

# Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

April 15, 2003  
Board Meeting Minutes

The PFLAG NH Board of Directors met on April 15, 2003, at South Congregational Church in Concord, New Hampshire.

In attendance were: Gayle, Margie, Roberta, Carol, Jeremy, Gordon, Ursula, Anne, Lisa, BarbieAnn, Paula and Sheila.

Roberta opened the meeting opened at: 6:30 pm.

## Major Discussions:

### 1. Minutes

Lisa made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, and Gordon seconded. All approved, the motion carried.

### 2. Peg & David's Northeast Tour

Invitations will be sent out to Advisory members, the founding Moms & Dads, and general membership. Board members should be at the Unitarian Universalist Church, in Concord at 5 pm, to help set up for a potluck supper with Peg and David, and the founding Parents. The general public will arrive at 7 pm for the presentation from David Mallory and Alice Leads, from PFLAG National. A dessert reception will be shared with the general public from 8:30 – 9:00 pm.

**Action Items:** Everyone will bring a dish for the potluck supper and two dozen cookies for the dessert reception (or other dessert finger food). Gordon will bring coffee. Carol will bring ice tea and paper goods left over from the annual meeting. Sheila will bring stickers and buttons to sell at the event. Anne will write a press release about the event. Calls will be made to the Advisory Board by the board members who know them, letting them know about the event in advance, and asking them about their desire to remain in the group. Sheila will send the general public's invitation to Jeremy to be put on the website. Gordon will call the press to see if we can get coverage for the event.

### 3. Committee Structure & Development

Anne & BarbieAnn were added to the Education and Outreach committee. Advisory Development was added to the Membership & Planning Committee.

**Action Items:** All committee members will define their committees (description, responsibilities, and sub-committees) by the next board meeting. The Education & Outreach committee will invite GLSEN to join the committee.

### 4. Grant Writing

Gordon attended a grant writing workshop in the Seacoast last month. He will get together with Gayle to go over the information.

**Action Items:** A "Grant Writer Wanted" Ad will be added to the newsletter and the website. Gordon will contact the United Way to find out their funding requirements.

### 5. Coalition Building:

GSA's: **Action Item:** All board members should contact their local school district to see if they have a GSA, ask who the advisor is, and let them know you are from PFLAG NH and are available to help.

COLAGE: **Action Item:** Ursula will contact Amy Wright from NH Rainbow Families to investigate forming a COLAGE group in Concord.

NH Freedom to Marry Coalition/Education Fund: Sheila reported the NH FTM has asked if PFLAG NH would collaborate with them to set up library displays on the history of marriage for June (Pride month). The board agreed that we cannot release the names of our library contacts on our membership list, but would send them a letter about the displays and ask them to contact NH FTM if they are interested.

### 6. Legacy Gifts

The idea of encouraging people to leave legacy gifts to PFLAG NH was brought up. Sheila brought in a booklet about legacy gifts she picked up from the Unitarian Church. This item will be revisited at the next board meeting.

### 7. In-Kind Donations

Sheila emailed everyone an in kind donations form for use by the board and other non-cash donations received. This form should also be used when board members donate non-reimbursed items and expenses such as mileage to and from speaking engagements, paper, photocopying, etc. This information is needed for grant writing.

## Minor Discussions:

### 1. Board Resignation

Sheila Finch has resigned from the board. She has received a job promotion and regrets that she will not have adequate time to devote to the PFLAG NH Board of Directors, but has agreed to join the Advisory Group.

### 2. Wish List

A wish list will be put in the newsletter and on the website. Items like paper, printer cartridges, and other materials can be donated "In Kind".

**Action Item:** Board Members should send their "wishes" to Sheila, who will send them on to David and Jeremy.

### 3. John Tuthill Memorial

It was decided by the Board not to donate money to the Spaulding Youth Center in memory of John Tuthill, but instead to include an article about John in the newsletter and the PFLAG Pole.

### 4. Boston Pride Parade

The Pride Parade is June 14<sup>th</sup>, in Boston. Margie will check with Boston PFLAG to see if we can march with them again.

## Other Items Discussed:

### 1. NH TREE Conference

Lisa and Anne will be speaking at the conference on April 26<sup>th</sup>,

**Action Item:** Sheila will get more "Growing Up Transgender" pamphlets printed.

### 2. National Initiative

Chapter Leaders should have received a packet from National about their new initiative to reach out to Congress and local politicians.

**Action Item:** Everyone should read the packet by the next meeting and think about what they'd be willing to do for this initiative.

### 3. Long Range Planning

Anne suggested holding a long range planning retreat in the near future.

## Subcommittee Reports

### **Membership:**

Sheila reported that she has received 140 paid memberships to date.

**Action Item:** Roberta challenged all Chapter Leaders to contact their lapsed members about rejoining PFLAG NH. 6 lapsed members from the Plymouth chapter have rejoined due to Carol sending them a personal letter.

