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Comments from the Editor

This edition features a total of 3,768 words. Spacing before and after line breaks has been modified for evenness. Articles have been edited to improve grammar, punctuation, and clarity. The oxford comma is preferred. Any words written in all capitals have been changed to either italics or bolded font, to avoid excessive emphasis.

Contributions and Comments Welcome

Contributions are welcome, with careful attention to our [guidelines](#). Comments or articles for the next issue of the Michigan Libertarian may be sent to newsletter@michiganlp.org. Submissions sent later than the 20th of each month may not have time to be used. Articles are often posted to michiganlp.org/headlines ahead of our publication date.

The LPMI depends on contributions to carry out its mission. Please Visit us at MichiganLP.org and scroll down to the bottom of our homepage to gain access to our contribution form.



The TikTok Ban

April 01, 2024 / By Joseph Solis-Mullen

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.

Should the President have the power to decide which websites you can visit? Should Congress? Should Americans be prevented, by the government, from using the social media platform of their choice- a platform increasing numbers of Americans freely choose to get their entertainment and news? No, it would be a violation of their most basic rights.

Apologists for such violations of our freedom of thought, choice, and privacy claim TikTok is a trojan horse for foreign influence. The truth is they have presented no evidence to substantiate their position, and any unbiased reading of the recently passed House bill reveals that the bill itself is a trojan horse for an expansion of the already too great powers of government.

Twenty years ago, Americans and their elected representatives gave in to fear, sacrificing freedom in the name of security. Having fiercely sworn “never again” we find ourselves tragically on the cusp of the next round of humiliating capitulations to tyranny, to domestic imperialism, and to the continued erosion of liberty and freedom in America in the name of the false promise that this will produce security, peace, prosperity, and freedom.

Nothing could be more dangerous. This most recent bill passed by the House is nothing but a naked power grab that enhances the power of the state and offers more market share to cronies in the domestic tech industry, from whom Washington is always able to extract whatever it wants. H.R.7521, or the Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act is a violation of American liberty and fails to protect them from any credible threat or their government’s own overreach.



Explore the [Buds 'N Reality Podcast](#) with LPMI's Shaun Collins!



LPMI Members vs The Bylaws

April 01, 2024 / By Joshua Jongema

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.

Some LPMI members have become convinced they have the authority to do anything at any convention, even if it violates the LPMI Bylaws or Robert's Rules of Order. However, the Bylaws were passed by members at prior conventions to protect minorities from majorities, and Robert's Rules of Order are enforced for anything not stated explicitly in the Bylaws. In the case of the March 9th convention, the Bylaws protect the hundreds of current party members from the mob rule of a mere 50-60 people who took majority at the Special Convention, which is designed to have limited business. Special conventions often have low attendance because many members have come to expect there to be such limited business. Members read the agenda in the call to convention and decide if it is worth their time. To ram unnoticed new motions through at a special convention is to violate the Bylaws, which is to deny the rights of members.

Bylaws are a binding contract between members. The Bylaws grant the Judicial Committee (JC) the authority to resolve procedural disputes within the Party, saying the JC "shall decide cases involving alleged violations of these bylaws or resolutions." One appeal to the JC has already been ruled on quickly because it was the same situation that had occurred in 2022- an attempt to overturn the elected board without notice. These Bylaws are important to protect members and party business during election years, and if anyone wants to read the JC report which gave the full argument about the 2022 situation they may receive it upon request to our [email](#).

There are more appeals to be reviewed by the JC, including the matter of two District Representatives' elections to the board, and these have not yet been decided. We will consider all facts, the Bylaws, and Robert's Rules of Order, and we will vote to decide based on what we view as objective truth and justice. We will put that decision in writing so that everyone can see our reasoning. Any member interested in presenting arguments may do so in writing to the above email. If any member has not received a copy of the appeals currently being reviewed, they can request them the same way.

