



New Jersey Libertarian

April/May 2006

NJLP Chooses Action

Sets Sights on Ending Eminent Domain

EMINENT DOMAIN

In *Kelo v. City of New London*, the U.S. Supreme court ruled that it was legal for the government to forcibly take one person's home or business and convey it to other private owners if the governing body expects the action to generate greater tax revenues. As a reaction to this decision, many lawmakers across the nation have rushed to pass restrictions on the use of eminent domain to obtain property that is then turned over to private developers for non-public uses.

The Libertarian Party strongly is the only party in New Jersey working to curtail this practice.

According to the Institute for Justice, the Libertarian law firm that defended *Kelo*, there are currently more than 25 New Jersey towns engaged in eminent domain abuses.

"Obviously, these are Democrat and Republican law makers involved in eminent domain abuses" declared Jay Edgar, the newly elected Vice-Chair. "I look forward to educating New Jersey citizens as to the resources they have at their disposal and why libertarian minded public officials would never engage in this type of abuse."

IN THE RACE

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES NOMINATED AT CONVENTION

Jay Edgar in the 4th distric

Lou Jasikoff in the 8th distric

Jason Scheurer in the 12th



NJLP Senate candidate Len Flynn plotting his campaign strategy shortly after being nominated at the State Convention.

Make us proud, Len!

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Maplewood Shelves "Gang Loitering" Ordinance

MAPLEWOOD: At its April 4, 2006 meeting, the Maplewood Township Committee postponed consideration of a controversial "gang loitering" ordinance until July. The ordinance was postponed after Morgan Shevett, a Maplewood resident and Libertarian Party member, questioned the township's authority to pass such an ordinance. Shevett's question was sparked by a March 29, 2006 letter to the Committee from New Jersey Libertarian Party Chairman Ken Chazotte.

Shevett and Chazotte both contended that loitering and other ordinances meant to govern "street conduct" are preempted by the state criminal code. The code, they argued, was intended by the legislature to be a complete system of law that left no room for a patchwork of similar regulations at the local level. The Township Attorney agreed and recommended that the ordinance be rejected. The Committee, however, opted to postpone consideration of the ordinance until its July 14, 2006 meeting. The Committee said that it expected the legislature to consider a statewide "gang loitering" prohibition by that time.

Maplewood's proposed ordinance would have allowed police to disperse groups of people from public streets if the group contained at least one member of a "criminal street gang" and if the police believed that the group might engage in gang activity. A troubling aspect of the ordinance is that a "criminal street gang" member is defined as a person who has "committed" certain criminal offenses "regardless of whether the prior offenses have resulted in convictions." Accordingly, people who have never been convicted of an offense would be within the proposed ordinance's scope.

Studies have shown that similar gang loitering laws are ineffective and lead to selective, racially-tinged enforcement. See, e.g., <http://www.aclu.org/crimjustice/juv/10276prs20000111.html> and Albert W. Alschuler & Stephen J. Schulhofer, Antiquated Procedures or Bedrock Rights?: A Response to Professors Meares and Kahan, 1998 U. Chi. Legal F. 215, 234 (1998)

Original letter mailed to Mayor and Counsel. [Reformatted to fit on page.]

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||| Hon. Fred R. Profeta, Mayor and March 30, 2006 |||

||| Members of the Maplewood Township Committee |||

||| 574 Valley Street |||

||| Maplewood, NJ 07040 |||

||| RE: Proposed Ord. 2340-06 |||

||| Dear Mayor Profeta and Members of the Township Committee: |||

||| We are informed that on April 4, 2006, the Township Committee will consider passing the captioned ordinance which |||

||| seeks to prohibit "gang loitering." We are also informed that two identical bills pending in the State Legislature, A464 and S755, |||

||| seek to "permit municipalities to enact ordinances allowing police departments to curb gang loitering."¹ |||

||| Since neither A464 or S755 has been enacted into law, we assert that your proposal, if enacted, would be preempted¹ by |||

||| the New Jersey Criminal Code. The legislature, of course, would have no need to authorize municipalities to enact "gang |||

||| loitering" ordinances if municipalities already possessed that authority. |||

||| We ask that you please direct your municipal attorney to review and render his opinion on our assertion. |||

||| Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to hearing from you. |||

||| Respectfully, |||

||| NEW JERSEY LIBERTARIAN PARTY |||

||| Kenneth Chazotte Jr. |||

||| Chairman |||

||| cc. Roger J. Desiderio, Esq., Township Attorney |||

||| (via Fax to 973-325-3115) |||

||| ¹ Assembly Bill No. 464, Sponsor's statement. |||

||| ¹ See, e.g., State v. Crawley, 90 N.J. 241 (1982), State v. Paserchia, 356 N.J. Super. 461 (App. Div. 2003). |||

