter rescinds his vote as this is up to LPO social media to put out.
- Marrion said she was having changing opinions due to argument itself and due to Press Releases Sonja presented at the beginning. Does provide a solid foundation.
- Sonja says she voted Nay because she thinks the background offered by the national platforms helpful and that she could simplify language in the press release.
- Travis says it sounds like this needs more discussion before rushing into a vote.
- Katy brings up the 2.3 National Plank and the issue of the state funding these operations and taxation being tied up in the issue. Says there's a lot of money behind it and where does that money come from and it doesn't just come from the free market.
- Matt says saying child abuse also brings the government into it. Free market does not provide you a good answer on this issue when worded this way. Policy makers are major players in proliferation in trans ideology. If stripped, supports the language.
- Sonja says she likes the free market paradox that says people have the right to choose their own healthcare and bodily autonomy. She says that by mentioning the National Platform healthcare plank it covers the paradox with the understanding that children are not capable of that consent and we are acknowledging the healthcare aspect.
- Peter agrees, says the free market aspect is important and it's a line we aren't willing to cross.
- Tom says it's fascinating that autocracies with free market healthcare don't have trans ideology. Would argue that parents have absolute domain over kids and it's a free market, except for this one issue. Fundamentally it's a question of the role of the state.
- Peter reminds the board that the resolution does none of that, simply makes a statement that what is addressed in the resolution is wrong.
- Peter Rescinds his earlier motion, would like to pass the resolution in its entirety.
- Sonja mentions she would like this resolution to pass.
- Peter says he would second any motion to rescind and pass motion in full.
- Travis says he is unclear on the original motion due to discussion and how to proceed.
- Marrion motions to reconsider previous vote to strike language taken from National Platform.
- Peter seconds.
- All Aye votes, except Matt who voted nay.
- Matt makes request that when any resolutions get news coverage let him know.
- Peter says the only reason he included it in the first place was due to the Classical Liberal Caucus' interpretation of the national platform planks and he is pointing out how they are incorrect.
- Tom says it's a well-formed resolution and good language.

- Matt asks if a resolution is voted on in the woods, who is there to read it?
- Peter doesn't know if resolutions are meant for media but for social media.
- Peter says the resolutions allows the PPB to speak on these topics.
- Marrion mentions the LPO is expressly forbidden to speak on any of these topics that are not released to them by the PPB. It's not the job of the PPB to make everything digestible but to put forth resolutions so LPO is allowed to speak on them. This is communication to people within our own party who have the key to disseminating to the media.
- Sonja says this is why she created the social media graphics for when this passes with a title that's eye catching, an infographic format and can be sent out as a social media package which is far more effective than reaching out to the media.
- Sonja says she understands Matt's concerns with wordiness but with social media you just need a picture and quote.
- Matt says he doesn't know why we need the resolutions then with all the wordiness if it's going to just go out on social media. Says we are creating a document that we are admitting is irrelevant.
- Katy asks if we can condense the resolution.
- Tom moves to close debate.
- Peter calls the question and thanks Tom. Says it may be too wordy.
- Sonja says that she doesn't want to say no one will read it and that resolutions are valid as the information in the resolution could be useful to libertarian members and prospects.
- Tom motions close debate.
- Travis call the vote on whether to strike the national platform verbiage.
- Katy votes Aye.
- Matt says with reluctance he votes Nay.
- Marrion votes Nay.
- Risto Abstains.
- Travis asks if any further discussion.
- Matt asks to clarify if that was Travis motion to vote on entire resolution because we already had motion to reconsider and thought we were voting on entirety.
- Peter agrees and calls to question.
- Matt asks if that was just to close debate on closing discussion.
- Tom says it was just to close debate on striking National Committee platform.
- Tom says we need to vote on whole thing.
- Travis asks if that is a motion to vote on whole resolution.
- Peter calls to question and that we should move to vote on the whole thing.
- Peter Motions to pass resolution as presented.
- Sonja seconds .
- Ayes except for Matt and Tom who voted Nay.
- Matt thanks all who writes resolutions.

