
LPWC Minutes July 12th, 2023

Wednesday, 7.12.2023

Officers

Mark Marasch, *Chair*
Jen Mueller, *Treasurer*
Phil Denton, *Secretary*

Members Present

Joshua Toms
Catherine Marasch

Guests Present

Meeting Called to Order at 7:08 pm

Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes

Jen makes motion to accept minutes, Joshua seconds. Motion carries.

Officer Announcements

Chair

- Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom (OAMF) is urging support an amendment recognizing the Medical Right to Refuse. Information can be found on the ohioamf.org website: <https://www.ohioamf.org/legislative-action> and on <https://www.medicalright2refuse.com/> . It maintains the individual's absolute right to refuse treatment of any sort and prevents discrimination based on the fact.
 - HB51 the Second Amendment Protection Act is still in house committee. We might think that gun rights are an easy win in this state, but that's far from the truth! The House Bill 51
-

Committee Activity report from the second hearing in committee on the 7th of March 22 proponents showed up to advocate for SAPA, but between the 4th and 5th hearings (14th of March and the 23rd of May), more than 130 opponents (and only one proponent) showed up to shoot down a constitutional approach to gun rights via the 10th Amendment. Still think that pursuing gun rights is “virtue signaling?” I sure don’t! This is a big uphill battle and we need to get involved. If we can’t affect the state, we need to pursue this at the township, city, and county level. Link to the legislation and progress is here:

<https://ohiohouse.gov/legislation/135/hb51>. House Oversight Committee and encourage them to get this to the floor for a vote!

<https://ohiohouse.gov/committees/government-oversight>

- I’ve heard a lot of people in the LPO freaking out about Issue 1 that will be in the coming special election on the 8th of August. Even a demonstration was held to make waves against it. I’d like to hear people’s positions on it and Monday’s LPO newsletter email uses emotionally-charged rhetoric about how this is a Republican coup. I’ve read the bill and think that there **should** be a tall barrier to constitutional changes...regardless of what changes we might specifically have in mind. We might want changes to ensure ballot access, but there are plenty of people out there that would want to take gun and other rights away. Do we really want that left up to a simple majority? People can read the ballot issue here: <https://www.ohiosos.gov/globalassets/elections/2023/spec/issuereport.pdf>
- MOST IMPORTANT: We need to work on local issues and get locals elected to government positions. Joshua Toms is the only member we have running for election right now. He’s good on the issues, has some good ideas for what should be done to change Lebanon’s City Council, and please get involved to support his efforts ASAP. Volunteer and show up!

Treasurer

- Our current balance is \$645.12.
- Reminder - we are now taking donations online via Anedot and we currently have three donors supporting our affiliate on a monthly basis. If you believe in what we’re doing, please consider making a recurring donation! Every little bit helps.

Secretary

- I noticed I’m behind on uploading PDF Minutes on the website so I’ll get those updated this week.

Other Announcements

- Update on Toms for Lebanon campaign. Opportunities to support his campaign by being present, holding signs, and talking to people in the crowd:
 - July 17-22 Warren County Fair. There will at least be a meetup on the 18th or 20th in the evening.
 - July 21st Third Friday on Mulberry Street in Lebanon
 - August 4th Lebanon Blues Festival

- August 18th Third Friday on Mulberry Street in Lebanon
- September 15th Third Friday on Mulberry Street in Lebanon
- October 13th and 14th Oktoberfest in Lebanon
- October 20th Third Friday on Mulberry Street in Lebanon
- Come get your stickers! If you can donate a couple bucks to help cover the costs, all proceeds go to the affiliate thanks to a generous donation of the stickers last month!

Committee Report:

Marketing Committee

- Taking a more proactive approach on social media this year. I am making a concerted effort on Facebook and Mark is doing great on Twitter.
- The website is red, white and blue. Work in progress.
- Need to start answering simpler questions about LP and the platform - anyone good at writing?
- Anyone interested in the marketing committee?
- We have stickers!
- Need to update website - please send pictures!
- Coffee next Friday!

Election Committee

- Jon Mohler provided this link to a spreadsheet show seats that were uncontested two years ago:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qFXOjUFPtk3uvi9P7fhqTKDalb5M4ieusMzn3pIcivE/edit?usp=drivesdk> We appreciate Jon's efforts, but now he is moving out of state and we are open to volunteers to work this committee.

Old Business

- Previous proposal for relocation of business meetings was tabled.

New Business

- Joshua Toms moved to create a calling campaign to engage members on the pending 2A issue in the State legislature (see officer reports for more information). Phil seconded. Motion carries. Mark volunteers to lead the building of this template.



Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm

- Phil moved to adjourn, Jen seconded. Motion carries.