||| =====

FROM THE CONVENTION FLOOR

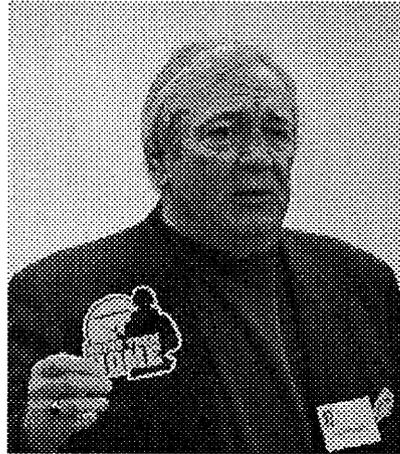


Monmouth LP member Ginny Flynn demonstrates her super-efficiency, as she completes paperwork at the Check-In-Desk for NJLP members prior to the Business Meeting. Ginny is also a regular panelist on the libertarian cable-TV show, "Third Point of View".

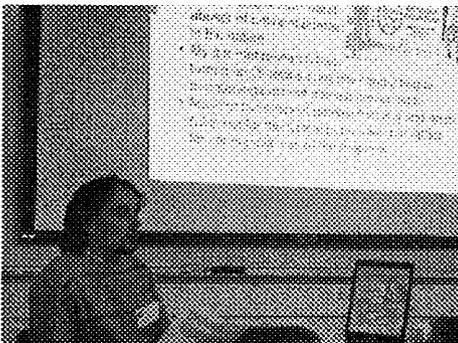
"The convention offered an excellent opportunity for our party to choose our primary focus for the year," said newly re-elected State Chair Ken Chazotte, "I'm really excited that this year we've chosen to fight the growing abuse of eminent domain occurring throughout our state."

James Bounds, President of "Bring Them Home", addresses the NJLP 2006 Convention. Note the decal in his hand.

The mission of "Bring Them Home" is to mobilize Americans to have their voices heard, and show support for our troops, by displaying a decal promoting an end to the Iraq War, and the return of troops home. It is a 501c3, non-partisan organization, unaffiliated with any



organized political or ideological group or movement. Every purchase of their unique car decal provides money for charities which focus on supporting and helping wounded troops. James Bounds is President of "Bring Them Home". He is a US Army veteran, living in NJ, who believes in a strong defense of our country, and that our troops must be brought home. Mr. Bounds gave decals to all Convention attendees, at no cost. To learn more about their group, log-onto www.BringTheTroopsHome.Net.



Jay Edgar, Vice-Chairman of the NJLP, gives a presentation on the use and abuse of Eminent Domain in New Jersey.

Traditionally, Eminent Domain is the taking of private property for the public good - erecting roads, bridges, etc. But, today, government in NJ is wrongly seizing people's homes and businesses by force. The land is now handed to builders and re-developers, who put up shopping centers, ball parks, ice skating arenas, or use the land for other private financial gain. Of course, this process isn't voluntary, and the original property owners are never fairly compensated. The NJLP has vowed to fight this outrageous practice. Eminent domain abuse is occurring all over NJ, and it is destroying the American Dream.



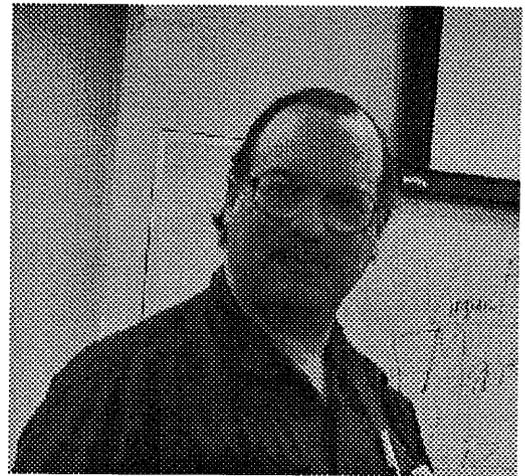
Darian Worden is a Rutgers University student and founder of the Rutgers Libertarians. In addition, he has worked on both sides of the camera for the libertarian cable-TV program "Third Point of View."



Mike Panella is always a big draw when he hands out his Libertarian Balloons. Here, he gets his voting credentials handed to him as he checks-in.

**Ray Cragle, Peggy Hunsicker,
and Bill Hunsicker**

Three seats on the Mercer County Board of Freeholders are up for election this year. Ray Cragle, Peggy Hunsicker, and her brother Bill, have stepped up to the plate, and will represent us in that race. Their team demonstrates the NJLP's project "FULL SLATE" - an initiative to run LP candidates everywhere possible. Go get 'em, gang.



