

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

May 2020 Meeting

Conf. Call

## **ATTENDANCE**

Starchild, LPSF Chair

Rebecca Lau, LPSF Vice Chair

Richard Fast, LPSF Secretary

Michael Edelstein, lpsf member

Jeff Yuness, lpsf member

Greg Michael, lpsf member

## **GUESTS**

Matyas Homer, LP Solano County

Leonard Gencke, Germany

Andrea Wood, President of CA Family Advocacy

Katrina Bauer, guest

Ryan Munevar, Campaign Director of Decrim CA

Marc Andrews, guest

Albert from Oakland, guest

The meeting was called to order on May 9, 2020 at 3:02pm by Starchild via conference call.

### **1. Introductions (5 min.)**

Katrina Bauer: with Republicans that came to LPSF because of common issues. Work SF Unified School District, shut down, now working online

Andrea Wood: CA Public advocacy, working for families, child trafficking thru foster homes. Constitutionalist; blend of Libertarian and Republican, connect with both parties.

Ryan M. of Decrim CA: campaign director

Michael Edelstein: been with LPSF since 1990s, campaign to help L's clean up their language, no "we" (state != us)

Jeff Yuness: L since 2005, Berkeley libertarian club, gone to a few LPSF meetings

Rebecca Lau: LPSF vice chair, live in NYC, born/raised in SF, libertarian for 10 years, but party member for 3.

Greg Michael: live in Berkeley, lawyer in SF.

Matyas: LP Solano member listening in.

Leonard : calling from Germany, found Meetup page by coincidence, entrepreneur, int in social sci, edu, philosophy, joined German pol parties, ran in elections, connect b/n countries' parties, SF most progressive city on Earth

## **2. Reports (5 min.)**

• **Chair's report:** Still working on newsletter. National convention: COVID-19 response has restricted options. LNC online meeting, uncertainty but push for online convention. LP.org/convention for updates.

• **Vice-Chair's report:** Gained access to fb page, asked Ryder Meehan who gave access. Talked to everyone, asked to help with bylaws, got one person.

• **Secretary's report:** I have the minutes of all the meetings of Jan-April but I haven't been able to get these posted on the LPSF website yet. Will make available upon request.

• **Treasurer's report:** (resigned)

• **Webmaster report:** RF suggested making Webmaster a new committee position in LPSF bylaws.

## **3. Activism sharing (10 min.)**

Promoting freedom between meetings; attending events, posting online

Rebecca Lau: hosting Zoom call with 6 candidates in NYC Tue May 12 @ 5pm Pacific, ManhattanLP.org for Zoom link

Michael Edelstein: At 5pm LP Kentucky POTUS debate with Rep. Justin Amash. YouTube channel for it.

Greg Michael: paging Gov. Newsom over shelter in place. District courts denying exceptions: relig services with masks, 6ft distance. Protest at Capitol building. Benefit: Governor + state backing off w/ drive in relig servies. Going up to 9th Circuit on a few

cases. Sac, Riverside County, state court, petitioning dir to Supr Court who listened and denied w/ single sentence. No cases pending in Northern District (SF).

Starchild: SF protest against COVID-19 restrictions.

Marc Andrews: complaint to Congress, 2 transcripts that are diff, court covering up crimes instead of upholding law, court kicked him out, DeSalnier in East Bay to help. Patrick Howley, reporter, help.

**4. Guest speaker: Andrea Wood of California Family Advocacy (30 min.)**  
**Andrea will be calling in to tell us about abuses of the Child Protective Services agency and the family courts, and her group's efforts on behalf of children and families..**

President of CA Family Advocacy, largest in NorCal, deals with court corruption, 100s cases of family court forging transcript to make less favorable to parent to enable state to seize children, USA more occurring child trafficking country in the world, court destroying evidence. Family courts get title 4 funding to pay judges to steal children, national child smuggling, social workers commit perjury to lie against parents to take children. Family re-unif process (Families First law), covid used to block re-unif. Illegally seized children, sep years or decades, parents not allowed to give evid for innocence, not allowed witnesses, have to wait in hall can't hear accusations, can't have read-backs, Constit rights ignored, erosion of rights and freedoms. No cross-examination to prove that not accurate. Forging transcripts to justify taking children. No attorney of choice; Constit. Right. Try to silence parent with jail. If neighbor calls CPS on you, strong chance of losing children to the state. Use neighbor or garbageman testimony against parents. Can't challenge the testimony; can't share with media, if shared will be jailed. CPS makes billions of dollars, if return child to parents they don't get paid; S.S. money (Title 4 funding) pays for it; child trafficking racket. CPS needs a warrant, but in practice, no, in some cases will break into home to take children; highly lucrative, children put in foster homes. CPS not paid to put child with grandparent or aunt/uncle, incentive to put child in finan lucrative oriented home. Child often dev drug problems. Parents jailed, sanctioned, fined, not able to talk out. Prosecute parents incessantly, can't hold a job, lose house. Court for 2, 4, 10 years and lose their livelihood because of weekly visits to court; intentionally to break the parents. CPS take away parents' property and licenses, go to get lengths to silence parents with gag orders, jail, run thru all savings. Only 3% appeals overturned; federal lawsuit expensive, years of family courts, parents billed for social worker intervention on fraudulent charges, no able to challenge charges, threatened/silenced along the way.

Target poor and single parents that have handicapped children; more funding (pay \$500 to foster family while taking in \$1,000s). Contra Costa County is particularly bad; investigated by FBI, ongoing. Andrea Wood on a lot of podcasts, published by newspapers, cover real stories. Google "Patrick Howley national file". Destroy records when caught, or changed to make it look like complying with law when not. 1997 Clinton law paying courts to do the wrong thing.

