

THE LIBERTY AGENDA

MAY

News & Upcoming Events of

1992

The Libertarian Party of West Michigan

LPWM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The LPWM EC meeting was held one week earlier than usual due to State LP Convention dates. Discussion included the possibility – no, PROBABILITY – of a picnic/fundraiser/party for libertarians, friends, and interested individuals. Thanks to Ken Aardema (who just joined the LPWM) for bringing up this idea.

STATE CONVENTION EVENTS

Although all LP candidates for congressional and state elective positions have been selected, there is still a definite need for Libertarian voices at the county and local levels. If you are interested in being (or if you will allow us to persuade you to be) a candidate for County Commission or Board of Education or other local position, PLEASE call Mike Gillman at 456-5585 or Todd Greene at 532-4234 before the local LPWM Convention on May 9 to put your name in the hat for nomination (see more under LPWM Convention, below).

LPWM Vice Chair Michael Gillman was elected to the LP of Michigan Advisory Council (their executive committee) as a "member-at-large." Mike was also nominated as State Representative district 76 candidate and Presidential Elector. LPWM College Outreach Manager Jim Pruitt was nominated as State Representative district 74 candidate. Member Dick Jacobs was nominated as Congressional district 2 candidate. Member Dick Whitelock was nominated as U.S. Congressional district 3 candidate. LPWM Chair Todd Greene was nominated as Presidential Elector.

LP OF MICHIGAN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

State convention delegates altered the form of the State LP's executive body. Now it consists of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and three "Members-at-large." In addition, any LP of Michigan member may attend the Advisory Council meetings and have a vote. Moreover, any member may carry "proxy votes," which means she or he may represent all members who have "granted" their vote to that representative. In such cases, the vote of a particular LP member on the Advisory council will carry the "power" of the number of proxies that that member has acquired from other LP members. Thus, any and all LP members may attend Advisory Council meetings and have a voting influence on council decisions.

LPWM CONVENTION – Sat., May 9, 7 p.m.

On May 9, 7 p.m., we will be "reconvening" from the State Convention in order to conduct an LP caucus for West Michigan counties (Kent, Ottawa, Ionia, Allegan, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Montcalm, Barry, and Calhoun) at the LPWM Convention (in addition to conducting regular LPWM business). The purpose of this convention is to nominate LP candidates for county and local positions up for election this year and to elect new LPWM Executive Committee members. EC positions up for election on May 9 are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Managers of: Newsletter, Media, Fund-Raising, Voter Registration, Speakers, Discussion Group, College Outreach, and Protest.

LPWM Bylaws may also be amended during the Convention. You can get a copy of these Bylaws by calling 456-5585 and requesting one. Copies will also be available at the Convention.

The LPWM Convention will be held at 1159 Leonard St. NW (at the Garfield intersection between Pizza Hut and Burger King).

TAX PROTEST DAY REPORT

The annual Tax Protest was well attended by our local activists throughout the night of the 15th. Motorists and passengers responded quite enthusiastically to the "Honk if You Hate Taxes" sign. In many cases, it was the passengers who prodded the driver to toot! All in all, thousands of tax filers saw that there are some people who will stand up and be counted in the fight against taxation. At least 300 received reply cards and information on the LP and our criticism of taxation. The following day a Grand Rapids Press Metro page one article featured the rally, including a photo of an "unidentified" LP member and his protest sign. Way to go, LPWMers!

LPWM BOOTH AT IONIA COUNTY FREE FAIR

IMPORTANT!!! Dick Whitelock informed us of the booth requirements for the Ionia County Free Fair. The fair will be held July 29 – August 7. Rental of space for the booth will be \$320. However, we need to turn in a \$160 deposit as soon as possible in order to reserve the space! In addition, we will need to purchase libertarian literature to hand out. (Dick will be using his own funds to purchase a special "Operation Politically Homeless" political opinion survey display for use at the fair.) We need your donation to cover these costs. Please send your donation to our address below. Just earmark your donation for "Fair Booth" and we will be sure to use the money for this project only.

We also need individuals to man the booth for the 12 days of the fair, noon to 10 p.m. each day. This is a great opportunity to get out and have some fun in the sun sharing the libertarian philosophy with the uninformed. Call us at 532-4234 to reserve your volunteer time today!

LPWM TELEVISION SPOTS

Two spots will be aired on GRTV, Channel 23 (cable), Grand Rapids. One is a 90-second spot that discusses how the "Buy American!" slogan really represents an unpatriotic attitude and why it is wrong for government to interfere with how you choose to spend your money (times: 5/18 10:00 p.m., 5/20 7:20 p.m., 5/22 10:20 p.m., 5/23 9:00 a.m.). The other is a 60-second spot that discusses the transgressions of the Drug War with regard to our civil liberties (5/25 10:20 p.m., 5/27 9:20 p.m., 5/29 7:00 p.m., 5/30 8:20 p.m.). Both end by giving information on how to contact the LPWM.

RADIO SHOW UPDATE

A radio talk show hosted by local libertarians, called Free & Clear, should begin sometime in the next few weeks on local public radio station WBYW (89.9 FM). The hosts are currently looking for program sponsors (\$50/month). They are also in the process of acquiring a \$35 FCC license which they need to go on the air. Free & Clear, when it begins, is tentatively scheduled to be broadcast every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon.

● IMPORTANT ●

DONATIONS – LPWM OPERATING EXPENSES

Mailing out this newsletter and mailing information packets to individuals who request information about the LPWM costs money. Send us your donation of \$100, \$50, \$25, or \$15 to support LPWM activities. Go ahead, stick it in the mail right now. We depend on you to continue and to grow. (The IRS requires us to inform you that your donation is not tax deductible.)

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BECOME AN LPWM MEMBER

To become a member of the Libertarian Party of West Michigan, you need only affirm the following statement:

"I hereby certify that I do not believe in nor do I advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving social or political goals."

Signature _____

No donation is required for membership. However, your voluntary donation is requested in order to provide funds for the operating expenses of the LPWM (such as newsletter production/mailling expenses, inquiry packet literature costs & mailing expenses, stationery, etc.)

Check either or both:

- ☐ I want to be a member of the LPWM
- ☐ I want to help the LPWM with my donation of
(circle one) \$100 \$50 \$25 \$15 Other _____

(The IRS requires us to tell you that "contributions are not tax deductible.")

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ w / h