Dan Karlan gives a report on his activities as the NJLP representative to the National Libertarian Party.

Dan Karlan is a long-standing member of the NJLP, and has served in several NJLP offices. He lives in Hudson County, and has run for office before.

When Dan isn't spending considerable time traveling to attend meetings of National, he's Secretary of the Platform Committee.



PROFILE



Professor Bradley Smith is currently professor of law at Capital University. He served 5 yrs in Washington, DC as Commissioner, Vice Chair, and Chair of the Federal Election Commission (FEC). His writings have appeared in such academic publications as the Yale and Georgetown Law Journals, and Pennsylvania Law Review, and in popular periodicals such as the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, and National Review. In 2001, Princeton University Press published his book, "Unfree Speech: The Folly of Campaign Reform", which was praised by syndicated columnist George Will as "the year's most important book on governance". Named FEC Chairman in January 2004, Professor Smith oversaw implementation of the McCain- Feingold campaign finance bill, and successfully fought to increase due process protections for defendants in FEC enforcement actions. Professor Smith has spoken at over 30 of the nation's law schools, including Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Stanford, Chicago, Michigan, and NYU. His many media credits include national appearances on ABC, NBC, PBS, Fox, CNBC,

MSNBC, C-Span, and Bloomberg Media, including such programs as 'Hardball' with Chris Mathews, and the 'O'Reilly Factor'. He has also appeared on numerous local and national radio programs, and made TV appearances in Great Britain, Japan, and Canada.

Former FEC Chairman and Law Professor Bradley Smith pauses during his presentation on "The Folly of Campaign Finance Reform" at the NJLP Convention.

Libertarian Response To Corzine Budget Address

Amboy Beacon, April 5, 2006, transcribed

Dear editor:

As part of his 2006 Budget Address, Gov. Jon Corzine announced that New Jersey, one of the highest-taxed states in the nation, is "broke".

This "fact" didn't dissuade Mr. Corzine from proposing a Budget of \$30.9 billion, an increase of about 10-percent over last year's. Furthermore, Mr. Corzine proposes tax-increases, cuts to pension-fund contributions and an abandonment of his campaign pledge to increase property-tax rebates to low-income earners and senior citizens.

The Libertarian Party of New Jersey appreciates the considerable challenge associated with fixing New Jersey's broken fiscal policies. However, we can't let-slide the inference that those of use who believe government waste, fraud and inefficiencies amount to billions of dollars are somehow "snake-oil salesmen" or "hiding the painful alternatives and choices that will truly-address our failing financial circumstances".

Clearly, we're highly skeptical of the argument that Mr. Corzine put-forth. However, we do applaud his formation of a "Special Task Force" to re-engineer our state government. And, because we're so-skeptical, we believe that including at least one Libertarian on this Task Force - without pay, of course - will go a long way toward making recommendations more -acceptable to those who believe in the benefits of smaller government.

**Kenneth Chazotte, State Chair,
N.J. Libertarian Party**

New Jersey's "Greenest" Candidate Is Libertarian

The Green Party is thought by most voters to be the most environmentally friendly alternative political party. The 2006 election, however, will find a Libertarian Party candidate who may be the "greenest" of them all.

Environmentalists are noted for their unswerving commitment to preserving the environment and their relentless campaigns to implement conservation often without consideration of the cost. For instance, environmentalists are quick to advocate extreme conservation measures in far away places like the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR). But now the New Jersey Libertarians have a candidate whose actions speak louder than the words of his Green Party opponents.

Len Flynn, the NJLP nominee for U.S. Senate, has become a champion for the protection of some special creatures that have moved into his backyard . (See <http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2006603300528> .) In any environmental crusade, one often sees the term NIMBY – Not In My Backyard. Environmental activists often invoke NIMBY to oppose all kinds of projects, such as a landfill or other waste storage facility or a new factory. Len is fortunate to have a family of beavers that have moved into his backyard and constructed a dam across a brook to create a pond. This pond creates some problems

Fortunately, there have been no obstacles so far created by the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), their Division of Fish and Wildlife, nor the Marlboro Township engineering department. The Flynns were told that they can address the dam-caused flooding problem themselves without any permits, petitions, or other regulatory formalities.