8. New Business

a. PPB access to LPO tools/site, distribution and collection of resolutions/platform

- Peter says that Pablo is working on a page for all our resolutions, in progress.
- Peter mentions we should have one location for drafts and resolutions, Google Drive or Dropbox.
- Marrion asks how it would be different from now.
- Peter says he would like it all to be in one place.
- Matt mentions anyone who doesn't like this should have a better suggestion.
- Sonja loves the idea of having a central place for documents.
- Peter would like to go with Dropbox or Google Drive since they are free.
- Travis says that he would like something for him, Peter and Sonja to be able to add letterheads and documents to send so maybe the three can come up with a solution for Pablo to drop documents.
- Katy asked if since the three officers are on a subcommittee if they can just submitted
- Matt says the system we have is too loose and ad hoc and any centralized place is good for him.
- Peter says we will just move forward unless someone disagrees.

b. War in Ukraine position, the Rage Against War event, and Will Hobson's attendance/representation

- Peter says that hearing Matt's concerns about taxation is a separate plank, he's ok with removing first whereas "taxation is theft."
- Travis says the first agenda item is up due to Will attending the antiwar rally and his ability to discuss the resolution.
- Will asks if we want to make him a representative of the Oregon Libertarian Party then he would speak on our behalf at the protest event.
- Peter says the resolution does not state Will is a representative of the PPB and do we want to state that on resolution.
- Peter reads a synopsis of resolution to Will.
- Will agrees, says he thought him going to event was endorsed.
- Peter agrees to that and to change the resolution to add Will Hobson as a representative of the PPB at the event.
- Travis says that's probably not necessary and if someone wants to volunteer to speak on behalf of the party they can just ask.
- Matt says that the officers essentially act as a committee within a committee.
- Travis recognizes others including Tom have spoken on behalf in the past.

- Matt says the three officers should be able to decide who publicly represents the PPB.
- Matt appreciates the spirit of the resolution, however the 3rd Whereas makes him a little nervous. Doesn't think most everyone shares the opinion that "states are evil organizations."
- Matt suggested we add the bullet point of "Pardon Snowden."
- Marrion agrees, would strike Whereas 1, 2 and 3. Thinks the 4th Whereas is the only one essential. That most groups within the LPO could get behind that. Says we are trying to represent everybody, even the minority voices.
- Matt says he would keep the 2nd Whereas, his main concern is the taxation and 3rd Whereas. Matt says adding Snowden to the bullet point list would be good.
- Travis asks if we should make any changes.
- Matt suggests we make the omissions in the actual motion for adoption, for simplicity.
- Tom urged a second resolved clause that encourages LPO members to contribute to the effort of the event.
- Peter says he is willing to strike the 1st clause and would be open to changing "evil" to "questionable" and add "Snowden is a hero."
- Katy states her reasoning for being against the war in Ukraine is because she hasn't seen an official declaration of war. Suggested we add something that says we do not support a war that has not been declared. Can we just say in a Press Release that the RATW is a great protest and we support it? Do we need a formal resolution?
- Matt says the resolution is of value that we can get out now, will probably vote no if the 3rd clause is included.
- Sonja says she thinks the social media and the resolution together would be a good approach.
- Katy asks if we have to write resolutions for every event.
- Sonja says that this is a special event that people are excited about, but yes if this happened for every event it could get tedious.
- Matt says the resolution would put us on the record for standing up against the war.
- Peter asks if he strikes the 1st and changes the 3rd would that get Matt's vote.
- Matt said no because morality is being assigned in the 3rd clause.
- Sonja suggests it could just be written in a different way.
- Katy says the real problem is the foreign aid and we should focus on that and remove the third clause.
- Matt thinks it's important to have state criticisms on the record.
- Peter says he's ok with striking the 1st and 3rd clause.
- Brendan says he also has issues with the 1st and 3rd. The issue is with foreign aid in his opinion.

- Matt confirms with Peter that he is ok with adding Snowden to the list, Peter replies yes.
- Marrion motions to adopt the resolution without 1st and 3rd clause and adding in "Pardon Edward Snowden" to the bullet points.
- Tom seconded.
- All ayes, resolution passes unanimously.

c. Should we post videos so they are viewable to the public?

- Travis to speak with Pablo.
- No extra trouble for officers in group.

2. Public comment- open for observers to speak on any topic

Trevor (observer) commented -Wife and kids just got home. Thank you for allowing me to observe. I would like to stay in touch and talk about the issue of homelessness and the increasing difficulty of homeownership. Because property rights are the foundation of all other rights. This is the number one issue for me. Thanks again.

- Katy proposed we have an open comment area to the beginning of the meeting.
- Travis agrees to move the second public comment area to the beginning of the meeting.

9. Good of the order

- Sonja brought up utilizing google drive for working through resolutions .
- Peter asks if there is an agenda for next meeting.
- Travis discusses utilizing discord for the next meeting date so Ayden can be included.
- Matt proposed we have a more regular meeting schedule.
- Will - Proposed we welcome both minarchist and anarchist viewpoints in the LPO. Proposed slogan.
- Matt brought up creating a preamble to the platform plank which includes the openness of the party.

10. Meeting end – 2047 hours.