

You're Invited

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

We will be having our annual holiday party at the home of David Dull on Saturday, December 11, 6:30-9:30 pm. The address is -----

21146. There is plenty of street parking.

The event is pot luck, please bring a food item. Juice, soda, and water will be provided. BYOB. Feel free to bring family and friends as guests.



Community Activities

The *Baltimore Sun* printed these letters from MdLP members:

House is incapable of meaningful Jan. 6 probe (July 29)

What leads anyone with a modicum of intelligence to the conclusion that any bipartisan congressional committee will objectively examine the actions that occurred on Jan. 6 and come to some useful conclusion (“ ‘This is how I’m going to die’: Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection hearing opens as police detail violence, injuries,” July 27)?

Both Democratic and Republican House members have stated that they consider themselves victims of the event. Who has seen a legal proceeding that allowed victims to be members of the jury?

I am confident that the committee will spend millions of dollars of taxpayer money and arrive at no real or useful insights into the events of Jan. 6.

Why not create a commission composed of intelligent citizens who are not members of either of the two major parties?

David Griggs, Columbia

Give students the option of air-conditioned school (Sept. 19)

Recently, The Baltimore Sun editorialized the following: “Air-conditioned classrooms is a worthy goal, but it ought to be secondary to improved educational outcome whether measured by test scores, attendance, graduation rates, college and technical school admission or job placement or whatever yardstick is appropriate. And if one school can improve those measures more by hiring teachers or paying for whatever other resources needed to better teach kids than by installing AC window units, why would we insist on the latter?” (“School air conditioning: It’s not the heat, it’s the lack of humility,” Sept. 14).

It is very strange that you present this as an either/or proposition. With educational spending increasing faster than inflation for many years now, you’d think the public school bureaucracy would have figured out how to make schools comfortable enough inside as well as provide adequate teaching and resources. Might be a good time to remind readers with kids that they have publicly funded options in the form of charter schools, as well as the BOOST program to pay for private school tuition.

And if those options aren’t readily available to some, it might be a good time to lobby legislators to expand school choice further so parents no longer have to put up with this false dichotomy.

Jonathan Gress-Wright, Baltimore

Any state surplus ought to be refunded (October 12)

The recent announcement that Maryland has a \$2.5 billion surplus in its state budget is good news to Maryland taxpayers (“Gov. Hogan pitches rainy day savings and tax cuts with Maryland’s \$2.5 billion budget surplus,” Oct. 7). What I do not understand is the controversy about how to use this surplus.

There is some sense to saving a portion in the “rainy day fund” for unforeseen expenditures in the future. But the most appropriate response to this surplus is to refund it to the citizens of our state.

If it was evenly distributed to residents, it would provide over \$400 to each adult and child. Let the people decide how to spend our money. The Democratic and Republican duopoly shouldn’t be trusted with more money to use unwisely.

David Griggs, Columbia

*Congratulations to our public advocates. Every time a newspaper prints your letter and you note yourself as a **Libertarian**, it tells readers that our party exists! Please send in reports of your success, too!*

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Editor: Robert E. Glaser, PhD

Check LPmaryland.org regularly for the current event calendar, news, blog posts, and more! Be certain to submit all of your current event information to Webmaster*LPmaryland.org to get the information online.

Content Policy

The views expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily the views of the Libertarian Party of Maryland, its Executive Board, or the Central Committee. The *Free? State Libertarian* is a first amendment publication, and welcomes diverse participation from many sources.

The Libertarian Party of Maryland

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(Verizon bought Yahoo – now all Yahoo Groups are eliminated)

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The *Free? State Libertarian* is mailed to all Libertarian Party of Maryland members and paid subscribers. You may have received a gratis copy (mailing label says “Join the MD Libertarian Party”) because you are registered Libertarian, are a member of the National Libertarian Party, or requested information. We appreciate you acting to: join the MdLP with the back page form; join the Central Committee; become a newsletter subscriber only (send \$20 to above address); and/or register Libertarian (when we get 1% of the state registered, we can end collecting petition signatures).

Below: Councilman James Cook, candidates David Lashar, Christiana Logansmith, Alex Schlegel, Travis Lerol, Larry Reyna, David Sgambellone and Chairman Eric Blitz.



Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Monday, 18 October 2021

Opening: The Libertarian State Central Committee of Maryland met at *Nottingham's* in Columbia, Maryland. The meeting was called to order at 6:22 pm by chairman Eric Blitz.

Attendance: the Credentials Committee consisted of: Robert Glaser; David Dull; and Michael Downs. It validated that 26 Central Committee members were in attendance for the meeting. Four proxies were represented. The Central Committee rolls consist of 66 members.

The Agenda: was approved

Chairs report: We need to get registrations and are going door-to-door; played advertisements. Candidates are the #1 way to reach voters. This is the principal time to get attention and explain how our libertarian solutions apply to their problems.

James Cook (City Council of Rock Hall): discussed his successful election and effect on the Council. He always wanted to share

this beautiful philosophy, that there's a whole other world view to see. Libertarians unify people.

Nominations for Public Office: David Lashar for Governor: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Christiana Logansmith for Lt. Governor: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Alex Schlegel for House of Delegates, District 6: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Travis Lerol for House of Delegates, District 31B: nominated unanimously on a voice vote. Larry Reyna for St. Mary's County Council, District 3: nominated 14-8. Matthew Whitlock for Harford County Council, District F: nominated 14-9. David Sgambellone for Anne Arundel County Council, District 2: nominated unanimously on a voice vote.

Adjournment: the meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

— *Robert E. Glaser*

Minutes of the Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Maryland — Sunday, 27 June 2021

3:30 PM – David Dull presents credentials committee report. 24 members are physically present, plus 12 proxies, bringing the total to 36 out of a maximum of 74 central committee members. Quorum is present

3:39 – Stu Sims motions to approve agenda, seconded by Bob Johnston, motion passes

3:41 – Eric Blitz gives chair report

4:41 – Dan Fishman raises a point of information. In paraphrase, “Can we use the secretary of state Voter Registration data for voter registration activities?”

3:52 – James Cook discusses campaign win for Rock Hall City Council

4:00 – Kyle Walker raises a point of information – Is there a public comment [for electronic signatures for voter registration]?

4:01 – Bob Johnston raises a point of information – Myren family has arrived and should be added [to the list of voting central committee members.]

4:04 – Old Business

4:08 – Amendments to the platform. Note that they each proposal from the platform committee can be debated, but not amended.

4:09 – Debate and vote on zoning amendment. 5 vote in the affirmative, 19 vote in opposition, motion fails

4:15 – Mr. Cole presents the addition of an education plank, debate, vote, 21 votes in the affirmative, 2 votes in opposition, the amendment is adopted.

4:16 – Jeffrey has arrived and been added to the central committee.

4:28 – Zach Mooney raises a point of information, “Where is the [national] guard amendment?”

4:29 – Dan Fishman raises a point of information, “I thought we only voted on the guard amendment, if amendment 12 fails.

4:31 – Krystal Woodward moves to correct the platform committee minutes

4:31 – Eric Blitz, chair, rules out of order due to constitutional requirements

4:37 – David Dull appeals the ruling of the chair, then rescinds his motion

4:40 – Krystal Woodward raises a point of information, “How soon can we call the next platform committee meeting?”

Kyle O'Donnell resigned from the Executive Board to pursue candidacy and studies. Alex Schlegel has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Photo on page 3.

4:40 – Bob Johnston moves to close debate on proposal twelve. 5 votes in the affirmative, 21 in the negative, motion fails, debate continues

4:47 – Brian Krahling moves to close debate, there is no opposition, motion passes

4:48 – Vote on platform proposal twelve, 27 votes in the affirmative, 12 in opposition, amendment is adopted

4:57 – Debate and vote on amendment P1, which eliminates “promote medical treatment... substance use disorder” in section 3.4. There are 14 votes in the affirmative, 21 in the negative, amendment is not adopted

4:59 – Debate and vote on amendment P2, which changes the last sentence in section 3.4 to “legalize and deregulate all drugs including natural plants and medicines, such as cannabis and entheogens.” 39 votes in the affirmative, 0 votes in opposition, the amendment passes

5:02 – Debate and vote on replacing “discouraged” with “eliminated” in section 3.3. With 35 votes in the affirmative, and 0 votes in opposition, the amendment passes

5:05 – Debate and vote on P3 to add a new section 3.8 on Jury Nullification. With 31 votes in the affirmative, and 0 votes in opposition, the amendment passes