What would typical Green Party activists do in such a circumstance? Would they first think about minimizing the impact of the furry residents by protecting their neighbors' properties? Or would they instead call on public officials either to ignore the complaints or otherwise solve the problem using "public" (taxpayer's) funds to get rid of the "nuisance"? The arrival of the beavers provides a NIMBY-like challenge, but in true libertarian fashion the flooding problem could best be handled privately and responsibly without calling on public officials to do anything, except leave the Flynns and the beavers alone. If they fail to handle the beavers' flooding, then it is quite legitimate for the flooded neighbors to complain and take action to force a solution to the beaver problem (actually, a flooding problem). This is the libertarian way.

How many of today's environmentalists would take up a backyard challenge like Flynn's beavers? Len is a member of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and he called them for

Ruling: Old Bridge must provide minutes

Home News Tribune Online 04/26/06

By KRISTIN BOYD

STAFF WRITER

(732) 565-7256

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OLD BRIDGE - Residents wanting to access the minutes from Township Council's executive meetings should not have to wait months for the information, a state agency ruled recently.

The Government Records Council, which oversees the Open Public Records Act, issued the ruling earlier this month after receiving a complaint from John Paff, who requested executive session minutes from the township clerk in March 2005.

"Most people say there is no way to get public information in New Jersey. It's because (they) don't have a year to wait for it," said Paff, chairman of the Open Government Task Force of the Libertarian Party of Central Jersey.

The Government Records Council ruled Township Clerk Rose-Marie Saracino violated state law by denying Paff's request to review the council's executive session minutes from December 2003 and March 2004.

But, according to Township Attorney Jerry Convery, Saracino could not give Paff the minutes because of a township ordinance enacted in the 1990s. The ordinance states the majority of council members must vote to release the minutes, he said.

"She was between a rock and a hard place," Convery said. "She was following an ordinance from her own township's government."

The ordinance was revised in July, and Convery said accessing executive session minutes, as well as other public documents, has been easier.

When a request is submitted, he is able to review the executive session minutes immediately and return them to the clerk, who can then ask the Township Council to release them, he said.

"We revamped the process, and now we're complying with the (GRC) order," he said. "It's not that anybody is trying to preclude the public from getting this information. It's just executive-session minutes are different from regular-meeting minutes."

In addition, the Government Records Council also ordered the township to make its form for requesting public records clearer. Convery said the township is modeling its updated request form after the state's form.

Paff is ready to test out that form and the township's revamped OPRA process. And he's hoping other residents will do the same.

"This information should be public," he said. "Let's bring it out in the open. Let's see exactly what they're doing here. This is the people's government."

Cost of meeting tapes plunges after lawsuit

BY JOHN DUNPHY

Staff Writer

EDISON - Now, if you wanted to, you could buy 16 tapes of last week's council meeting and it would still cost less than it used to.

Edison has lowered the price for copies of township meetings, from \$50 to \$3, effective immediately.

"The [Libertarian Party of New Jersey] previously sued the township prior to this administration for onerous OPRA [Open Public Records Act] fees related to the cost of providing electronic copies of council meeting minutes," said Mayor Jun Choi. "We agreed with the court's decision that it was onerous."

Although the price reduction was introduced during last week's council meeting and won't officially be adopted until next week, the change is already in effect, said Choi spokesman David Donnelly.

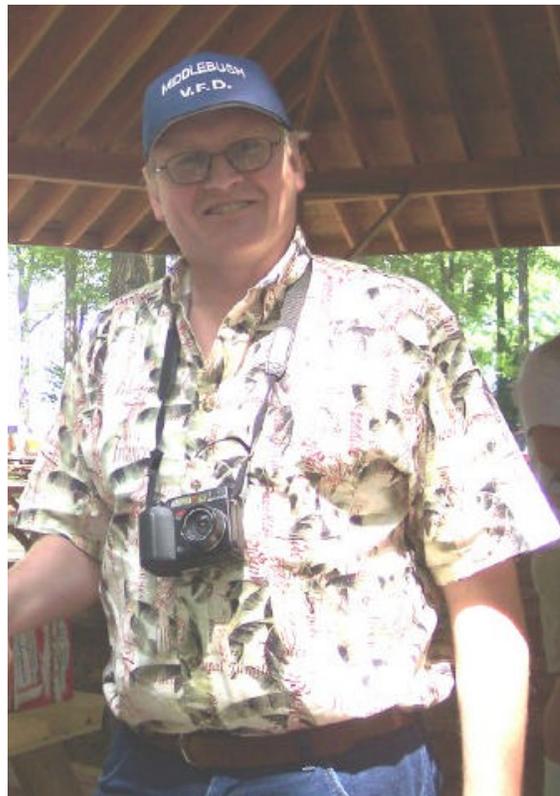
In addition to the \$3 charge for VHS cassettes and DVDs, audio cassettes will now be \$2, recordable compact discs \$1.25 and floppy discs will cost \$1.

