

Minutes and Running Sheet

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Date: Wed, 10 May 2023 16:52:20 +1000
Attachments: Liberal Party Room Minutes 27 March 2023.docx (26.89 kB); Liberal Party Room Minutes 21 March 2023.docx (19.08 kB); 20230512 Running Sheet v 3.0.docx (22.59 kB)

Let me know of any changes and the various names I need to fill in.

Louise Staley

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Phone: [REDACTED] **Email:** [REDACTED]

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Opening remarks

[If someone looks to challenge the validity of the meeting.

I'll take that as a point of order, does the Shadow Attorney wish to comment?

MOB to express legal opinion on validity of the meeting.

There is no point of order. The meeting will continue.]

Minutes

The minutes are on the table. I'll give everyone a couple of minutes to review them. They are a record of the decisions taken at the meetings of the 21st and 27th of March.

Minutes of the meeting 20 March 2023. Moved: XXX, Seconded: YYY. All those in favour? Against? Carried.

Minutes of the meeting 27 March 2023. Moved: XXX, Seconded: XXX. All those in favour? Against? Carried.

Motion on Notice

I am in receipt of a motion to expel Mrs Moira Deeming from the Parliamentary Liberal Party from five members of the Parliamentary Party as required by Clause 59 of the Party's constitution. Five clear days notice of that motion being debated has been given to Mrs Deeming as required by Clause 60.

Before going ahead with that debate, is it the will of the meeting that voting on this motion be by secret ballot? (at least 5 MPs must stand in their place as per the constitution).

As at least five members have requested a secret ballot, voting will be by secret ballot.

Mrs Deeming, as you are aware, a motion of expulsion has been received, notice has been given, and the motion be debated and put at this meeting. You will have the right to address the meeting.

If you have not done so before we move to the mover's right of reply, I will ask you if you want to exercise that right then.

I now ask the mover of the motion to address the meeting.

Newbury speaks.

Does the seconder wish to address the meeting?

Guy speaks.

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Is there a speaker against the motion?

Opposer speaks.

Is there another speaker for the motion?

McLeish speaks.

Is there another speaker against the motion?

Opposer speaks.

Is there another speaker for the motion?

Britnell speaks.

Is there another speaker against the motion?

Opposer speaks.

Etc. Once all speakers against have been exhausted, if Mrs Deeming hasn't yet spoken, invite her to do so.

I now invite the mover of the motion to make his right of reply.

Newbury speaks.

I now call on the Party Secretary to conduct the ballot and I appoint her, Wendy Lovell and Joe McCracken as scrutineers.

Colleagues, you are voting on the motion "that Mrs Moira Deeming be expelled from the Parliamentary Liberal Party."

Vote.

Party Secretary to provide result on a piece of paper to JP.

The motion is carried.

Thank you, colleagues. As a result of this motion, Mrs Moira Deeming is expelled from the Parliamentary Liberal Party.

Mrs Deeming to leave the meeting.

In line with our constitution, Mrs Deeming will be advised in writing she has been expelled from the parliamentary Liberal Party and the terms of the resolution will also be sent to the State Director of the Liberal Party.

JP: Any other remarks about the resolution.

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General Business

Is there any general business?

MOB: I move suspension of standing orders for discussion on a matter of urgency, namely that the position of Party Secretary be made vacant.

Is there a seconder?

GUY: I second the motion.

Colleagues I put the procedural motion that standing orders be suspended. All those in favour? Against? The motion is carried.

I invite MOB to move his motion.

MOB. I move that the position of Party secretary be made vacant.

Is the motion seconded?

GUY: I second the motion.

Before going ahead with the debate, is it the will of the meeting that voting on this motion be by secret ballot? (at least 5 MPs must stand in their place as per the constitution).

As at least five members have requested a secret ballot, voting will be by secret ballot.

I now ask the mover of the motion to address the meeting.

MOB speaks.

Does the seconder wish to address the meeting?

Guy speaks or reserves right.

Is there a speaker against the motion?

Opposer speaks.

Etc.

[Note the meeting only has 30 minutes from the time the motion to declare the party secretary vacant is moved or it lapses unless the meeting resolves that the matter be further discussed. So, if the debate to declare vacant the Party Secretary gets to 25 minutes, you should move to extend debate.]

I now invite the mover of the motion to make his right of reply.

MOB speaks.

Given the nature of the motion I appoint David Hodgett to conduct the ballot and I appoint him, Wendy Lovell and Joe McCracken as scrutineers.

Colleagues, you are voting on the motion “the position of Party secretary be made vacant.”

Vote.

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Wayne Farnham to provide result on a piece of paper to JP.

The motion is carried.

Thank you colleagues.

I now call for nominations for the position of Secretary of the Parliamentary Liberal Party.

Trung Luu stands in place.

If necessary, ballot conducted.

If not, **I declare Trung Luu elected.**

Concluding Remarks

Comment on what happens next. Remind everyone that nobody should be commenting on what happens in a Party Room meeting. Ask if everyone could stop answering the phone or responding to a text from journalists on internal matters. Whether you support the result of this meeting or not, please stop commenting on ourselves.

Close meeting.

PARLIAMENTARY LIBERAL PARTY MINUTES OF MEETING 21 March 2023

Date: 21/03/23

Time: 8:30 am

Location: Liberal Party Meeting Room, Parliament House.

