

The Liberty Loon

**The Libertarian Party of Minnesota
Newsletter Q2 2026**



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LPMN LinkTree



From the Chair:



We have had another petitioning period come and go with a number of successes that I feel are commendable. We turned hundreds of sheets of signatures and got three candidates on the ballot. We spent months strategizing and planning leading up to the 15 day window to give ourselves the best chance we had to overcome the petitioning requirements the state puts on all third party candidates. And they do that intentionally, because even though they claim they believe in democracy, they don't actually believe in the democratic process, because by engaging in it, it risks their political monopoly.

When principles are compromised for convenience, corruption has become king. It's not just a seat our candidates are competing for, but the future generations who will realize the system is rigged and be searching for an outlet to address the problems they will also face. We aren't just fighting for a chance, but for a chance to confront a corrupted state while there is still a chance to fix a broken system with a peaceful solution.

Until the time comes when that changes, we will continue to hold the line.

For peace in our lifetime,

Rebecca Whiting

Executive Committee Updates



The April Executive Committee (EC) meeting was the first with the new board after the convention. The 2026 Convention turned a profit for the Party, and membership is up compared to the same time last year. Chair Whiting is appealing to the National Party for assistance with petitioning and financial assistance for the campaign season. She may also attend the National Convention as a speaker for the Libertarian Party of Minnesota (LPMN).

The EC unanimously approved \$2,000.00 to be spent on paid petitioning. Ahmed AlRwazek was voted in as an additional member to the delegation to the National Convention. A special EC meeting is being scheduled for May 4th to discuss the delegation to the National Convention.

The May 4th special EC meeting ended up leading to a second special EC on May 11th. Items of note were combined here: Rules for the delegation to the National Convention were adopted without objection. Additional delegates for the LPMN now include Jared Fisher of Michigan, Farid Ishac of Michigan, and Stephan Kinsella of Texas. The paid petitioning budget was increased to \$7,500.00.

In the regular May EC meeting it was discussed that membership is up 27.7% compared to the same month last year. Our Chair, Rebecca, will be speaking at the Libertarian Party National Convention. Rules for the delegation to the National Convention were amended.

In the June EC meeting it was established that everything is staying stable for the Party. Social media followers are staying about the same. Membership is approximately the same from last month. We have a new Communications Director. We'd like to give Paul Carlson a warm welcome to the position!

Breaking News: Libertarians Socializing



April was a fun and productive month for members of the LPMN. The first big thing that happened as a social event was a tour of the Wabasha Street Caves. It was a nice early afternoon when the members met up with smiles on their faces. Even beyond our Party members, the tour groups were packed.

The Wabasha Street Caves tour was highly entertaining and filled with historical depth and some comedic lightheartedness given some heavy topics. Members of CD2 and CD4 were in attendance.

It took those in attendance through a journey of mushroom farming to prohibition era gangsters. There was also some failed filmmakers which attempted to film a movie there, and even wreckage from a disaster decades prior.

The tour took about an hour to get through. Many of the members stated they would go again or to a similar event. Sometimes it's nice to get out and have a good time together.

Ballot Access & 2026 Petitioning



The LPMN had about a two week period from the end of May to the start of June to collect 2,000 signatures for Rebecca Whiting for US Senate, Chip Tangen for MN Secretary of State, and Charley Kucklenz for State Auditor.

We had a healthy amount of volunteers going out into the community. Some volunteers collected hundreds of signatures! We appreciate your efforts to get our candidates on the ballot for all Minnesotans to have more choices.

Unfortunately, during the petitioning window, Charley suspended his campaign. We hope to see him run for State Auditor again! Thousands of signatures were collected during this period for all three candidates.

Signatures were submitted on June 2nd, 2026. We are excited to confirm that Rebecca Whiting will appear on the ballot for US Senate, and Chip Tangen will as well for MN Secretary of State!

We would like to thank everyone who petitioned to help secure ballot access. We couldn't do it without you.

CD2 5th Annual Spring Highway Cleanup



Spring has come and gone, which means it was time for CD2's 5th annual Spring Highway Cleanup. It brought together eight volunteers split into two teams, each taking a side of Highway 55 in Mendota Heights.

It was good to get out in the community and take the time to help keep our roadways clean. Besides, who would clean up the roads if not for us Libertarians?

We had a mix of affiliates show up. Primarily, it was CD2, but a member from CD4 and some from the Hennepin and Anoka affiliate helped as well. It's good to see Libertarians helping Libertarians.

