

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

December 18, 2001
Board Meeting Minutes

The PFLAG NH Board of Directors met on Tuesday, December 18th, 2001, at South Congregational Church in Concord, New Hampshire. In attendance were: John Monroe, Roberta Barry, Margie Lindsley, Gayle Spelman, Ruth Smith, Betty Bachelder, Jeremy Winnick, Lisa Nachbaur, and Sheila Dion.

John opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Items Discussed:

1. Minutes of previous meetings: Betty made a motion to accept the November Minutes. Margie seconded the motion. All approved, the motion carried.

2. Subcommittee Reports

Advocacy:

Nothing substantive to report at the moment.

Admin/Finance:

The Universalist Unitarian Church in Concord has been reserved for the Annual Meeting. Invitations have been mailed to the Advisory Council (See the Annual Meeting item #4, below). Also, Sheila will forward the Annual Meeting information to David to be included in the next newsletter.

Membership:

Sheila reported that \$2400 has been received to date for the fall membership drive.

Communications:

Jeremy agreed to continue to maintain the website and asked for updates from the Chapter leaders. David emailed Sheila that the January newsletter will probably not be finished until after Christmas.

Nominating Committee:

Ruth made a motion to nominate Betsy Janeway as an Honorary Director. Betty seconded the motion. All approved, the motion carried.

New nominees to the board include Barbie Ann Rounds to replace Nancy Mogielnicki, Lisa Nachbaur, and Heather Driscoll to replace Betty. All other members are returning except for Betty, who is finishing her last year.

Education & Outreach Committee:

The Superintendent's letter was mailed out on December 10th and 5 responses have been received to date. Sheila will make book plates to put on the inside cover of the "Hatred in the Hallways" books that will be sent to all superintendent's who request them. The bookplates will read "Donated by PFLAG NH, 1-800-750-2525, www.pflagnh.org"

3. **Other Stuff:**

The discussion from last month on how to get more parents to PFLAG meetings was revisited. It was suggested that a more positive slogan would be "Give you parents a second chance. Send them to PFLAG", rather than "Get your parents off your back".

Information has been received that the Rev. Fred Phelps and followers will be protesting the "class sweetheart award" to a same-sex couple at Dover High School, on January 2, 2002. John reported that Mim Easton, Executive Director of Seacoast Outright, suggests that PFLAG NOT be there in counter protest to avoid confrontation. He also reported that Peggy Keeshnick, a concerned parent at Dover High School, would like a group of parents there to show acceptance for all students.

Sheila passed out a sample of a PFLAG business card and requested that members write in the phone and address information they would like on the cards, i.e. PFLAG NH address and phone or their own personal address and/or phone.

Freedom to Marry: Ruth reported that Beth has resigned as facilitator. It was also

suggested that PFLAG, GLSEN and FTM get together to do joint trainings

There was a round of applause honoring Betty Batchelder who is finishing her sixth consecutive year on the board.

Margie reported that Mike Cassavaugh went on www.gayradionet.com on December 8th. He was interviewed by Col. Margrethe Cammermeyer on his high school experiences of harassment and abuse. The Colonel took calls and there was a very educational discussion of the safe schools issues nationwide. PFLAG and GLSEN were mentioned. It was also noted that Mike Cassavaugh is now the President of the GSA at New England College. Margie requested a list of schools that have GSA's in New Hampshire. Lisa is going to try and find that information.

4. Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting has been set for February 2, 2002, from 11:30 – 3:00 p.m., at the Universalist Unitarian Church in Concord.

Sheila reported that Becky's notes from last year's meeting were not in the files. The minutes will have to be recreated from John and Ruth's notes.

It was decided that an annual meeting notice would be mailed to all members who sent in their 2002 dues payments. All others will get the information about the meeting through the newsletter.

5. By-laws:

The by-laws were amended as follows:

Article II, Section 1: The last line that says "NH Chapters may choose to remain separate from PFLAG NH" has been removed.

Article II, Section 1: The word "transgender persons" was added after bisexual in the line that says, "to promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons..."

Article V, Section 7: Nominations may be received up until 4 weeks prior to the annual

meeting. This was changed from 6 weeks prior to the annual meeting. Another change to this section includes that any member may nominate a person to the board by means of a petition signed by 3 members rather than 5.

All references to "satellite chapters" has been changed to "regional chapters".

All members of the board agreed on the above changes.

Sheila will have copies of the amended by-laws available for everyone at the annual meeting.

6. Chapter Reports:

Keene:

40 out of the 50 people invited showed up to hear the presentation by two local psychologists who shared their research on gay teens in the Salt Lake City area. It was suggested that providing more open educational presentations would draw more people to meetings.

Roberta also reported that she spoke with a panel of people from an area youth group. About 20 early adolescent teens attended.

Concord:

Margie reported that not many people attended their last meeting. The ones that did attend talked mainly about safe schools

Lakes Region:

Gayle reported that 8 people attended the November meeting/potluck, including one new member. They talked about handling the stresses associated with the holidays.

Upper Valley:

John reported that he attended the Upper Valley meeting. 3 people attended the meeting. Nancy agreed with the consensus that they need big programs to draw people.

Seacoast:

Betty reported that there weren't many people at the November meeting, and that the group is getting smaller. They watched a transgender film and talked about the Dover

High School couple. Betty also reported that a member of the Seacoast group has invited an NPR reporter to do a piece on the meetings. John feels that this type of publicity should be explored. Betty feels that there are confidentiality issues and it might scare people away from the meetings. Ruth suggested that they could ask people who want to can stay and chat with the reporter, and the others can leave before the reporter gets there. It was then suggested that NPR be invited to do a piece on the State Chapter

level rather than on the individual chapters for confidentiality reasons.

7. Other Business:

It was decided that the annual meeting would take the place of the January board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dion
Administrative Assistant