

These Minutes Record the Proceedings of the

Libertarian Party of Union County Convention 2023

29 January 2023
Convened at The Trail House (Indian Trail, NC)

In Attendance:

Joe Garcia, Chair
Brandee Kruitfield, Vice Chair
Thomas Hohman, Treasurer
Chris Salley, At-Large
Janet Kidd Garcia, Member
Jennifer Schulz, Member
Clint Travis Wheat, Member
Joshua D. Glawson, Member

Absent:

Rebecca Shoaf, Secretary (Child care conflict)
David Dell, At-Large
Austin Waggoner, Member

Libertarian Party of Union County Guests:

Steven DiFiore, LP of Mecklenburg County

Call to Order:

Chair Joe Garcia called the meeting to order at 1315 hours. Due to current LP of Union County Secretary Rebecca Shoaf being absent, Chair Joe Garcia appointed Janet Kidd Garcia Convention Secretary without objection.

Secretary Report:

Convention Secretary Janet Kidd Garcia reported 8 Delegates in attendance physically, with 1 non-member as a Guest.

Agenda:

The agenda created by Chair Joe Garcia was offered, see addendum # 1. Joshua D. Glawson moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Thomas Hohman. This was approved by voice vote.

Chair Report:

Chair Joe Garcia:

- Introduced the current LP Union Executive Committee members.
- Detailed that Union County currently has 1,107 registered Libertarians. That is a 68.5% increase since 2018 (657 during the same period in 2018).
- Highlighted the 3 Adopt a Highway road cleanups, mentioned the need for LP of Union County to get more involved in the community and for members to look for new opportunities for activism.

Election of Officers:

(Note: "None of the Above" is considered a candidate in all elections and does not require a nomination)

Chair – Janet Garcia nominated Joe Garcia, seconded by Jennifer Schulz. Joe Garcia accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations offered, nominations were closed. Joe Garcia was voted as Chair unanimously.

Vice Chair – Chris Salley nominated Brandee Kruitfield, Janet Garcia seconded. Brandee Kruitfield accepted. Jennifer Schulz nominated Chris Salley, Thomas Hohman seconded. Chris Salley declined. There being no other nominations offered, nominations were closed. Brandee Kruitfield was voted as Vice Chair unanimously.

Treasurer – Joe Garcia nominated Thomas Hohman, Clint Travis Wheat seconded. Thomas Hohman accepted. There being no other nominations offered, nominations were closed. Thomas Hohman was voted as Treasurer unanimously.

Secretary – Janet Garcia nominated Rebecca Shoaf, seconded by Chris Salley. Due to Rebecca Shoaf not being in attendance, a motion was heard to Suspend the Rules to allow for Rebecca Shoaf's nomination to be allowed. The motion passed by voice vote. There being no other nominations offered, nominations were closed. Rebecca Shoaf was voted as Secretary unanimously.

At-Large – Janet Garcia nominate Chris Salley, seconded by Brandee Kruitzielfield. There being no other nominations offered, nominations were closed. Chris Salley was voted as At-Large unanimously.

Election of Delegates to the 2023 LPNC State Convention:

- There were 5 Delegate slots available
- Joe Garcia, Janet Garcia, Brandee Kruitzielfield and Joshua D. Glawson declared their intentions to attend the 2023 LPNC State Convention.
- Clint Travis Wheat moved to “Approve a slate of delegates to represent the Libertarian Party of Union County at the 2023 LPNC State Convention consisting of Joe Garcia, Janet Garcia, Brandee Kruitzielfield and Joshua D. Glawson.”. The motion was seconded by Thomas Hohman. The motion passed unanimously.
- Final Delegate count: 4 Delegates, 0 Alternates.

Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer Thomas Hohman reported that the LP of Union County currently has \$170.00 available that are accounted for.

Bylaws Changes:

Chair Joe Garcia offered the following Bylaws change/addition proposals as there was no Bylaws Committee formed prior to the 2023 County Convention:

Proposal # 1: Change, Article V. Executive Committee (see: Addendum # 2). Brandee Kruitzielfield moved to accept, seconded by Janet Garcia. Proposal # 1 passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Proposal # 2: Change, Article V. Executive Committee, Section 1. Composition (see: Addendum # 3). Janet Garcia moved to accept, seconded by Chris Salley. Proposal # 2 passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Proposal # 3: Change, Article VI. County Convention (see: addendum # 4). Brandee Kruitzielfield moved to accept, seconded by Janet Garcia. Proposal # 3 passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Proposal # 4: Addition, Article XI. Amendments (see: addendum #5). Chris Salley moved to accept, seconded by Janet Garcia. Proposal # 4 passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Proposal # 5: Addition, Article XII. Statement of Principles (see: addendum # 6). Chris Salley moved to accept, seconded by Brandee Kruitzielfield. Proposal # 5 passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Proposal # 6: Addition, Article XIII. Platform (see: addendum # 7). Chris Salley moved to accept, seconded by Brandee Kruitzafield. Proposal # 6 failed, as offered, 3 votes for and 4 votes against.