"We believe very strongly in open and accessible government, so we had engaged in negotiations to settle with [the Libertarian Party of NJ]," Choi said. "It has been known that government agencies would artificially set high rates to limit the number of OPRA requests that must be fulfilled. We believe that we need to follow the spirit and the intent of the Open Public Records Act, and that's what we're doing here in Edison."

Councilwoman Antonia Ricigliano was in full agreement with the need to reduce the prices of the tapes. She said she had spoken out against the rise in the rate before she was elected to the council.

"It was a revenue increasing type of thing," she said. "The Libertarian Party brought it to court and won the case. Now, all that can be charged is the cost of the tape. It's public information anyway; why should it be so difficult for people to have access to it?"

Michael D'Amato, the acting broadcast communications manager for Channel 22, the Edison television station would often tell people not to buy the tapes and record the meetings from their televisions to save money.



John Paff – NJLP Picnic, 2005

He said he believed the high price was to discourage more requests because of the small station's limited staff of three. Still, he thinks the price reduction is a good idea.

"I think they'll be a lot more requests," D'Amato said. "Fifty dollars was a bit much."

So, if you want 16 copies of a council meeting, planning board meeting, or any other televised township event for \$48, or you just want one copy for \$3, fill out those OPRA requests and head on down to town hall.

"I'm very happy about it," Ricigliano said. "It's a cliché and I know it, but, an educated public really is a good voter."

Activist Criticizes Readington Action

By Conor Greene
READINGTON TWP.

READINGTON TWP. - John Paff, secretary of the Central Jersey chapter of the Libertarian Party who has successfully fought for open government in municipalities around the state, is objecting to the township's hiring of a public relations firm to sway public opinion regarding the future of Solberg Airport.

Mr. Paff, chairman of the Open Government Task Force of the Libertarian's Central Jersey chapter, has won several battles with municipalities regarding issues such as the awarding of no-bid contracts and access to public records. Mr. Paff questions the legality of using Connell Foley, special counsel for the township regarding Solberg Airport, to hire the public relations firm in January. By giving the law firm the authority to "retain all vendors or consultants necessary" for a possible acquisition of the open space surrounding the airport, Connell Foley, "itself a recipient of a no-bid contract, was purportedly authorized to hire other professionals and consultants who were paid out of public treasury on a no-bid basis," Mr. Paff wrote in an April 12 letter to Susan Jacobucci, director of the state Division of Local Government Services.

Earlier this month, the Township Committee amended the contract with CN Communications so that Readington will be billed directly, instead of having bills filtered through Connell Foley. The company's principals are paid \$300 per hour with the total amount not to exceed \$40,000.

The firm is communicating the township's position regarding a possible purchase of the development rights on the 55 acres used for actual airport operations and the outright purchase of much of the remaining open space on the 726-acre property. On May 16, residents will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed \$22 million bond ordinance that would fund the purchase. Mr. Paff says that the original deal still constitutes a violation of the Local Public Contracts Law because "it deprives the public any knowledge that the (public relations) contract had been entered into." He says that the township should have still passed a formal resolution and placed a legal notice in the newspaper to serve as public notice. "The purpose of the resolution and notification requirements is to keep the public informed of how its money is being spent," he wrote. "This purpose is thwarted when local governments spend money on one service 'through' another vendor."

In a March 27 letter to county Prosecutor Patrick Barnes, Mr. Paff argues that using taxpayer money to garner support for one side of a controversial public question violates the principles set forth in a 1953 state Supreme Court decision. In that situation, a school board "made use of public funds to advocate one side only of the controversial question without affording the dissenters the (same) opportunity," Mr. Paff wrote. He asks the prosecutor to investigate whether Readington is violating the law.

"The law says they can't take taxpayer dollars of people opposed to the referendum... to influence the outcome of a public election," Mr. Paff said in an interview. "It seems to be a really egregious example of government doing things totally wrong." Mr. Paff, of Franklin Township, Somerset County, said that he gets involved in cases around the state because people are often hesitant to speak out about issues in their home municipality out of fear of reprisal. "It's important for people who don't live there to bring issues up because it's hard to bring something up where you live," he explained. One of the party's goals is to "bring all government entities into one hundred percent compliance," he said. He said that Readington has been on his radar for several years. "Some towns you look at and get a gut feeling that things are fundamentally wrong," he said. "When I see an egregious example I look to throw a money wrench in the works."