Present: 31/31

Matthew Bach, Brad Battin, Roma Britnell, Chris Crewther, Georgie Crozier, David Davis, Moira Deeming, Wayne Farnham, Sam Groth, Matthew Guy, Renee Heath, Ann-Marie Hermans, David Hodgett, Wendy Lovell, Trung Luu, Bev McArthur, Joe McCracken, Nick McGowan, Cindy McLeish, Evan Mulholland, James Newbury, Michael O'Brien, John Pesutto, Richard Riordan, Brad Rowsell (Late), Ryan Smith, David Southwick, Bill Tilley, Bridget Vallence, Kim Wells, Jess Wilson.

Leaders Report

John Pesutto MP: Called for focus on the Robert Redlich matter. Acknowledged the work done by Michael and Georgie.

Acknowledged the Admin Committee's selection Stuart Smith to be the next State Direction. Noted he will be under a lot of pressure because he has come from outside Victoria and called for him to be supported.

Noted Rod's start as Chief of Staff and Nick Johnston's start of employment.

General Business:

Richard Riordan MP: Moved motion for the delay of the motion to expel Moira Deeming.

I move that the motion put forward by the Leadership be put in abeyance and replaced with a motion that at our next Party Room conference these important social issues raised over the weekend be considered so that we all may move forward cohesively and direct our attention to our real opponents, including Daniel Andrews.

Seconded: Ryan Smith

Debate ensued with David Southwick, Ryan Smith, John Pesutto, Kim Wells, Georgie Crozier, Matthew Bach and Moira Deeming speaking.

In favour: 11 Against: 18 Abstain: 1

Motion lost.

Elections to Public Sector Boards:

VicHealth: Bridget Vallence elected.

Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation: Michael O'Brien elected.

Meeting closed: 10:15am

PARLIAMENTARY LIBERAL PARTY MINUTES OF MEETING 27 MARCH 2023

Special Victorian Parliamentary Liberal Party Meeting

Date: 27/03/23

Time: 10:00am

Location: Liberal Party Meeting Room, Parliament House.

Present: 31/31

Matthew Bach, Brad Battin, Roma Britnell, Chris Crewther, Georgie Crozier, David Davis, Moira Deeming, Wayne Farnham, Sam Groth, Matthew Guy, Renee Heath, Ann-Marie Hermans, David Hodgett, Wendy Lovell, Trung Luu, Bev McArthur, Joe McCracken, Nick McGowan, Cindy McLeish, Evan Mulholland, James Newbury, Michael O'Brien, John Pesutto, Richard Riordan, Brad Rowsell, Ryan Smith, David Southwick, Bill Tilley, Bridget Vallence, Kim Wells, Jess Wilson.

Meeting opened by Leader of the Parliamentary Liberal Party, John Pesutto

Motion on Notice

Mr Pesutto moved the motion which was circulated last Monday and proposed a secret ballot.

Pursuant to the *Victorian Parliamentary Liberal Party Constitution*, dated 30 August 2022, (the **Constitution**), that the Victorian Parliamentary Liberal party expel Ms Moira Deeming from the Parliamentary Party.

Pursuant to clauses 57 and 59 of the Constitution, the reasons for such expulsion being, on the evidence contained in the attached Annexure hereto, that Ms Deeming, on 19 March 2023 and in days preceding that day, conducted activities in a manner likely to bring discredit on the Parliament or the Parliamentary Party, such conduct by:

- a) on 19 March 2023 and on days prior organising, promoting and attending a rally where Kellie-Jay Keen (also known as Posie Parker), was the principal speaker in circumstances where Ms Keen was known to be publicly associated with far right-wing extremist groups including neo-Nazi activists; and
- b) on 19 March 2023, meeting with and publishing a video with Kellie-Jay Keen, Katherine Deeves, and Angie Jones and that Angie Jones, on that day posted on Twitter words that, in the mind of any reasonable and lay observer, made association with Nazis including on 4:41pm by posting the words "Nazis and women want to get rid of paedo filth. Why don't you", that quote being set out in the Annexure hereto, which Annexure also contains a hyperlink to the video referred to in this reason.

Mr Pesutto spoke to the motion.

Debate ensued.

Speakers included Mr Riordan, Ms McArthur, Mr Battin, Ms Crozier, Mr Smith, Mr Davis, Mr Wells, Mr Crewther, Mr McCracken, Ms Heath, Dr Bach, Mr McGowan, Mr Hodgett, Mr Southwick.

Members addressed: concerns regarding participation in events, women's rallies, neo-Nazism, impacts on the Liberal brand, team discipline and compromise on the motion moved.

Ms Deeming responded to the motion.

Mr Pesutto suspended the meeting from 11:33am until 11:56am

Meeting resumed and called to order at 11:56am.

Amended Motion

Mr Pesutto moved an amendment to the motion.

That the expulsion be omitted and replaced with the following.

That:

1. Ms Moira Deeming be suspended from the Parliamentary Liberal Party, effective immediately for a period of nine months (until 27 December 2023);
2. The Leader's Office to assist with a joint statement in conjunction with Ms Moira Deeming;
3. The Parliamentary Liberal Party affirms that there is no allegation made that Ms Deeming of being a Nazi or Nazi sympathiser.

Motion put and agreed to.

Meeting closed: 12:12 pm.