For all proposed changes that passed, they will go into effect after the conclusion of the 2023 LP of Union County Convention.

Motion to adopt Convention Rules for the Libertarian Party of Union County

Chair Joe Garcia presented proposed Convention Rules for LP of Union County as none currently exist (see: addendum # 8). Joshua D. Glawson moved to accept the proposed Convention Rules without change, seconded by Brandee Kruitzafield. Motion passes, as offered, on a voice vote.

Discussion topic: Recruiting and recruiting goals for 2023

- As Chair Joe Garcia discussed in his State of the County, Union County has 1,107 registered Libertarians. Chair Joe Garcia stressed the need to find a CRM/email service in order to better document and track registered Libertarians.
- Vice Chair Brandee Kruitzafield mentioned that aside from starting to table at events around Union County, that the LP of Union County should consider the possibility of door knocking in order to rally registered Libertarians into getting involved.
- Chair Joe Garcia discussed possibly using Google Maps to create a “walking map” to find concentrations of registered Libertarians to make door knocking more effective.

Discussion topic: Fundraising

- Chair Joe Garcia discussed the need for the LP of Union County to finally get a fundraising mechanism in place in order to generate funds to purchase tabling items.
- Chair Joe Garcia asked LP of Union County Executive Committee members to research different services (i.e.: PayPal, Stripe, etc) and collect notes for the next LP of Union County business meeting.
- Vice Chair Brandee Kruitzafield discussed the possibility of setting dues for LP of Union County at \$5.00 a month or \$25.00 per year. No decision was made at this time.

Discussion topic: Use of future funds

- Chair Joe Garcia made a statement that the priority is to raise funds, but that to effectively grow LP of Union County, funds will need to be used.
- At-Large member Chris Salley mentioned the possibility of creating an online shop to sell LP of Union County branded items to help, stating not only will this help get our brand out into the wild, but will assist in raising funds for other use.

Conclusion of Business

The Business portion of Convention concluded at 2:35 PM.

Social/Networking Time

Members remained on site for social/networking time.

Adjournment

The LP of Union County Convention was closed at 3:10 PM.



Addenda

Addendum # 1, Agenda

- Call to Order
- Secretary's Report (Attendance)
- Adoption of Agenda
- Introduce members of the Libertarian Party of Union County Executive Committee

Chair	Joe Garcia
Vice Chair	Brandee Kriutzfield
Treasurer	Tom Hohman
Secretary	Rebecca Adkins Shoaf
Exec Committee At-Large 1	David Dell
Exec Committee At-Large 2	Christopher Salley

- Chair's Report – State of the County Party
- Election of Officers
- Election of delegates to the 2023 LPNC Convention (Five total)
- Other Business
 - 1) Treasurer's Report - \$170.00 in account
 - 2) Bylaws Changes
 - 3) Motion to adopt Convention Rules for LPUnion
 - 4) Recruiting goals for 2023

- a. Discuss number of registered LIB in Union County
 - b. Discuss past attempts at recruiting
 - c. Discuss solutions for CRM/email service
 - d. Open floor to ideas for future recruiting
- 5) Discuss setting up fundraising
 - a. Discuss fundraising platforms.
 - b. Discuss setting dues for LPUnion.
 - c. Open floor to ideas.
- 6) Discuss planned use of funds
 - a. Banner
 - b. Table skirt/drape
 - c. T-Shirts

- Social Time

- Adjourn

Addendum # 2, Bylaws Change

Proposed Change 1: Article V. Executive Committee

Opening paragraph currently reads:

“The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the control and management of all of the affairs, properties, and funds of the LPUnion consistent with this **Plan of Organization** and any pertinent resolutions that may have been adopted by the County Convention.”

Recommended change:

“The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the control and management of all of the affairs, properties, and funds of the LPUnion consistent with the **Bylaws of LPUnion** and any pertinent resolutions that may have been adopted by the County Convention.”

Rationale: This is a technical correction as it is the Bylaws and not a Plan of Organization.

Status: Passed

Addendum # 3, Bylaws Change

Proposed Change 2: Article V. Executive Committee, Section 1. Composition

Currently reads:

“The Executive Committee of LPUnion shall be composed of at least a Chair and a Treasurer as the elected officers of the Party. The Executive Committee of LPUnion can elect other officers such as a Secretary, Vice Chair and two (2) At-Large members, elected at the County Convention, if enough members are available to fill the roles.”