Mayor Gerard Shamey defended the hiring of CN Communications because of the complexity of the issue. He called objections to the hiring "much ado about nothing. He noted that Solberg Aviation has also hired a public relations firm.

To property owners who are opposed to a municipal purchase of the airport and don't want their tax money used to convince them and others otherwise, Mayor Shamey said that "the overwhelming majority are in support of preserving the airport as it is" and that all five committee members were "elected on platforms of... airport preservation."

MAYOR: IT WON'T BE USED

Belmar residents discuss eminent-domain fears

Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 05/12/06

BY ERIK LARSEN

COASTAL MONMOUTH BUREAU

BELMAR — Mary Fiumara, 88, a widow who has lived here since 1975, is worried about how the borough's redevelopment plans will affect her.

Mostly, she worried about the mom-and-pop stores that she loves and contends might be forced to close and never return. Moreover, she suspects the borough will have to invoke eminent domain at some point to push some businesses out.

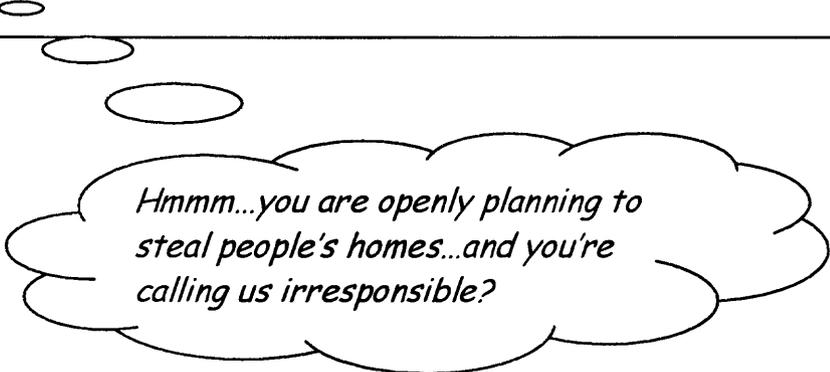
"That's the way it looks, but it remains to be seen," said Fiumara. "Because of that court ruling, they can take homes. I want to stay here until I die."

Fiumara was one of about 20 people who attended an informal gathering at Connelly Station restaurant on Main Street organized by the New Jersey Libertarian Party, which is making a stand against the use of eminent domain for redevelopment purposes in Belmar.

Dining on poached salmon, Guinness beef stew, calamari, nacho chips with chili and two orders of buffalo wings, the group sat around a long table with a street-level view of adjacent Seventh Avenue talking about the good old days and sharing fears about the borough's plans.

Elizabeth Macron and husband Lou Stefanelli came from Tinton Falls to support the effort. Macron ran for U.S. Senate on the Libertarian ticket in 2002.

Macron likes Belmar's Mayor Kenneth E. Pringle, whom others around her dismissed as having too much power after 16 years in office.



Hmmm...you are openly planning to steal people's homes...and you're calling us irresponsible?

Liberty in our Lifetime Free State Project

Free State Project What is the Project About?

The Free State Project is a plan in which 20,000 or more liberty-oriented people will move to the state of New Hampshire and work within its political system to reduce the size and scope of government.

The Project will reduce burdensome taxation and regulation; reform state and local laws; opt out of federal mandates; and press for the restoration of constitutional federalism.

The Free State Project will show the world what liberty can accomplish!

Free State Project Liberty in Our Lifetime

We don't want to wait decades for most citizens in the US to realize that the nanny state is an insult to their dignity. For those of us who already understand the debilitating effects of a government bent on reducing liberty rather than increasing it, the Free State Project aims at liberty in a single state.

What do we mean by liberty? We believe that being free and independent is a great way to live, and that government's maximum role should be to help individuals defend themselves from force and fraud.

Free State Project Where & Why?

The state where we will move was decided by a vote of the FSP membership after we reached 5,000 commitments. Population was the critical factor. Our research so far indicates that 20,000 activists could heavily influence only states with under about a 1.5 million population, or which spend less than \$10 million on political campaigns in any given two-year election cycle. New Hampshire met the population criterion, and its distaste for big government and a generally welcoming attitude toward the Free State Project were pluses.

Free State Project Get Involved!



Join the Free State Project and take part in a rapidly growing movement aimed at securing liberty in our lifetime. To learn more, you're invited to visit our website at www.freestateproject.org. Check out our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page, and visit our articles sections which contain more detailed information about the project. Whether you wish to become a full-fledged member or are sympathetic but unable to relocate, the Free State Project wants you!

www.freestateproject.org ● Call toll-free 1-888-532-4604

Draft Minutes of the New Jersey Libertarian Party's State Board Meeting of April 23, 2006

Chair Ken Chazotte called the meeting to order at Tumulty's Pub, New Brunswick, at 1:30 PM. Others present were Liz Macron, Peggy Hunsicker, Frank Warren, Lou Stefanelli, Len Flynn, Ray Cragle and Pat Bontempo. Absent: Mark Preston, Jeff Pawlowski, Robert Hull, Emerson Ellett, Jay Edgar and Jay Boucher. Cragle acted as Secretary in the absence of Ellett.

