

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Council

Home of Jeremy Winnick, Concord NH

Saturday, 1 July 2006

Call to Order

Carol called the meeting to order at 11:58.

Council members present: Roberta Barry, Margie Lindsley, Carol Perkins, BarbieAnn Rounds, Gordon Sherman, Gayle Spelman, Paula Spink, Jeremy Winnick

Others present: Don Spink

Council members absent: Kit Carter, Mikayla Howden

Minutes of Prior Meetings

Carol noted that a minor correction was needed in the treasury section of the minutes. She agreed to send the specifics to Jeremy later.

Roberta **moved** to accept the minutes of the 4/22 meeting as amended. BarbieAnn seconded. Passed unanimously.

Business

NH CAN

The NH Children's Action Network continues to send correspondence intended for PFLAG to Sheila. Carol noted that she has contacted them to explain the financial situation and encourage them to stay in touch.

Treasurer's Report

Carol distributed the treasurer's report and discussed highlights. The current checkbook balance is \$3677.91. Carol explained the mix-up of funds earned by the Plymouth chapter (\$445), paid by PSU to Roberta's home address. Roberta suggested that the council agree to write a check for the amount and pay it to the Plymouth chapter. Carol asked that we wait on this for now since she is very busy. However, she doesn't want the council to spend it in the meantime because her chapter doesn't have the funds to buy stickers, etc. Carol suggested that the funds be used to buy supplies for use by all chapters.

Roberta **moved** to donate \$200 of the \$445 received from PSU event to the Plymouth chapter. BarbieAnn seconded. Passed unanimously.

Roberta **moved** to pay PFLAG National for the booklets/brochures (\$217.50). Gordon seconded. Passed unanimously.

Don asked how he should account for student/senior (\$15) memberships. He noted that the Lakes Region chapter needs the money. He asked if the chapter could keep it. There was no dissent.

Roberta noted that a set of Sununu postcards destined for the Plymouth chapter were damaged at the Post Office but ultimately delivered.

Carol read from her letter to the UU Church in Concord thanking them for their donation of \$302.

Roberta submitted a receipt for new PFLAG booklets but noted that she did not have them with her. She wants them to be distributed to each chapter.

BarbieAnn/Gordon **moved** to approve the treasurer's report as amended (there was a typographical error on the report), subject to audit. Passed unanimously.

The council asked Don if he had any access to free or reduced-fee auditing services. Carol agreed to pursue this action item, collecting data for audit back to the point when she took over the position.

Gordon **moved** to buy 500 bracelets for \$515. Gayle seconded. Passed unanimously. Don noted that there are times when it is better to give bracelets away, and other times when it is better to sell.

Case Update

Carol read from a letter from Wayne P. Coull. He reports that Cheryl is working and that we would start receiving money. Carol noted that Wayne is running for political office. Roberta suggests that we may need to approach the Attorney General's office if we continue to not receive money. Carol will pursue this route at the end of vegetable season.

National

Sam Thoron is our National president. In June he rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange.

Christopher is our director of development. He works to bring money into the organization (phone calls, letters, face to face meetings, etc.)

Chapters only grow if they work for all 3 legs of the PFLAG mission: Support, Education, Advocacy.

Arkansas has ruled that gay people can adopt, a big step for a conservative state. Roberta promises to keep us informed of all such news.

Worcester Conference

Roberta distributed the updated conference flyers, noting that the registration fee is \$60 if purchased by 9/15; \$70 after. Because the fee for the weekend is so low, there is no 1-day admission option.

Keynote speakers: Sam Thoron and Lani Ka'ahumanu, and trans authors Matt Kailey and Jennifer Finney Boylan. She noted that the conference will have gay & lesbian topics in addition to the trans topics. She will host a reception on Friday evening; her husband will help man tables. Workshop applications are being accepted until July 15. All information is being posted to the Transcending Boundaries website. She urges the NH folks to turn out in good numbers; she hopes that they'll sign up early too, to help cover costs (\$2500 for Lani, \$6500 for the DCU Center). To help raise funds for the conference, a pool party is being held on July 15 in Worcester. Roberta will e-mail information on hotel rooms; there will be a reduced price at the closest hotel.

Margie noted that the expectations of the state council with respect to the conference has not been defined yet and should be addressed soon.

Tigert Pilgrimage

Gordon distributed copies of the letter from Leanne Tigert who's going to Israel in August on a pilgrimage and is asking for money to help her defray the cost.

BarbieAnn **moved** to donate \$150 to her. Gordon seconded. Passed unanimously.