Recommended change:

“The Executive Committee of LPUnion shall be composed of at least a Chair and a Treasurer as the elected officers of the Party, elected at the County Convention. Other officers such as a Secretary, Vice Chair and up to two (2) At-Large members may also be elected at the County Convention, if enough members are available to fill the roles. Vacancies that may occur may be filled as per LPUnion Bylaws Article V, Section 7.”

Rationale: The Executive Committee is not responsible for electing members at the County Convention. It is up to the delegates in attendance at the County Convention to vote for officers. The change clarifies that and also notes the section of the Bylaws concerning how vacancies on the Executive Committee are handled.

Status: Passed

Addendum # 4, Bylaws Change

Proposed Change: Article VI. County Convention

Currently Reads:

As an affiliate of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina, the LPUnion holds a county convention annually at least 30 days prior to the LPNC convention that corresponds to the same year. The primary purposes of the County Convention are as follows:

- To elect LPUnion Officers for the offices defined in Article IV.
- To elect delegates to represent Union County at the LPNC convention.
- To nominate or endorse candidates for local, state, and Federal offices in Union County.
- To adopt resolutions or changes to this document to better meet the needs of the LPUnion.

The Convention Chair is the LPUnion Chair of the year leading up to the County Convention. Delegates at a County Convention consist of all current Members in attendance at that convention.

The LPUnion Officers of a given convention year shall set the date and location of the next County Convention no less than 4 weeks prior to the event. In no less than 3 weeks prior to the convention, the same officers shall announce the convention to the Membership in a reasonable combination of media with a concerted effort to reach all of the Membership.

The nomination and election of each LPUnion office, as defined in Article IV, will take place at the County Convention. Nominations for officers will be open to Members present at the convention, and any Member may nominate him- or herself without the requirement for a second. Officers are elected by a

majority vote of Members present and voting, and newly elected officers take office immediately upon the close of the convention.

“None of the Above” is automatically considered a candidate for all LPUnion votes, including for each office. Should “None of the Above” receive the most votes when voting to fill an office, that office will remain vacant for the convention term with the exception of Treasurer, which may be appointed by the other elected officers.

Voting on other matters will require the following:

- Nominees or endorsements for state and county offices may be adopted by a majority vote of Members present and voting
- Resolutions may be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of Members present and voting

Updates to this document may only be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of Members present and voting

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

Article VI. County Convention

Section 1. Definitions

For the purposes of these bylaws the term “convention” shall be understood and taken to mean, notwithstanding any other perceivable definition, a gathering of the body of such members of the LPUnion as shall choose to participate in the LPUnion County Convention, irrespective of physical location. This shall include either solely physical presence in a single location, or solely remote presence via virtual technology in its entirety, or any other combination thereof, as determined by the LPUnion Executive Committee, as appropriate.

Section 2. Convening

The LPUnion shall hold an annual County Convention to conduct such business as may properly come before it and in conformance with the Bylaws. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to set the time, place, and schedule of events for the State Convention. The time and place of the County Convention shall be announced to the LPUnion members by all the means by which the Party regularly communicates with the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention.

Section 3. County Convention Delegates

Persons who meet the LPUnion membership requirements as defined in Article III. Membership of the LPUnion Bylaws at least sixty (60) days prior to the LPUnion County Convention convening will be considered delegates and are eligible to cast votes in LPUnion business during the County Convention.

Section 4. Delegates Designated by the Body

After the County Convention convenes and the Secretary (or designee) makes their initial report, the body may, by a two-thirds vote, designate any member or members as delegate(s) who did not meet the LPUnion membership requirements at least sixty (60) days prior to the LPUnion County Convention.

Section 5. Speaking

Any attendee may seek recognition to speak at the County Convention.

Section 6. State Convention Delegates

1. The County Convention shall elect credentialed LPUnion members as delegates and alternates to the LPNC State Convention.
2. Elections shall occur during usual County Convention business time and follow County Convention rules. Neither Delegates nor alternates may be named after the County Convention has adjourned. Delegate positions for which there is no delegate or alternate named must remain unfilled.
3. LPUnion members who are not in attendance at the County Convention, but wish to be considered for delegate or alternate, must be credentialed in advance by the County Convention Secretary and nominated at the County Convention by an LPUnion member in attendance.