5:08 – Sarah arrives and is added to the central committee

5:10 – Announcements

- Davil Dull – Goal of 50k registered voters, asks for help with voter registration drive, Anne Arundel Parade Changed to July 5th, Anne Arundel meet up on the 2nd Tuesday of every month
- Hartford County meet up is also on the 2nd Tuesday of every month
- Valerie Durham – Montgomery County meet up on the 3rd Wednesday of every month
- Otto Dassing – Spike Cohen will be in attendance at the Crab and Chicken Feast on the 11th of September.
- Tim Miller – Midshore meet up will be on July 16th at Washington Street Pub

5:24 – Motion to adjourn by David Dull, seconded by Ozzie. Motion passes

— *Kyle O'Donnell*

Libertarian Party of Maryland Platform

Preamble

As Marylanders, we share a tradition of independence and personal responsibility. We stand against any government that would tell us how we should live our own lives. We take care of each other and do so voluntarily. We believe the more intrusive our government is, the less liberties we retain.

1.0 Personal Liberty

1.1 Consent

Consent occurs when one person, or group of persons, voluntarily agrees to the proposal of another. No individual, group, or government may initiate force against any other person to seek to attain their values.

1.2 Private Property

Individuals should be free to own and trade property, so long as their choices do not harm or infringe on the rights of others. Eminent domain, civil asset forfeiture, and price controls violate personal property rights. You should be free to choose with whom you trade and on what terms, without government interference.

1.3 Self Defense

Individuals have an inherent right to defend themselves against aggression by any necessary means, including the ownership and use of firearms. We denounce and oppose the violation or infringement of this basic human right through state restrictions, monitoring, registries, and limitations in any capacity whatsoever.

2.0 Civil Liberty

2.1 Freedom of Speech

Marylanders have the freedom to express any opinions without fear of censorship from the government. This includes unpalatable and repugnant speech because the government has no right to prior restraint over what is said on the commons. The remedy for the harmful effects of criminal speech such as incitement, libel, or “shouting fire in a crowded theater” can and must be addressed by after-the-fact prosecution and due process of law.

2.2 Freedom of Movement

Marylanders and visitors have the freedom to travel the state, cross its boundaries, and assemble. The government cannot stop or detain you without just cause of aggressing upon another. The government cannot arbitrarily or indefinitely detain anyone. If an individual is arrested, they must be charged with a crime that has a victim.

2.3 Privacy

We advocate for individual privacy and government transparency. We support the rights recognized by the Fourth Amendment to be secure in our persons, homes, property, and communications.

2.4 Freedom from Interference

Government does not have the right to prevent peaceful persons from earning an honest livelihood. We seek to eliminate government permits and occupational licensure to be replaced with voluntary certification.

3.0 Public Policy

3.1 Localization

In general, we oppose the concentration of power in Annapolis, who is often distant and unaccountable to the citizenry. We favor decisions that do not clearly benefit from statewide uniformity be made at the municipal level, as local leaders and local deliberative bodies are more accessible and accountable to the electorate.

3.2 Taxes and Government Spending

Taxation violates consent and is theft. We call for the elimination of the burden of taxation on Marylanders, as well as a reduction in government spending. Eliminate subsidies and special tax breaks. End public funding and financing of stadiums, hotels, and other facilities, which are properly private activities. Eliminate unfunded mandates on local jurisdictions.

3.3 Education

Parents should control their children’s education, not the government. Government interference and control over homeschooling and private schooling should be eliminated. Insofar as government taxes for education, the money should follow the child, including in cases of homeschooling and private schooling.

3.4 Policing and Drugs

Redirect law enforcement towards crimes against persons and property, rather than victimless crimes. End pre-conviction asset forfeiture. End the drug war. Promote medical treatment, rather than prison sentences for substance use disorder. Legalize and deregulate all drugs, including natural plants and medicines, such as cannabis and entheogens.

3.5 Elections

Voters should pick their politicians; politicians shouldn’t pick their voters. End gerrymandering. Implement ranked choice voting to foster a strong and vibrant democratic process that ensures candidates represent the majority of the electorate.

3.6 Maryland National Guard

Maryland National Guard shall not be deployed outside the state unless there has been a congressional declaration of war.

