

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Council

Havenwood Auditorium, Concord NH

Saturday, 18 October 2008

Call to Order

Carol called the meeting to order at 11:06.

Council members present: Margie Lindsley, Carol Perkins, Roberta Barry, Gerri Cannon, Phyllis Cudmore, Christine Marcroft, Lee Marcroft, Gordon Sherman, Paula Spink, Jeremy Winnick.

Guests: John Barry, Cy Sherman, Don Spink, Gretchen Grappone.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

Jeremy e-mailed the council to report that he had lost his notes from the July 19 meeting. Gerri recommended that draft minutes be distributed within a week of the meeting to mitigate this problem from occurring again. Carol suggested that hardcopies could help recover from computer calamities too. Jeremy agreed to implement these measures. Gerri added that having the minutes early will help remind the council members what their action items are. It is also easier to correct the record if it is fresh in mind.

The council recalled that there were no major decisions made at the July meeting. Topics included scheduling the annual meeting. Roberta asked whether any follow-up from the strategic planning meeting (in May) was done. Margie recalled that not much was done.

Business

Annual Meeting

Carol noted that the ballots should have been kept separate from the membership form to provide confidentiality. Also, the time of the meeting was wrong on the website.

Roberta's Report

Roberta observed that the council is back on schedule. She reminded us that National PFLAG handles the 501(c)(3) stuff, but that we have to remember to follow the rules (no candidate endorsement).

Speaker Bureau

Margie reported that she is not receiving all reports from the Website. Jeremy agreed to forward them to her until we resolve this.

Financial Report

Carol distributed the fiscal year 2008 treasurer's report and discussed highlights. The ending balance was \$5410.86, up from \$4872.60 last year. The increased revenue was due to payments made by Cheryl and the turnover of the Upper Valley chapter account to the council. Roberta requested that we not dwell on questions concerning Cheryl if any come up during the annual meeting. She also noted that the money coming from Cheryl may be much less next year due to her being back in jail for recent theft. The council only receives money when she is working.

Paula reported that the Lakes Region chapter continues to be viable, but they have held no meetings.

Carol reported that she will work with Margie to purge the deadwood from the database.

Carol will send the financial report to National if approved at the annual meeting.

Roberta asked if the PayPal link works. Jeremy noted that it does. Jeremy agreed to remove Roberta from the PayPal e-mail exploder and add Gerri.

Grant Writing

Gerri noted that there are grants available for us to pursue. We need to be able to articulate where grant money will go, so we need to be organized enough to know this. Gerri agreed to assist with the grant writing process. Roberta stressed the importance of grant writing, recalling that it was a grant from NH Charitable that got PFLAG started in NH. She noted that the Cheryl debacle weakened the trust other organizations had in us, which weakens our ability to get grants unless we must rebuild that trust.

Upper Valley Chapter

Roberta reported that she and Gerri will be visiting the chapter to ascertain its future. She's already spoken to Nancy Mogelnicki. She noted that there will be a meeting at the end of October to discuss chapter closure.

Seacoast Chapter

Roberta reported that the Seacoast chapter has kept only a minimum relationship with the council. Reps Meg and David prefer to maintain their own membership database, and have attended only one council meeting. Carol suggested that it is too confusing to have some, but not all, chapters under council control. Roberta would prefer that the chapter stay connected to the council, but if they refuse, she will suggest that the council purge the chapter members from the database. Roberta noted that this situation supports centralized chapter maintenance within the council. Carol suggested that we formalize the chapter and council organizations and responsibilities at the December meeting.

December Meeting

Roberta asked if the quarterly meeting schedule is working for everyone. Consensus: yes. Jeremy agreed to host the meeting at his house from 11-3. The meeting will be a potluck and may include a Yankee Swap. Gerri suggested that in addition to the chapter/council relationship, the agenda include hosting a calendar of activities on the website, building a database of speakers in order to more quickly respond to speaking requests, and expanding outreach via publications.

Miscellaneous

Roberta noted that one of the PFLAG scholarship winners was one of the students she met in Japan. She asked that someone send an extra copy of the PFLAG Pole to her.

At the annual meeting, Roberta will distribute copies of a letter from a denomination that has begun their version of "open and affirming" efforts. She suggests that we study it because it will be another opportunity for collaboration.

Roberta reported that Mandy from Rainbow Resources has requested that PFLAG take over their database. Roberta replied to her that we could not. Subsequently, Mandy has found someone who will help them.

Lee reported that they are low on brochures. Jeremy agreed to print 100 brochures for them and 100 brochures for Margie.

Adjournment

Carol **moved** to adjourn. Margie seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:09.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Winnick, clerk