**5. Guest speaker: Ryan Munevar of Decriminalize California (30 min.)**  
**Ryan will be calling in to bring us up to date on the fight to decriminalize the use of psychedelic mushrooms in California. Since Oakland's city council voted to decriminalize them last June, an active effort has gotten underway to bring similar relief from the "War on Drugs" statewide.**

DecrimCA.org

Still Schedule I substance. Oakland already dec. Dec 2018 started before Denver (initiative), first, then with Oakland (resolution, city council). Started with Google Drive doc, and opened statewide stakeholders. Focus on access, quality, price. Amnesty/expungement. Cult, manuf, possess, transport. Age to 21 to be marketable. Anyone with CA license, tax id #. Cannabis overtax, compounded, sin/excise tax like alc. Steps to move away from cannabis model (medical): online, id card for condition, for recreational, cities saw tax weed to kill deficit. Only agency should be CA Dept of Food and Agric., already have testing for e. coli, etc. Bureau of Cannab. Control. Just apply for cult. Product, license, go. Don't need new gov agency. Already address tax.

1. How have petitioning efforts been going? 2. Have there been efforts to do citizen initiative (city level; resolutions - nice notes; initiative 5.1% of last general election to sign, build army of 1300 volunteers to petition) and referendum (no)? Statewide petition does not need to be proportionate by county; could be all in one county. Books on how to run an initiative; accounting along 238 pages. Petitioning had to stop during shutdown; push other initiatives- partner with 5 others Dr. Leidel, online voting with blockchain. Request for proposal process after initiative; testing program, pick top, 2024 initiative go through. First wave: volunteers, farmer market, streets. Second wave, already started: mail out ballot, electronic initiative, Leidel for electronic sig's based on testing in diff states. Cost \$1.25 to send mail packet w/ initiative with signer sheet, send back w/ self address envelope, 3-4 initiatives go out. Elec sign, 40-60% send back, maybe 15-20% get back for mushroom initiative. Denver Greens and Libertarian hosted Decrim at booths. Dems kinda interested, but idiotic on cannabis, make worse with taxes. Prop 215, 19 no, 64 passed. D/R most ok with electronic sig voting. Dems like tech but not much better with that, Reps don't like bc centred with younger voter.

Both hate electronic sigs bcs take out lobbyists. Local initiatives anger interest groups (CA League of Cities teach policies could work regardless of yes/no), backlash that keeps black market going, change tax structure. Mushroom low lethality rate compared to other substances, treat each differently. Look at Portugal model, medical issue. Teach cultivation class. Cost \$125 to start: 11-12c per dose. Big Pharma doesn't want that; permitting, CA sellers licensing, fees, taxes. Why in favor: Bio, thereu, cult/spiritual, freedom of choice (85%).

#### **6. Mailbox update (5 min.)**

Briefly addressed in the Chair's report; no discussion took place.

#### **7. Starchild for Assembly (5 min.)**

**Rebecca Lau moved to jump to agenda item 9 Bylaws discussion. With 15 minutes left in the meeting, Starchild clarified that would mean skipping discussion on Covid-19. The motion failed for lack of a second.**

#### **8. Covid-19 – Future protest plans? Adopt resolution? (15 min.)**

**Richard Fast moved, Michael Edelstein seconded, to adopt the following resolution with a name change to San Francisco and striking out the reference to LGBT people:**

Resolution of the Libertarian Party of ~~Santa Clara County~~ **San Francisco County**  
Regarding Government Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic  
Adopted ~~1~~ **9** May 2020 by the LP SCC Executive Committee

Whereas, people own their own bodies, and it is their personal responsibility to take care of them;

Whereas, people have a natural and constitutional right to travel and trade;

Whereas, the economy of ~~Santa Clara County~~ **San Francisco County** and the greater Bay Area depends on the free flow of goods and people acting autonomously;

Whereas, governments, where they exist, do not have the right to impede the travel and free trade that people depend on for their well being;

Whereas, the government's orders have caused tremendous damage to the people of our county by subjecting them to poverty and restricting their movement, with this disproportionately impacting low income people, undocumented people, **LGBT people**, and other at risk populations;

Whereas, neither the **Santa Clara County San Francisco County** Board of Supervisors, other county officials, nor their staff have the authority to dictate what people can and cannot do with their own bodies and property;

Whereas, these government impositions have already lasted for longer than could be justified by the purpose for which they were allegedly necessary, constituting a sort of "mission creep" that could potentially keep them in place with no definite end, and with economic and social damage continuing to accumulate and becoming more severe;

Therefore:

We, the Libertarian Party of **Santa Clara County San Francisco County**, support the voluntary actions of individuals doing whatever they need to do to ensure their own health and the health of their families and to help any others they may choose to help, as long as they don't harm the person or property of others; and

We, the Libertarian Party of **Santa Clara County San Francisco County**, oppose the **Santa Clara County San Francisco County**, Bay Area, and California shelter in place orders and all similar laws, penalties, and legislation, and we call for their swift removal.

**Time expired at 5:00pm. Richard Fast moved, Jeff Yunes seconded, to extend time by 5 minutes. No objection. The motion passed. New ending time is 5:05pm.**

**There was no objection to adopting the above resolution as amended. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Richard Fast moved, Rebecca Lau seconded, to adjourn. There was no objection. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting ended at 5:05pm.

**9. Bylaws discussion (15 min.)**

(Time expired; can be brought up at the next meeting.)

**10. Thought-provoking closing quote:**

**“The art of politics is to always find a horrific, imminent problem, even where none exists. Misdiagnose the problem, then apply the wrong solution.”**

**— H.L. Menken**