Bylaws are the difference between a political party and a mere social group. They need to be followed and not simply disregarded when expedient, because they represent the will of members in the past who worked hard to craft them and who voted them in. Keep in mind any member may put forth a motion to amend the Bylaws at any odd-year convention, and if any disagree with a Bylaw, I urge them to do so. They could even take part in the Bylaws Committee next year if they wish. There are processes for everything, and I hope everyone can learn to respect them.



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LPMI Delegate Nomination Convention Draws Over 100

April 01, 2024 / By Scotty Boman

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.



Picture 1. March 9th convention delegates reading their packets before start of business.

Flint, MI – The Libertarian Party of Michigan (LPMI) National Delegate Nominating Convention commenced on March 9th, 2024. Delegates convened at Hyatt Place Grand Blanc. The core purpose of the convention was to elect delegates to [Libertarian National Convention](#) which will be held in Washington DC on May 23rd through 26th. However, the event also featured mealtime speakers culminating with a Presidential debate at the evening banquet with Master of Ceremonies (MC) [Brian McWilliams](#). Draft minutes of the event can be found [here](#).



A New Beginning in 2024

Prior to formal business, Libertarian National Committee (LNC) Secretary Caryn Ann Harlos spoke to attendees during a continental breakfast. Her presentation is at the beginning of the convention video [posted here](#). Secretary Harlos later served as parliamentarian at the beginning of the morning business session but stepped down from this duty in the midst of controversy within the delegation.



Picture 3. Secretary Caryn-Ann Harlos giving her morning presentation. Photo by Trevor Step



Picture 2. LPMI Chair Andrew Chadderdon giving his opening remarks.

Chair Andrew Chadderdon opened the business session with a speech in which he summarized many of the challenges faced by LPMI in the preceding year, and his vision for the future. After his report he handed the gavel over to First Vice Chair Leah Dailey. With credentials reporting 105 delegates and alternates filling the standing-room-only event, lively debate ensued including challenges to the credentialing of some delegates, and the amendment of some convention rules.

Afternoon Break

Following the morning business, delegates took a lunch break. The Luncheon featured an informative speech by Karla Bernath from "[Axe MI Tax](#)," which is a proposed state constitutional amendment to forbid taxation or collection on real estate and personal property. Attendees dined on a sandwich buffet.

Publicly Appointed Libertarians Greg Whittaker, Andrew Duke, and Leah Daily shared their insights in a panel discussion. It was facilitated by elected Libertarian Trustee Donna Gundle-Krieg and MC Brian McWilliams.



Picture 4. Panelists (right) with the MC (left).



Afternoon Business



Picture 5. Bill Gelineau Chairs afternoon session.

Vice Chair Leah Dailey opened the afternoon business session with the request that the body elect to replace her with another convention Chair. Former Chair Bill Gelineau chaired the remainder of the business session.

Promptly came the report of the trial committee, chaired by Second Vice Chair Trevor Step. The delegates went into executive session to discuss the membership suspensions of four people. The delegates voted to reverse the suspensions.



Picture 6. LPMI Chair Andrew Chadderdon with Andrew Duke.

Then came the main event- the election of National Convention delegates. Michigan has been allotted 33 delegates and 50 alternates. Delegates took turns nominating people. Most nominated themselves. They were selected by an approval vote where they were ranked based on the number of votes received. In the end the convention elected 33 delegates and 25 alternates.

Since the Fifth, Eighth and Tenth District Representative offices were vacant, delegates from those districts caucused to fill them. District 5 elected Norm Peterson, District 8 elected David Canny, and District 10 elected Michael Yonak.

Open floor was the final business item on the agenda. Delegates used the time to make a variety of opinion-rich motions and resolutions. Carl Ball moved to pass a resolution of support for the ["Michigan Good Time Initiative."](#) If approved the initiative would allow prisoners to have a day removed from their sentence for each "good day" of time served. Andrew Duke moved to pass a resolution calling for unity in the LPMI.