### **Admin/Finance:**

Sheila distributed a first quarter financial report from Cheryl, showing an opening balance of \$10,870.65 and an ending balance of \$8714.80. Revenue totaled \$920.00 and expenses totaled \$3076.85

Sheila also reported that a problem had surfaced concerning Worker's Compensation insurance. Apparently, the previous treasurer never filed an audit from 2001, so Liberty Mutual cancelled the insurance in February of 2003 due to a lack of response. Notices of the cancellation had been sent to the previous treasurer, despite the change of address that had been submitted. Cheryl attended a hearing on April 15<sup>th</sup>, and feels confident that the fines will be waived or greatly reduced. She produced proof to the hearing officer that the cancellation notices and notice of the missing audits were sent to the previous treasurer instead of her. Also, Cheryl produced a notice from Liberty Mutual, dated December, 2002, stating that we were current for the next year.

**Action Item:** Cheryl will report on the hearing decision as soon as it is received.

### **Advocacy:**

Sheila reported that HB553 was voted Inexpedient to Legislate, and is officially dead.

### **Communications:**

**Action Item:** Jeremy will look into putting a web counter on the website.

## Chapter Reports

### **Plymouth**

Plymouth PFLAG met on Tuesday, April 8th. One other mother attended a brief meeting.

The **Love Makes a Family** exhibit was dedicated at the UCC/United Church of Christ in Plymouth at

7pm on Sunday, April 6th. Margie Lindsley, Sheila Dion and some of her family joined me for the event. Others from this area attended. The exhibit is beautiful and we hope the community will view the photos. The exhibit is at Holderness School during Holy Week and will be in the church again until May 1st.

I spoke to the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) on Thursday. About 10 members were present for my presentation and video. Everyone was very interested and supportive. I guess I am "out" in my church now.

I also had a request yesterday from a psychologist for a packet of information about PFLAG which I delivered yesterday. She has a client who just came out and needs information. I guess the word is out that I am the one to call in Plymouth. At last!

### **Keene**

Keene is working with the GSA students and their advisor from Keene High School. We've had 2 brainstorming sessions around their wants and needs in relation to their organization as well as their families and friends. A couple of students have even brought their parents! (This is one way to build membership gang!)

We are also presently in coalition with GLSEN So. Western N.H., AIDS Services of the Monadnock Region, the Keene UU Church, and Keene State College to bring a speaker series to Keene next fall. We are starting with Sabrina Sojourner, U.S. Congress Woman who will be speaking on Oct. 29 and 30th. The title of her talk will be: "Moving Beyond Tolerance Toward Acceptance." We are working on plans to offer CEU credits to educational leaders in our area schools. More details later.

### **Seacoast**

Not yet received.

### **Concord**

No new people. (Easter Sunday) Five members attended. Discussion on bible interpretations.

One member discussed their relationship with their gay daughter. How they are accepting but she is having a hard time understanding why it is so easy for them to accept her sexuality when her other lesbian and gay friends parents don't.

Lisa led a discussion on hormones and the relationship to some of us being gay. She explained the brains and BSTC's and the role hormones play in genetics and sexual identity.

Coming out discussed and importance of support for gays in the community (teachers etc.)

One member discussed her problems with her sons non-acceptance of her being transgender. Trans discussion on social acceptance.

Lisa updated us on the Youth Diversity Prom, which was held last night. All had a good time. About 100 kids attended.

Margie indicated need for us all to donate paper for printing of growing up brochures etc. as the State Board is short on funds and won't print them for us anymore. Donation of Books discussed. Again members buying some for the chapter. This will be discussed more at the core meeting next month.

### **Announcements:**

Gay Pride March: 6/14/03 In Boston. We will be marching again with PFLAG Boston. Gay Men's Chorus: Their spring schedule of concerts was passed out. Judy Shepard: She will be speaking at Plymouth State College on 4/23/03. PFLAG Dinner Meeting: On 5/15/03 the Board will have a dinner meeting for National Representatives and then a meeting for all members and Advisory Council members. Margie encouraged all to attend to get the Big picture of all the other work PFLAG does. May Core Meeting: Margie reminded everyone about the Core Planning meeting and gave a brief discussion on what we do for the new members.

### **Speaker Bureau:**

Not yet received.

### **Laconia/Lakes Region:**

The Lakes Region PFLAG Chapter had 21 attendees at the April 13th meeting. Micheil MacCutcheon of the NH Freedom to Marry Coalition & Education Fund spoke to the group. There were several people attending a PFLAG meeting for the first time. The possibility of attending the NH Gay Mens Chorus concert as a group was also discussed after the meeting.

**Upper Valley:**

The Upper Valley Chapter of PFLAG New Hampshire met Monday April 14 from 7:00-9:00 pm in Auditorium A of Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Four individual were present and the meeting centered around supporting an accepting mother of a recently out lesbian daughter. Support was given in helping her to understand her daughter and in suggesting ways

to deal with non supportive family and friends especially around religious issues.

**Other Business:**

The next board meeting is to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dion  
Administrative Assistant