

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

## Minutes of the Meeting of the State Council

Home of Jeremy Winnick, Concord NH

Saturday, 13 December 2008

### Call to Order

Gerri called the meeting to order at 11:18.

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

Guest: Russ French from the Keene chapter.

### Minutes of Prior Meetings

Lee **moved** to approve the minutes from the 10/18 meeting as written. Phyllis seconded. Passed unanimously.

### Reports

#### Treasurer

Carol distributed the treasurer's report and discussed highlights. The balance is \$6705.97, up from \$5410.86 on October 1. She noted that membership information is still coming in. Also, at this time the Seacoast chapter continues to handle its own finances. She noted that about 28 people responded to the membership drive in all, and that she already sent thank-you cards. Gerri felt that the turnout was within expectations. However, she also noted that we cannot afford to just have one membership drive per year. Gretchen suggested an electronic newsletter.

Margie reported that she will be closing Concord's checking account soon.

Lee **moved** to accept the treasurer's report with the fixing of a lone spelling error. Phyllis seconded. Passed unanimously.

#### Speaker's Bureau

Gerri, Margie, Roberta, and Carol all reported on recent speaking engagements.

Gerri wants better promotion of PTA speaking engagements. In particular, a listing and description of topics should be provided.

Roberta reminded everyone to fill out the speaker bureau form on the PFLAG-NH website, and to provide details (mileage, etc).

#### Fundraising

Gerri reported on a fundraising opportunity with Cold Stone Ice Cream (they share their proceeds with the sponsoring organization). Carol noted that Applebee's does something similar with a pancake breakfast (normally they open for lunch, but they offer breakfast for fundraising).

#### Chapter Visits

Gerri asked each chapter leader to report how many new members are coming in to the meetings, as well as a listing of activities and speakers.

Gerri and Roberta reported on their visit to a recent Upper Valley chapter meeting. Some of the original founders are still running the meetings, but they are burning out. They want to cease meeting regularly. Also they have already turned over the database responsibility to the council and will offer Nancy Mogelnick as a council representative for the chapter.

Gerri also attended the Seacoast chapter, where there were a number of new people. Thus, the meeting was almost solely support. She will try to attend the Seacoast chapter every other month or so.

Roberta reported on challenges being faced by the Keene chapter.

Margie noted that the Concord chapter has not had any new people in a while and that she is also burned out.

Carol reported on activities and new people coming in to the Plymouth chapter. Someone in the chapter wants to set up a Pride parade to march through downtown Plymouth in April.

Christine reported that a member from the NH Gay Men's Chorus was interested in starting a Nashua chapter. Roberta asked to be notified when such interest comes in since she can help with that.

Roberta noted that PFLAG National is asking that all chapters sign a letter of commitment that reminds them that they can only use the PFLAG logo as long as they remain a viable chapter.

### Business

#### National Report

Roberta reported that National has created a safe-schools manual and curriculum. This brochure is now available to chapters upon bringing their memberships and databases up to date. GLBT-safe stickers are available too.

National has re-written their brochures.

National's Straight for Equality campaign continues. She's hoping that SFE training may be coming to NH.

National will distribute \$35K in scholarships in 2009. Roberta urged chapter leaders to get the PR info from the website and bring this information to the local schools and newspapers.

#### Listening Skills

Gerri has attended a workshop on people skills and wants to make it available to the council. This is helping her evaluate the chapter meetings she's visiting.

#### Hotline

Gerri asked whether the hotline can be transitioned to a cell phone that can be passed from person to person. It would be important to preserve the existing number for logistics reasons. Margie asked that whoever has the phone also have a copy of the Gay Lifeline available to be able to make referrals. Gerri noted that the people would be assigned to the phone would need to be trained to handle the myriad of cases that will come in.

#### Website

Gerri wants the contact information updated. The downloads page needs to ensure that the links go somewhere. Gerri encouraged all council members to check on the website periodically and notify Jeremy with issues.

#### Fisher Cats GLBT Day

Gerri met with Stephanie and Mike who are considering hosting a GLBT day; ostensibly PFLAG-NH will be a primary

co-sponsor of the event. Gerri suggested that they hold the event in June. There may be a table at Boston Pride to promote the event. At the event, PFLAG-NH will have a table and will be allowed to sell things. The Fisher Cats will provide us with an online purchase code that will provide us with a percentage of the ticket price for online sales made using the code.

#### Miscellaneous

For \$300 per year, we can put the PFLAG-NH logo onto Manchester Community Access Television periodically throughout the year. No action was taken at this time.

Gerri wants to promote the new officers as a press release, and do this at each activity too.

Gerri wants to host a public movie night periodically at the Palace Theater.

#### Legislature News

A number of bills will come up this term. One will convert the existing civil unions to full marriage. Another will introduce Civil Marriage (first in the nation); this will be differentiated from Church-based marriage. Third, a gender identity/gender expression non-discrimination bill will be introduced in January. Gerri will keep the council posted as developments

progress; she expects that PFLAG members will want to testify in support of one or more of these bills.

#### NASW Newsletter Ad

The National Association of Social Workers is a National organization; NH has a single chapter. Gretchen will be writing an opinion piece in their newsletter, asks whether PFLAG would like to purchase a quarter-page ad. The ad would cost \$75 per quarter or \$300 per year. The newsletter goes to all NSAW members. Gretchen notes that there are very few GLBT issues brought up in the newsletter.

Roberta **moved** to submit a quarter-page ad for one quarter. Gordon seconded. Passed unanimously. Gretchen noted that the ad will be published in mid-January. Jeremy agreed to tweak the current WSO ad for this.

#### Next Meeting

March 28, Margie's new house, 11-3.

#### **Adjournment**

Carol **moved** to adjourn. Margie seconded. Passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 13:17.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeremy Winnick, clerk