Business was complete, but the convention wasn't over. The grand finale was a banquet where delegates feasted as they enjoyed the Presidential Candidate Forum Hosted by MC McWilliams. The candidates were Lars Mapstead, Jacob Hornberger, Chase Oliver,



Mike terMaat, and Dr. Charles Ballay. The entire forum is at the end of the convention video linked in the 2nd paragraph.



Picture 7. Brian McWilliams (Standing) with Presidential Candidates Jacob Hornberger, Mike terMaat, Lars Mapstead, Chase Oliver, and Dr. Charles Ballay (left to right). Photo by Jake Bassett.

Appeals Pending

The effect of some of the convention business may be changed based on a record number of appeals to the Judicial Committee. Readers can receive updates by checking out MichiganLP.org, and subscribing to the Michigan Libertarian, automatically included with [membership](#).

**Photos by Scotty Boman unless otherwise indicated.*



Explore the [State 180 Podcast](#) with LPMI's Ben DeJong!



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Legislative Committee Update

April 01, 2024 / By Justin Miramonti

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.

Homeschool Call to Action

Michigan's homeschool freedom is under a series of legislative attacks including the possibility of homeschool registrations, mandatory kindergarten, and curriculum reviews by your local superintendent. To combat these efforts and preserve our freedom we have partnered with Liberty Leaders Unite and the Michigan Christian Homeschool Network (MiCHN). Together we are working to increase awareness and involvement throughout Michigan's many homeschool communities.

In addition to our committee efforts focusing on this issue, our next membership discussion will be featuring John Taylor Gatto's [insights](#) into homeschooling and public education in general.

Also, there is an upcoming protest on April 13th at the capitol in Lansing. Ryan Brennan is in contact with the group itself and I've gotten in contact with Liberty Leaders Unite who has agreed to actively promote the event. I expect Shelly will hear back from MiCHN sometime this weekend. Thanks for bringing this to our attention Ryan.

Constitutional County Sanctuaries

On the local level we're working to pass Constitutional County resolutions throughout the state and have begun distributing workbooks to local affiliates. This is another area where Liberty Leaders Unite is interested in partnering with us as we move forward throughout the year.





Defend the Guard

Thanks to Jesse Stevens, Dana Carver, and Larry Henneman American Legion halls throughout the state will be considering resolutions in support of this critical legislation in the weeks and months to come. We plan to use their passage to bolster our call banking efforts on the committee level.

House Bill 4981

This bill seeks to impose several eligibility requirements in order to run for local Sheriff that will make it tremendously difficult for liberty minded candidates to even make it onto the ballot. It's passed the state House and is currently up for consideration in Senate Committee. As of yet, it hasn't made it onto their agenda, but I expect it will be making its way there soon.

My Appointed Position

April 01, 2024 / By Leah Dailey

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.

Currently I am a commissioner on the South Lyon Planning Committee. This is an appointed position that I applied for last year. There was a vacancy on the board. I was also appointed to the South Lyon Housing Committee because there was a vacancy on the board. They actually needed one more member before they could resume business, needless to say they welcomed me with open arms.

South Lyon has an interesting dynamic. Though we are in Oakland County, our city shares a border with Livingston and Washtenaw counties, about 30 min north of Ann Arbor. We are a city of about ten thousand residents, within Lyon Township, but we have our own police force, a six-person city council, and a mayor. Our commission boards are Downtown Development Authority, Historical Commission, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Cultural Arts Commission, Cable Commission, Board of Ethics, Housing Commission, and Road Improvement Committee. There are quite a lot of options for appointments.

South Lyon is over 90% developed. With the majority of that development being residential. We are nestled between Novi, Brighton, and Ann Arbor. It is what you might call a "bedroom community."

I was a little leery that they just let me join the Planning Committee, knowing almost nothing about what the position entails. All I knew at the time was a little bit about Robert's Rules of Order, Bylaws, and I knew I was going to sit for the national anthem, which is listed as an item on the agenda for every meeting.