The Chair proposed to focus on Officer Reports, Campaign Finance, Belmar Initiative, and Project Full Slate, an agenda accepted by those attending.

In the Chair Report, Ken announced that Dawn Detmar is no longer a candidate, and expressed the view that Jay Edgar may be overtaxed by Party demands. He encouraged a policy of limiting our projects to a range that will allow proper focus and completion.

In the Treasurer's Report, Stefanelli distributed financial details and described a fall-off in revenue believed to be due in part to the loss of the National dues share. The Treasurer's Report was accepted. The Chair commented that Dan Karlan had expressed concern that free candidate advertising in our newsletter might be considered a campaign donation.

Prior Steering Committee minutes had been reviewed before the meeting and were therefore not discussed.

"Project Bellmar" was described, an undertaking which proposes a petition to place on the ballot a restriction preventing the Town Council from using Public Domain to acquire land for other than public use. An initiative for Perth Amboy was also described.

Regarding campaigns and Project Full Slate, Len reported that \$1500.00 had been raised by the Project Full Slate appeal, but that there are only three candidates for the House races. An earlier fourth nominee has dropped out. Two others may be willing to run out-of-district; Chazotte will call them. Flynn will contact other possible candidates from a list, which he has circulated by email.

It was generally believed that no special expenditure authorization was required for using the Project Full Slate funds in the manner described as part of their solicitation, but to avoid uncertainty, the following motion carried: The State Board authorizes payment of up to \$150.00 per petitioner at \$1.00 per valid signature, for the 2006 Congressional campaigns.

Macron volunteered to investigate options for a social event. Hunsicker announced that Mercer County has set up a Myspace site, but is still listed as not organized on the NJLP website. Flynn offered to appear as Senate candidate to speak at meetings, forums, or other events.

The May 21 Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for 1:00 PM at Emerson Ellett's house. June's meeting will be a State Board meeting, June 11 at 1:00 PM at Tumulty's Pub in New Brunswick. Adjournment was at 3:14 PM.

U.S. Senate Petitioning by Len Flynn

Gathering signatures for my campaign for U.S. Senate will begin the week of April 17, the annual tax filing day. The Flynn Election Committee (FEC, unlike the evil Federal Election Commission, whose regulations block electoral progress) will support the petitioning effort with an incentive program-- anyone committing to gather 50 or more signatures will receive a customized petitioning clipboard containing the motto "2 parties = no choice" from www.thinkLIBERTARIAN.com along with "Vote Libertarian" buttons and candidate information to convince signers to support ME in 2006 (at least long enough for them to sign the petition). You will also receive a packet of the famous LP "Million Dollar Bill" anti-tax leaflets to distribute as you see fit.



Join the best-dressed petitioners in New Jersey with the snazzy NJLP petitioning clipboard! Call me at 732-591-1328 to arrange pick-up of the petitioning package. (I can deliver, if needed.)

You can also call the Division of Elections at 609 292-3760 and request some U.S. Senate petitions directly. (If you are very patient you can call voter assistance toll free at 1-877-678-6271 to get petitions.) For an

Justice Joseph Story: "That government can scarcely be deemed to be free, where the rights of property are left solely dependent upon the will of a legislative body without any restraint. The fundamental maxims of a free government seem to require that the rights of personal liberty and private

Minutes of the N.J. Libertarian Party's Steering Committee Meeting of March 19, 2006

Chair Ken Chazotte called the meeting to order at his residence at 1:22 pm.

Others present were Jay Edgar, Emerson Ellett, Lou Stefanelli, Elizabeth Macron, Mark Preston, Robert Hull and Len Flynn. Absent: Ray Cragle

Chair report.

Ken thanked Jay Edgar for running the convention. Membership data will be included in subsequent chair reports.

Unfinished business.

Convention update. The convention brought in \$1860, \$635 below the total cost. The 2007 convention will be held at a yet to be determined date and location in March. Project Full Slate. Len reported that as of March 6 \$1560.99 has been raised for federal candidates. One candidate has withdrawn, leaving LP candidates in three of New Jersey's thirteen Congressional districts (Jay Edgar, 4th District; Lou Jasikoff, 11th District; [Later, Lou found he was in the 8th CD, so he petitioned on that basis.] and Jason Scheurer, 12th District). Several other members have expressed an interest in running.