3.7 Separation of Church and State

The state of Maryland should be neutral with respect to religion, and allow unhindered assembly of church goers on private land. All state laws and municipal ordinances should be secular, that is, they should neither privilege nor disadvantage any particular religion nor prevent the free exercise thereof.

3.8 Jury Nullification

Promote jury nullification to disregard laws that violate the rights of nonviolent individuals. Judges should instruct juries that they have the right to acquit a defendant who violates a law that they deem to be unjust. Individuals should not be punished for promoting jury nullification on public grounds.

4.0 Omissions

This platform is a sampling of commonly agreed upon Libertarian positions. The omission of any platform position is not to be construed as tacit rejection or approval by the Libertarian Party of Maryland.

Approved by Central Committee, June 27, 2021

Scenes from the October 18 Central Committee Nominating Meeting



State Executive Board Officers

Chairman	Eric Blitz	410-812-7265	Chair*LPmaryland.org
Vice Chairman	Krystal Woodworth		Vice-Chair*LPmaryland.org
Secretary	Robert E. Glaser	410-363-6626	Secretary*LPmaryland.org
Treasurer	Bob Johnston	443-310-5373	Treasurer*LPmaryland.org
Membership/Events	Otto Dassing		Phil.Dassing*LPmaryland.org
Field Operations	David Dull		David.Dull*LPmaryland.org
At Large	Alex Schlegel		Alex.Schlegel*LPmaryland.org

The executive board meets monthly. All meetings are open to Central Committee members. Contact the Chairman for date, time, and location.

Local Groups

Anne Arundel County: David Dull David.Dull*LPmaryland.org
 Brian Kunkoski Brian.Kunkoski*LPmaryland.org
 Baltimore City: Scott Spaulding sSpaulding*LPmaryland.org
 Baltimore County: Doug Stanley Doug.Stanley*LPmaryland.org
 Otto Dassing Phil.Dassing*LPmaryland.org
 Carroll County: Clif Keller Clif.Keller*LPmaryland.org
 Frederick County: Jordan Appler Jordan.Appler*LPmaryland.org
 Harford County: Tracy Holmes Tracy.Holmes*LPmaryland.org
 Howard County: Stuart Simms StuSimms*LPmaryland.org
 Montgomery County: Valerie Durham vDurham*LPmaryland.org
 Prince Georges County: Myron Hyman Myron.Hyman*LPmaryland.org
 Southern Maryland: Zach Mooney Zach.Mooney*LPmaryland.org
 Upper Eastern Shore: Krystal Woodworth kWoodworth*LPmaryland.org
 Mid Shore: Tim Miller Tim.Miller*LPmaryland.org
 Lower Eastern Shore: Jonathan Moore Jonathan.Moore*LPmaryland.org
 Western Maryland: Vacant

Maryland voters registered Libertarian:

16,393 (0.40%)



Copy or Clip Form ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

Libertarian Party of Maryland

Membership Form

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

County:

Email:

Phone (day):

Phone (evening):

Phone (other):

Payment Information

Maryland/county-only dues **\$ 20.00**

Additional donation: _____

Total Payment: **\$** _____

Monthly Credit Card Donation: **\$** _____

☐ Check ☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover

Card# _____ **Exp:** _____

Signature _____

I'd like to volunteer for:

- ☐ Envelope stuffing
- ☐ Outreach programs
- ☐ Computer work
- ☐ County organization
- ☐ Campaign help
- ☐ Public Relations
- ☐ Other: _____

**Libertarian Party
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Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Anyone may become a member of the MdLP. To become a voting member of the Central Committee, your voter registration must be Libertarian, unless registration as a Libertarian is not permitted; and not be currently registered as affiliated with any other political party: certify your registration status and your agreement with the non-aggression principle with the state Secretary. For more information, contact Otto Dassing at Phil.Dassing*LPmaryland.org

LPmaryland.org


COMING EVENTS

Stay up-to-date on MdLP activities with our online calendar-of- events: visit LPmaryland.org/events/ (often!). Check page 7 for contact numbers not listed here.

December 11 (Saturday) 6:30-9:30pm: Annual MdLP Holiday Party. Page 1

Spring 2022: Annual MdLP Convention, TBD

1-800-MLP-1776

Please check the first line of the
mailing label to verify your
MdLP status (see page 2) 

"Individual Liberty is Our Top Priority"
Call 1-800-MLP-1776 if you agree

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