A much needed lunch was enjoyed upon completion, full of lively conversation and good food.



LPMN at Grand Old Day



Kicking off summer, we start with Grand Old Day! CD4 did a good job getting this put together and raising volunteers for the event. For those who haven't been, Grand Old Day is pretty much State Fair on one street.

This is an excellent outreach opportunity for the Party and a yearly tradition for some volunteers. There were many lively conversations with passersby. You meet quite a variety of people during these events.

The Party did receive some donations and shirt sales during the event which helped reduce some of our extra inventory. Our shirts did draw attention, but so did our "I'm not a fan of war" fans. We had a few extra from State Fair last year and we gave almost all of them away. The fans received much positive attention.

The morning shift seemed to be popular with our volunteers. It is nice to see familiar faces. If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity to get to know your fellow Libertarians, Grand Old Day is a great event.

You are bound to have laughs, fun, some debate, and good food volunteering at this event. We would like to thank the CD4 team for hosting it for the LPMN.

Candidate Chip Tangen on WCCO



Chip Tangen laid out exactly why Minnesota's ballot access rules need to change on this week's episode of "Sunday Take" on WCCO AM830

Chip pointed out a simple but powerful contrast: Arizona already allows online petition signing and New Mexico just adopted it last week. Voters there can sign candidate petitions from home on their phone or computer; secure, efficient, and far more accessible.

Here in Minnesota? We're still stuck with paper-only, original wet-ink signatures. No online option. And the human cost is real.

This year, SEVEN candidates who tried to get on the ballot for statewide office didn't make it, including THREE candidates for Governor. One statehouse candidate in Goodhue County fell just 13 signatures short of the 500 needed. Some signatures were thrown out over legibility issues, especially from elderly voters whose handwriting isn't as crisp as it used to be.

Chip shared how awkward it is when a legally blind person wants to sign: someone else has to fill out the form for them. "If they could do it online themselves, they wouldn't need the quote assistance."

He also asked: why do we need to ask people their age on a petition form?

Minnesota is one of only 17 states that still treats minor parties and independents differently. In the other 16, candidates who meet a reasonable threshold (like 1% of the vote) get automatic ballot access. We had a Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate two years ago who earned 55,000 votes.

This clear proof there's real demand for more choices!

Chip's point is simple: More choices on the ballot means higher turnout and more confidence in our elections.

Right now, too many people stay home because they feel forced to pick the “lesser of two evils.” Liberalizing ballot access, starting with secure online petition signing like Arizona and New Mexico, would fix that.

As Secretary of State, Chip Tangen wants to open the process up so every eligible voter who wants to support a candidate (Libertarian, Forward, independent, or anyone else) can do so without jumping through outdated hoops.

This isn't about any one party winning. It's about giving Minnesotans real options and a system that works for everyone.

This post was taken from the LPMN Facebook Page.

Upcoming Events at a Glance



- **2026 State Fair Cmte 4th Meeting**
 - July 2nd, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Virtual Event
- **CD4 Liberty July Meetup**
 - July 8th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 - *Stout's Pub & Grill* 1611 Larpenteur Ave W, Falcon Heights, MN 55113
- **CD2 Live Free July Meetup**
 - July 9th, 2026 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
 - *Fireside Restaurant & Bar* 3410 150th St W, Rosemount, MN 55068
- **LHAC July Meetup**
 - July 14th, 2026 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- **2026 State Fair Cmte 5th Meeting**
 - July 16th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Virtual Event
- **2027 Convention Committee 2nd Meeting**
 - July 16th, 2026 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 - Virtual Event
- **July Executive Committee Meeting**
 - July 20th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Virtual Event

- **CD4 Liberty August Meetup**
 - August 12th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 - *Stout's Pub & Grill* 1611 Larpenteur Ave W, Falcon Heights, MN 55113

- **CD2 Live Free August Meetup**
 - April 9th, 2026 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
 - *Triggers* 2920 220th St E, Prior Lake, MN 55372

- **August Executive Committee Meeting**
 - August 17th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Virtual Event

- **CD4 Liberty September Meetup**
 - September 9th, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
 - *Stout's Pub & Grill* 1611 Larpenteur Ave W, Falcon Heights, MN 55113

- **CD2 Live Free September Meetup**
 - September 10th, 2026 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
 - *Brick & Bourbon* 18883 Florence Trail, Apple Valley, MN

- **September Executive Committee Meeting**
 - September 21st, 2026 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 - Virtual Event