Financial review. Ken will retrieve financial data from the bookkeeper's computer and upload it into Quickbooks for review by Ken and Jay.

Platform. About 70% of the platform has been reformatted.

Election law lawsuit. The attorneys are working to resolve some of the issues before filing a complaint against the state.

New business.

Rutgers LP. Ken will put the Rutgers Libertarians in touch with Tony Federici to implement Operation Politically Homeless outreach at the university. The NJLP will also offer literature and ask the group about their interest in making fund raising calls and calls to members whose membership is ready for renewal. Projects.

Eminent domain is being used by municipalities to condemn private property for commercial development. The NJLP will try to find a resident of Belmar, a Faulkner Act municipality, to spearhead a ballot initiative against the exercise of the power of eminent domain to condemn private property for commercial development. Kenilworth is not a Faulkner Act town and therefore a similar initiative cannot be put before the voters. A Superior Court judge will rule March 24 about eminent domain in Long Branch. Recess for candidate recruitment.

Dawn Dittmar, Ocean County Freeholder candidate, attended a Ready to Run seminar for women candidates at the Eagleton Institute, Rutgers. A resolution to reimburse Dawn for the \$115 cost of the seminar carried.

Archives. Jay agreed to take custody of the party's archives presently kept by Robert Hull. The meeting adjourned at 3:59 pm

Future meetings.

Steering Committee, May 21, at Emerson Ellett's residence, Ocean, 1 pm

In The Spotlight

Cops Say 'Legalize Drugs!'

2006-03-21

In an effort to expand the Monmouth/Ocean Libertarian Party, the Monmouth/Ocean team invited Retired Police Captain, Peter Christ from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP) to speak about the repercussions from the "War on Drugs."

Jay Edgar was responsible for setting up the meeting. He invited NJLP members but also reached out to libertarian minded people from online communities. The turnout was excellent as there were many new faces in the crowd to hear Peter speak.

In addition to the Peter Christ, attendees also had a chance to meet U.S. Senate candidate Len Flynn and U.S. Congressional candidate Jay Edgar.

Congratulations Jay for sponsoring such a wonderful event!



Peter Christ is a retired police captain. Throughout Christ's 20-year career enforcing drug laws, he believed that "the drug war can never be won, and is doing more harm than good." After retiring from the police force in 1989, Mr. Christ began speaking out publicly against the Drug War. In 1993, he became one of ReconsiDer: Forum on Drug Policy's first members, and quickly became the group's leading spokesperson. Mr. Christ's topics include: the Drug War's impact on the judiciary, police activities in the drug war, the drug war's impact on prison populations and minority communities, sentencing issues, and the effectiveness of drug education programs in reducing drug use.

In addition to working for drug policy reform, Mr. Christ is a member of the Police Conference of New York, the Western New York Association of Retired Police Officers, and the Police Captains and Lieutenants Association of Erie County.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, May 21- Steering Committee meeting - 1:00 PM at Emerson Ellett's house.

Sunday, June 11- State Board meeting 1:00 PM at Tumulty's Pub in New Brunswick.

STATE PICNIC

Saturday, July 8 – Annual Picnic - 1:00 PM at Len Flynn's house



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I want to become a member of the Libertarian Party! I have checked the level at which I want to join and have enclosed the corresponding dues. I certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force to achieve social or political goals. (Signature required for membership only) _____

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\$15 – Regular membership

Donation
 Enclosed is my additional contribution of \$ _____ to help the NJLP in its efforts to expand individual liberty.

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09/13/03

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Thanks for the information, I’m not interested at this time. Please remove my name from your list.

Please advise us of any corrections to your name or address.
 Please send any corrections to: membership@njlp.org
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Send your check made payable to:

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 c/o Robert Hull
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 Grafton, NH 03240

If ye love wealth greater than
liberty, the tranquility of
servitude greater than the
animating contest for freedom, go
home from us in peace. We seek
not your counsel, nor your arms.
Crouch down and lick the hand
that feeds you. May your chains
set lightly upon you; and may
posterity forget that ye were our
countrymen. – Samuel Adams

Government is not reason; it is
not eloquence; it is force. Like
fire, it is a dangerous servant
and a fearful master.
– *George Washington*

Timid men prefer the calm of
despotism to the tempestuous
sea of Liberty.
– *Thomas Jefferson*

If you are not free to choose
wrongly and irresponsibly, you
are not free at all.
– *Jacob Hornberger (1995)*



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