Lakes Region Chapter

Roberta read from the letter from Don & Paula about the cessation of meetings at the Lakes Region chapter. The Spinks are in the process of moving as well. Roberta said that chapters open and close for any number of reasons, and it's OK to continue to list someone as a representative from the area. Roberta suggested that we continue to list reps from the Lakes Region. Roberta left it to them to decide how to deal with the money. She suggested that their membership data be merged into Concord's chapter. Don thinks that a membership in the Lakes Region chapter is closer to a contribution than a membership. Carol noted that they would still be a member within National PFLAG.

Don noted that he has discussed merging Lakes Region with Plymouth, making a true "Lakes Region" chapter that, since it's not tied to a particular city, can meet in various locations.

Paula asked whether anything needs to be done with respect to non-profit status. Carol asked whether they could remain an active chapter with a yearly or quarterly meeting. This would make it much easier for someone to come along and take over the work of running a monthly chapter. Don and Paula and Gayle agreed to do this.

Annual Meeting

Gordon distributed flyers for another conference being held the same day as the UCC conference. The council discussed moving the annual meeting; Carol suggested Coming Out day. Roberta noted that we'd simply be conflicting with other coming-out related events. The council agreed to remain with the original plan.

Gordon noted that we must pre-register to be involved with the UCC conference, which will be \$8. Gordon agreed that we would include ourselves in the UCC mailing. Roberta noted that we will have to produce labels for him from the database. Gayle asked whether our members would open an envelope with a UCC return address.

Roberta suggested that we meet separately to formalize the annual meeting. Don suggested that we clarify whether folks are members or are contributors.

Manchester Affiliate

Roberta noted that Manchester will be an affiliated with the Concord chapter. Thus, Concord will handle memberships and Gordon will handle his own bookkeeping. Gordon reported that he paid a \$75 key deposit for the building.

Margie suggested that a separate meeting be held to discuss the rules of running a Concord affiliate chapter.

Don asked why it has taken so long to form a presence in Manchester. The council agreed that the proximity to Concord was the reason.

The council agreed to list the following information for Manchester on the back page of newsletter: Meetings held on the 2nd Sunday of month, 3-5pm, 800-750-2524.

The council agreed to replace the Henniker contact number (428-3127) with the 800 number. Also, the Lakes Region information will be dropped.

Concord: First Open and Affirming City?

Carol reported that the NH Task Force in Concord has recommended to the City Mayor that he declare the city as open and affirming. The mayor is interested but wants to know what the precedent is for a city to do this. So far, there are many churches, but it appears that there are no cities.

Roberta thinks that this could be the biggest thing that PFLAG has ever been involved with, if this succeeds. She says that PFLAG needs to be in touch with the person heading this effort to pledge our support. Roberta promises to enlist Mo Baxley in this effort too.

Roberta **moved** to work to reinforce the Task Force on GLBT issues. Carol seconded. Passed unanimously.

Speaker Bureau

Roberta reported that a panel will be held at Seacoast Gay Men on July 17. She's working with someone who will be meeting with the director of Seacoast Outright, in the hopes of getting the parents involved more.

Gill Foundation

Jeremy reported status, and promised to submit the database before the deadline.

Chapter Reports

Concord

Gordon reported attendance of 1 at the June meeting, compared to 12 in May.

Margie asked the council to approve a change of address for the Concord chapter due to her move. She asked to co-locate with the Council mailbox and share the fee.

Carol **moved** to relocate Concord to P.O. Box 957, and replace the Concord phone number with the non-800 number. BarbieAnn seconded. Gordon promised to e-mail the new number. Passed unanimously.

Manchester

Gordon reported that 15 attended the inaugural meeting in June.

Plymouth

Carol reported that had her 2 usual attendees attended this month. She is thinking about not meeting in the Summer due to attendance and her schedule.

Keene

Roberta reported that she's getting 9-12 people regularly per month. In July, a less formal meeting and potluck will be held at her house, which will include a showing of *Transamerica*. Roberta has recently started working with a Keene man who's shown some interest in taking on some of the Keene chapter workload.

Lakes Region

Gayle reported that the chapter did not meet in May or June.

Upper Valley

BarbieAnn reported that she is getting 3-5 people each month for support. She noted that she will soon be working, and thus is not sure where she will be in a year. Gordon added that the Hanover UCC minister is a firebrand.

Adjournment

The council did not set a date for the next formal meeting. BarbieAnn **moved** to adjourn. Margie seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 14:13.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Winnick, recording secretary