After attending my first meeting and reviewing the previous meeting minutes, I was flabbergasted. There seemed to be a lot of wasted time discussing facade, like the proposed brick to siding ratio and if that siding is actually tan or khaki, or voting to approve a waiver for a developer to plant evergreen trees when the city ordinance calls for shade trees. It all seemed a little arbitrary, at first.

What if a small business owner wants to open up a product or service shop in South Lyon and paint it hot pink with an 8-foot electric blue sign? It's their business risk, right? Any submitted plans for growth and development within the city, along with their architectural firm, must first get their plans approved by the building inspector, the fire department, and the zoning board. Depending on the development, it might be wise to submit traffic and market research studies. Those plans often require approval from the Planning Committee first, prior to going before the City Council.

We have a "lemon lot" in South Lyon, right in the middle of downtown, on the corner of 10 Mile Road and Pontiac Trail. It was a restaurant that changed ownership five times in ten years. They said it was cursed. I heard the plumbing is a mess because the property is right next to a car repair shop that, one hundred years ago, used to be a gas station, and there are buried oil tanks under the property. The next owner will need to remedy the problem and, most likely, demo the lot before they can rebuild. For now, the city is stuck with a downtown eyesore.

People move in and out of South Lyon every year. Some people stay longer than others. but the city continues to exist, and prosperity of the city is shared by all. The city would be taking on the risk of allowing a poorly thought-out business plan to set down their roots in our community.

A collision shop zoned light industrial would be across the street from a neighborhood zoned residential. It's probably not a bad idea that there's an ordinance that the collision shop has to have an opaque fence surrounding the area where they keep their wrecked cars that are waiting to be repaired. A little common sense can go a long way in this position.

I became a libertarian planning commissioner, and so can you.

How I Changed a Life

April 01, 2024 / By Avi Rachlin

This article expresses the opinion of the author. Other Libertarian Party of Michigan members are welcome to send in opinion articles (In keeping with our [guidelines](#)) for consideration to the editor.

To the average person, watching unedited court camera footage for hours on end would be an extremely boring if not painful task. However, I am anything but average. I binge court camera videos like most binge The Office, Seinfeld, or other TV shows. The major



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difference however is what I watch is 100% real. These are real people with lives that are about to change forever, and I find that fascinating. Recently, I watched a defendant take a plea deal that arose from a Felony CCW charge, carrying a concealed pistol without a license. Before taking the guilty plea the defendant stated that his CPL had only been expired for 6 months. Under Michigan law being caught with a concealed weapon with a CPL that has expired even for just 1 second is a felony, however, prosecutors are given the discretion to set their own policies. I happened to be aware of an internal policy in the Wayne County Prosecutor's office where defendants were not supposed to be charged at all if their CPL had been expired for less than a year. For some reason, the Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Attorney, and Judge ALL missed that. Thankfully, I didn't. I immediately contacted the attorney of record for the defendant notifying them about the error and linking them to the subsequent policy. 11 days later she informed me her client's conviction was **reversed, vacated, case dismissed**, and all fees paid refunded. She also blasted this out to all her colleagues so such an error wouldn't happen again.

Because of me, and me alone, I saved this man the scar of a permanent criminal record and many other ancillary consequences. The right to own a firearm, visit Canada, and many other personal freedoms can be forever lost upon suffering a criminal conviction. This is how I had a major positive impact on the life of a total stranger. What's stopping you from doing the same?

Officers & Staff

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Affiliate Contacts

****Please contact local affiliate officers to learn how to get involved in their meetings.*

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Wayne County:

Chair Andrew Chadderdon, andrew.chadderdon@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

****Some meetings can get canceled, or locations can change with short notice. Consider checking event pages or contacting hosts for updated information before travelling to events.*

Wednesday, April 3 @ 6-8pm – South West Michigan Monthly Meeting

Airway Lanes Taproom: 5626 Portage Rd, Portage - 269-775-1775

The Southwest Michigan affiliate meets the first Wednesday of every month to discuss local activism and party business. Confirm details by going to <https://www.facebook.com/pg/LPofSWMI/> and clicking the events tab.
www.swmlp.com

Thursday, April 4 @ 7-9pm – Livingston County Monthly Meeting

Cleary Pub: 117 E Grand River, Howell

Join the Libertarian Party of Livingston County for our monthly meeting. We gather at 7, order drinks and food, and business starts shortly after. If you're new to the party or to Libertarianism in general, you'll find the meetings welcoming and informative! For more information, see: <http://www.LivingstonLP.org>.



