

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

October 15, 2002  
Board Meeting Minutes

The PFLAG NH Board of Directors met on October 15, 2002 at South Congregational Church in Concord, New Hampshire.

In attendance were: Gayle, Margie, Roberta, Lisa H., Ruth, Carol, Paula and Sheila.

The meeting at: 6:30 pm.

## Guest:

Mark Perrault, from the March of Dimes and the Gay Men's Chorus attended to talk about partnering with PFLAG NH, on a benefit concert for the March of Dimes, on November 14, 2002, at the Derryfield Auditorium. Mark asked if PFLAG NH would assist him in selling tickets and helping to spread the word about the concert. He also suggested that we have a table with PFLAG materials available to the audience.

**Action Item:** Roberta will attend the event to represent PFLAG NH.

## Items Discussed:

1. Minutes from previous meeting. Ruth made a motion to accept the minutes, and Margie seconded. All approved, the motion carried.
2. Subcommittee Reports

### **Admin/Finance:**

The third quarter treasurer's report was not available since a treasurer's report was provided at the previous meeting, and Cheryl is currently working on the budget.

**Action Item:** Cheryl will provide a Q3 report at the next board meeting.

### Bulk Mail Permit:

It will cost \$600 to move the bulk mail permit to Concord, so it was decided to leave the permit in Manchester. Sheila, Cheryl and Gayle have volunteered to transport mailings to Manchester as needed.

### **Membership:**

The membership letter that John wrote was revised slightly, and is ready to be mailed.

**Action Item:** Sheila will mail the membership letter by the end of October.

### **Advocacy:**

Ruth reported that NH Freedom to Marry is preparing a voter's guide, and will be mailing it out to people just before election day.

### 3. **Other items discussed:**

#### National Conference Update:

Margie, Carol and Roberta reported that the National Conference was awesome and inspiring. They brought home lots of ideas and resources to share with the board. Some of the ideas included taking out an ad in the yellow pages of the phone book, having stickers printed, and creating coming out day cards. Carol and Margie wrote articles to be included in the Nov/Dec. newsletter.

**Action Item:** Roberta and Margie will get copies of resources from the conference to Sheila for the files.

#### Nominations to the 2003 Board of Directors:

Mike Cassavaugh – PFLAG youth speaker, nominated by Margie.  
Diana Lacey – Grants & Contract reviewer at DHHS, nominated by Sheila.

It was also suggested that the board needs a bisexual representative.

**Action Item:** Get bios from the nominees to the nominating committee by the next board meeting.

**Action item:** Sheila will ask Sandy to nominate a Seacoast Representative by the next board meeting.

**Action Item:** Ask Jane Norman for names of potential nominees.

#### Advisory Council

Alice Nye, from the Family Resource Connection has agreed to be on the Advisory Council. Other potential candidates are:

Heather Thalheimer – Parent Information Center  
Jack Lightfoot – Child & Family Services  
Children's Lobby  
Martha Fuller Clark (if she loses the election)

Objectives for the Advisory Council were discussed. They include:

- Focus the group on current PFLAG projects (safe schools)
- Ask the group how they can help us with our projects.
- How often will they meet?
- Goals include getting Hatred in the Hallways out to more people and obtaining more speakers.
- Find a facilitator to coordinate the group (Beth McGuinn?)
- Invite the group to the Annual Meeting
  - o Write letter to the group before the Annual Meeting informing them that we are revitalizing the group and asking them to attend.
  - o Split up the Annual meeting to include the Advisory Council Meeting or have a meeting later in the spring?

**Action Items:**

- a. Get names of past Advisory Group members to Sheila. Sheila will check the files for names as well.
- b. Get names of potential candidates to the Advisory Council to Sheila.
- c. Lisa will write a letter to the Advisory Council inviting them to the Annual Meeting and explaining our goals and objectives.
- d. Create Advisory Council Structure
- e. Ruth will ask Beth if she will facilitate the first Advisory Council meeting.

Action Plan – Tabled due to poor attendance.

Grant Writing Committee & Fundraising

Ruth pointed out that committees do not have to be (and shouldn't be) made up of all board members. A grant writing committee could be made up of one board member and several volunteers. It was also suggested that we find someone experienced with grant writing for the Advisory Council. Other suggestions were to ask Betsy Janeway and John Liston to be on the grant writing committee.

**Action Item:** Ruth will ask Betsy Janeway to be on the grant writing committee. Margie will ask John Liston.

Sheila reported that she went to see the B-Girls in P-town (a drag show) and thought it would make a great fundraising event, at the FrontRunner in

Manchester. She emailed them and they called her and agreed to do a fundraiser in May or June, when they would be in the Boston area.

**Action Item:** Sheila will follow up with the B-Girls and the FrontRunner in the spring.

Annual Meeting

The best possible dates for the Annual Meeting are either January 25<sup>th</sup> or February 1, 2003, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Concord. It was also suggested that we present a program to get more people to attend. Suggestions for a program included doing a GLSEN activity or having a speaker.

**Action Item:** Sheila will check the dates with the Church.

Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force Benefit:

Margie, Lisa H., Sheila, and Cheryl will represent PFLAG NH at the Task Force benefit on October 20, 2002. Margie will do a presentation on what PFLAG is all about and what it has meant to her as a parent of a gay child. Sheila and Cheryl will staff an information and resource table and Lisa will be available to network with people and answer questions.

Diversity Gala

Margie, and possibly Carol, will be representing PFLAG NH at the NH Minority Health Coalition's Diversity Gala, at the Center of NH, on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Margie may ask Linda to attend as well.