Section 7. Results of the Convention

The Secretary, or designee, shall be responsible for recording actions taken by the County Convention and producing a new version of the Bylaws, Convention Rules, Platform and Statement of Principles when changes have been made. If the Secretary is unable to complete this task within 60 days of the Convention, the Chair may appoint someone to complete it, or to assist the Secretary. The Executive Committee shall review drafts of the documents prepared and submit them to the membership for review within 90 days of the Convention.

Rationale: The proposed changes clarify how the LPUnion County Convention should be handled.

Status: Passed

Addendum # 5, Bylaws Addition

Proposed Addition: Article XI. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at a County Convention, provided a quorum is present.

Rationale: The current version of the Bylaws does not have any mechanism to be amended.

Status: Passed

Addendum # 6, Bylaws Addition

Proposed Addition: **Article XII. Statement of Principles**

The LPUnion affirms and adopts the Statement of Principles of the national Libertarian Party.

Rationale: Our current Bylaws do not have an affirmation/adoption of any Statement of Principles.

Status: Passed

Addendum # 7, Bylaws Addition

Proposed Addition: **Article XIII. Platform**

1. The LPUnion affirms and adopts the Platforms of both the LPNC and the national Libertarian Party.
2. In all matters where the LPNC and/or the national Libertarian Party do not take a position their platforms, the LPUnion shall always be in favor of the position that limits the role of government and protects the freedom of individuals.

Rationale: Our current Bylaws do not have an affirmation/adoption of any Platform.

Status: Failed

Addendum # 8, Convention Rules

Convention Rules of the Libertarian Party of Union County

Rule 1. Order of Business

The standing order of business for a Regular Convention shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's report
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Reading of Resolutions
5. Adoption of Resolutions

6. Election of Party Officers and At-Large members of the Executive Committee (odd-numbered years only or to fill a vacant position in even-numbered years)
7. Election of Delegates to the Libertarian Party of North Carolina State Convention
8. Other business

Rule 2. Voting Eligibility

1. The Secretary shall report the number of delegates registered in attendance and eligible to vote directly after the opening of the first business session and at the beginning of each succeeding session.
2. All delegates shall be eligible to vote on all matters. In order to vote on a given matter, a delegate must be present on the floor at the time the vote is taken. Each delegate present shall have one vote.

Rule 3. Voting Procedure and Motions

1. On all matters voting will be by voice vote except in the election of Party Officers and at-large members of the Executive Committee and the nomination of candidates. If at least one-third (1/3) or more of delegates in attendance object to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a counted vote will be held.
2. The Chair may require any motion offered from the Convention floor to be in writing, signed by the mover, and submitted to the Secretary.

Rule 4. Resolutions

1. Resolutions must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
2. Resolutions must not be in conflict with the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina. Challenges of such adopted Resolutions believed by ten percent (10%) of the delegates to be in conflict with the Statement of Principles shall be referred in writing, during the Convention, to the Judicial Committee of the Libertarian Party of North Carolina by the delegates requesting action for consideration. The challenge shall specify in what manner the Resolution is believed to be in conflict. The Judicial Committee shall consider the challenge, decide whether the Statement of Principles is conformed to, and report their findings and reasons to the Convention. If the Resolution is vetoed by the Judicial Committee, it will be declared null and void but can be reinstated by a three-quarter (3/4) vote of the Convention.
3. Resolutions must be submitted to the Secretary in writing at the convening of the State Convention.

Rule 5. Election of Party Officers and Executive Committee

1. Nominations for Executive Committee members shall be from the floor.
2. Nominations for each seat may be made by any delegate present on the floor, provided he or she has the candidate's permission. Nominating speeches shall be limited in duration as follows:
 - 2.1. Chair: one, two (2) minute nominating speech, two thirty (30) second seconding speeches;
 - 2.2. All others: one, one (1) minute nominating speech, one thirty (30) second seconding speech.
3. Elections for Executive Committee members shall be conducted by a majority vote. If no candidate receives a majority, runoff votes will be held, dropping the candidate with the fewest votes after each ballot.
4. For At-large Executive Committee members, each delegate may cast a ballot with a vote for either none-of-the-above or one vote per candidate for any number of candidates. Every ballot with a vote for none-of-the-above or one or more candidates is counted as one ballot cast. A vote for none-of-the-above shall be ignored if the ballot also includes a vote for any other candidate. The candidates or candidates (up to two candidates) receiving the most number of votes cast shall be elected. Tie votes affecting the outcome shall be decided by lot.
5. In any election where there are no barriers to nomination other than the consent of the candidate and where the option for none-of-the-above is provided, any votes cast for a person not nominated shall be counted as votes for none-of-the-above.

Rule 6. Amendments to the Rules

The Convention Rules may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a Regular Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Kidd Garcia
Convention Secretary
Libertarian Party of Union County