

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Council

Home of Jeremy Winnick, Concord NH

Saturday, 22 April 2006

Call to Order

Carol called the meeting to order at 11:20.

Council members present: Roberta Barry, Margie Lindsley, Carol Perkins, Gordon Sherman, Jeremy Winnick

Others present: Cy Sherman

Council members absent: Kit Carter, Mikayla Howden, BarbieAnn Rounds, Gayle Spelman

Minutes of Prior Meetings

Roberta **moved** to accept the minutes of the 3/11 meeting as written. Margie seconded. Passed unanimously.

Business

Treasurer's Report

Carol distributed the treasurer's report and discussed highlights. The current balance is \$2825.05. Donations worth \$145.05 have been received from our new PayPal capability on the Website. The council discussed how to account for the PayPal fees, choosing to list the full donated amount as income and the fees as expenses.

Roberta **moved** to send the treasurer's report for audit. Margie seconded. Passed unanimously.

Case Update

Carol reported that Cheryl was informed that she has 4 years to repay the full amount or be sent back to prison. There was no requirement to provide a certain amount per month or year. She's trying to get the court to require specific payments over time. Carol will discuss the issue with Barbara at the Belknap County Victim's Advocate office. Roberta suggests that the council must pursue this action in writing.

Annual Meeting

Roberta reported that the UCC conference will be held on 9/30 at Keene. Since that is also our the projected date of our annual meeting, Roberta suggests that we hold our annual meeting in conjunction with the conference, which runs from 8am to 3pm. Roberta suggests we hold the annual meeting immediately following. There are workshops and a keynote address in the morning; additional workshops in the afternoon.

Gordon suggested that advertising for the conference also mention the annual meeting. Carol agreed to verify that the use of the space after the conference is okay with the UCC church. Roberta suggested that the PFLAG mailing be merged with the UCC mailing to take advantage of the bulk rate. Cy noted that she is not sure whether the UCC would be creating a mailing for the conference or not.

Roberta noted that the conference theme is "Celebrate Diversity."

Speaker Bureau

Carol asked that she be a recipient on the Speaker Bureau reports. Jeremy agreed to do this. Roberta agreed to give copies of all received reports collected so far to Carol.

Attorney General

Carol reported receipt of a letter from Christine Gauntt, indicating closure of the PFLAG-NH file on 2/23. PFLAG-NH is now officially covered by National's 501(c)3 status, so we no longer have to file reports with the Attorney General's office.

The IRS has asked for records of how much we pay our employees. Carol reported that she has already sent the last known information.

Worcester Conference

Roberta distributed the 5-page registration packet, which shows the sponsorship levels and what the benefits are. Roberta noted that many of the Transcending Boundaries folks she's working with had never heard of PFLAG. However, their parents are planning to attend, which could be very good for us. Roberta has asked Mikayla to do a workshop at the conference. Roberta noted that the call for other workshop proposals is still open. She's secured a few workshops from the folks on the National board.

Manchester Chapter

Roberta suggested that Gordon run a test PFLAG-NH meeting in Manchester, rather than establish a separate chapter first. Gordon thinks that the first such meeting might be in June. Margie asked whether there is a need for a chapter in Manchester. Gordon believes there is. The council agreed that the test meetings will help to answer this.

National

Roberta reported that she will attend meetings of National PFLAG in DC in May. The meetings will have the theme "Bringing the Message Home." The meetings will cover the national constitutional amendment, "Don't ask, don't tell," and a report from religious group in the Concord Monitor. Roberta will see Bernie Sanders (VT) and Charlie Bass. Peg Gage will see Jeb Bradley. Roberta is learning how to contact legislators, how to lobby, and how to speak about PFLAG.

Roberta noted that she has met other regional directors to discuss policy and share their experiences.

Chapter Reports

Plymouth

Carol reported a new member attended this month. He had come in the hope of listening to others talk about their experiences, but Carol had moved the meeting to coincide with a forum held at Plymouth State. Carol was torn about whether it was right of her to move the meeting, which normally does not get new members.

Carol reported that her articles continue to be published in the local newspaper.

Keene

Roberta noted that she had to miss this month's meeting, so she arranged Christine as a backup facilitator, but that few if any of her regulars appeared. She noted that this happened another time too. She asked how we can hold our chapters together with people more loyal to us than to PFLAG.

Roberta spoke to someone in Brattleboro who's child has come out as a transgendered person and who wonders why there is no chapter there. Roberta noted that it's clear: because we can't get people to attend meetings, run meetings, and do the work required to keep chapters alive.

Concord (from Cy Sherman via e-mail)

There were 5 in attendance at this Easter Sunday meeting, including one new person, the mother of a daughter (age 15) who had come out to her as a lesbian. The girl seems very comfortable with herself as a lesbian. She told her older sister first who paved the way for her to come out to her mother. "Mom" is very accepting but is afraid that her coming out at her high school is happening too fast. However, the daughter has made up a T-shirt showing two men, two women and a

woman and a man saying "Whoever is your choice..." and was planning to wear it.

The daughter wants to go places where gay couples may be seen together like a book store or a coffee shop - just to get a glimpse of what she envisions for herself in the future.

"Mom" took home several books to read and plans to bring her daughter with her to the next PFLAG meeting.

Adjournment

The council did not set a date for the next formal meeting.

Margie **moved** to adjourn. Roberta seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 13:12.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Winnick, recording secretary