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Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:30-8:30pm – Capital Area Monthly Meeting

Eagle Monk Brewery: 4906 W Mt Hope Hwy, Lansing

Join the capital area affiliate of the Libertarian Party of Michigan for discussions on politics and libertarian theory. We meet the second Tuesday of each month.

Tuesday, April 9 @ 11am-3pm – Straights Area Day to Support Iron Pig Smokehouse

Iron Pig Smokehouse: 143 W Main St, Gaylord

We'll meet to vote on a resolution of support for Ian Murphy and his restaurant – in their court battle against Whitmer and the various health department laws. At 2:00 PM there will be a multi-partisan attendance of the court hearing for Ian's case against these unconstitutional and tyrannical measures. See the Facebook event posting at <https://www.facebook.com/events/209459418884172>.

Wednesday, April 10 @ 6:30-8:30pm – Wayne County Monthly Meeting

Habib's Cuisine: 14316 Michigan Ave, Dearborn

Second Wednesday of Every Month. Call to order is promptly at 6:30pm.

Wednesday, April 10 @ 7-9pm – Macomb Monthly Meeting

Big Boy: 861 S. Main, Cheboygan

We invite you to join the Libertarians of Macomb for their monthly meeting. They meet in the area at the back of the restaurant. (The former smoking section). Casual Dinner at 7:00 p.m. business meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call LMC Chair Mike Saliba (586) 201-3535.

Thursday, April 11 @ 6:30-8pm – Huron-Raisin Monthly Meeting

The Tap Room: 201 West Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti

More info at www.HuronRaisinLP.org.

Sunday, April 14 @ 7-9pm – LPMI Executive Committee Monthly Meeting

(Online)

The Executive Committee will meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 874 3297 2253. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83093546405>

Tuesday, April 16 @ 8-9pm – Upper Peninsula LP Monthly Meeting

Online

Every 3rd Tuesday at 8pm EST – the UPLP holds General Meetings open to the public.

Meeting ID: 819 9262 3984. Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81992623984>.

Wednesday, April 17 @ 6:30-9pm – Oakland County Monthly Meeting

B1 Tavern: 1967 Cass Lake Rd, Keego Harbor



Join LPOC for their monthly meeting. Casual dinner at 6:30pm. Call to order at 7:30pm. Confirm details by going to <https://www.facebook.com/lpocmi/> and clicking the events tab.

Wednesday, April 24 @ 7:00-10:00pm – Monthly New Member Welcome Zoom Meetup + Statewide-Member Discussion & Debate

This month's discussion topic will be on the topic 'In Lieu of Tax Season' and will review the following 3 articles:

<https://fairtax.org/about/how-fairtax-works>

<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-fair-tax-act-would-radically-restructure-the-nations-tax-system-in-favor-of-the-wealthy/>

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/25/text>

If you would like to participate in the Discussion event, please email

membership@michiganlp.org for the Zoom link. All current members will receive an email invitation to the discussion section, which begins at 8pm.

Are you inspired by our ideals? [Join the party today](#), and [consider running for office](#) under our banner to get these ideals enacted in your community.

If you are new to the *Michigan Libertarian*, you can find archived issues here:
<http://old.michiganlp.org/resources-2/newsletter>.

The Libertarian Party is committed to America's heritage of freedom: individual liberty and personal responsibility, a free-market economy of abundance and prosperity, a foreign policy of non-intervention, peace, and free trade.

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