Chapter Reports

In an effort to save time at board meetings, it was decided that all chapter reports should be emailed to Sheila prior to each board meeting. No time will be set aside for chapter reports unless someone requests time at the meeting to briefly discuss their meeting. Sheila will include all chapter reports in the minutes.

Outcome: Ruth made a motion to omit chapter reports from the board meeting unless someone requests time. Margie seconded. All approved, the motion carried.

**Action Item:** Email all chapter reports to Sheila prior to each meeting.

Speaker Bureau

All speaking events should be emailed to Sheila. Include the following information: Who, what,

where, mileage, time, # of attendees, # of materials distributed, and topic.

**Action Item:** Sheila will email the entire PFLAG email list requesting that all speaking events be reported to her, and will keep a database of all events.

#### Child & Family Services

Sheila reported that Terry Hypse, from Child & Family Services, contacted her. They are planning a Rainbow Family Parenting Series of seminars, and wanted to know if we could provide speakers. Sheila contacted Lisa Hartley, Gayle Spelman, and Paula Spink, who have all agreed to be on the panels. The series will run from October 28<sup>th</sup> – December 16<sup>th</sup>, in Concord.

#### Lambda Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Roberta reported that she gave a brief presentation to about four people at the close of the film festival. She put PFLAG info out on the resource table for people to take.

#### Multicultural Market Day

Paula, Gayle and Kim set up a table of PFLAG materials at the Multicultural Market Days event in Laconia, on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Gayle was interviewed on the radio. A report of the event and a picture was submitted to the newsletter.

## 4. Chapter Reports:

### **Plymouth**

Our meeting was held Tuesday, October 8th. One new high school student and his mother came to the meeting. We had a great time of sharing. He says he will get more kids from the high school and parents for the next meeting. Let's hope he will.

### **Keene**

Had a new person attend our Oct. meeting. We are planning a visit from Marc Adams, and are working with GLSEN, Keene State Pride group, and the Keene State Homophobia project to sponsor this visit. It will be Nov. 12th at Keene State in the Student Union Building.

We are also working with GLSEN and sponsoring a Fun(d) raising house party at John & Jean Bleyle's house on Dec. 8th. Have some items for a silent auction and some entertainment. More on that later.

I have spoken with a class at Springfield, Vt. High School and am preparing for another talk to the staff at Monadnock Regional High School for Oct. 21st.

Roberta

### **Seacoast**

Seacoast Chapter's program for October was an interesting story of the convoluted family arrangements that followed the divorce proceedings of one of our members, as told mostly by his two children and the lesbian couple that raised them. For the two straight spouses who also attended our program, the post-program Q&A time provided a good information exchange in a potentially emotional setting.

We had approximately 20 people attending the meeting. The support time was fairly quiet, with John and Peggy trying not to say too much about the National Conference because that is supposed to be the November program.

### **Concord**

There were 8 people at the Concord Chapter meeting, including two new people, a mother and her 20 year old son. The mom had questions that her son didn't feel comfortable answering, so it was suggested that she come without her son next time. Several members of the group also gave her their phone numbers to call. John Liston spoke about upcoming choral programs by the Gay Men's Chorus.

### **Speaker Bureau**

Sept. 16, 2002 – Margie Lindsley showed "That's A Family Video" to a class from NHTI studying for their Associates Degree in Sociology. She gave a brief overview of what PFLAG is and our mission. The class was held at Hillsboro Deering High School. Although it was a small class questions were ask about being a parent of a gay son and discussion on different families.

Margie Lindsley and Roberta Barry spoke 10/8/02 at Springfield High School in Springfield, Vt. to a sociology class and later to their GSA. We were well received and lots of questions asked. The GSA is only 18 months old. Facility asked about training for their peers as we explained our "Hatred in The Hallways" book project. We'll possibly return in the spring for their diversity day program.

Upcoming:

Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, 2002 – NEA conference John Schuttinger (GLSEN) will present a workshop on Protecting all Students from Homophobia and will have a copy of Hatred in The Hallways for educators to sign up for copies.

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2002 – The Friends of The Southern NH HIV/Aid Task Force have invited PFLAG and Freedom to Marry to their Auction and Reception at the Center of NH. We will have a table with handouts and give a brief description of what PFLAG is.

Nov. 8, 2002- A panel will be speaking at Timberlane Regional High School (Plaistow, NH) for their Professional Development Day. Two workshop sessions. Roberta Barry will be doing a Safe Schools GLSEN piece and the rest of the panel will tell their stories and answer questions. This is for educators so this is very exciting for us to be a part of their training!!! My contact expected 100-200 people.

Nov. 15, 2002- PFLAG has been ask to attend The NH Minority Health Coalition for their 2002 Diversity Gala. This is an event to recognize and award individuals, business and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to embracing diversity. We will have a table with handouts.

### **Laconia/Lakes Region**

There was no program planned for October.

Seven people attended the meeting, which was spent on "support". Three people attending were new to PFLAG. The origin of PFLAG was discussed and literature was distributed.

### **Upper Valley**

The Upper Valley PFLAG chapter met October 14 at 7:00 PM in auditorium A of the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Four individuals were present and there were no people new to PFLAG. There were no burning issues so a general discussion was held.

Earlier in the month: On September 23 G/LEARN, the Gay/Lesbian Education Resource Network held a meeting with local counselors, social service agency personnel and representatives

from the Vermont Department of Education. The goal was to bring together individuals concerned with GLBT youth. A brief description of the meeting results follows. At a later time a meeting will be held with school counselors, nurses etc. As both a member of G/LEARN and PFLAG I described PFLAG's activities, provided literature including newsletters and described the Hatred In the Hallways book Project.

Report of GLEARN: Resource Network Group Pilot Meeting, September 23, 2002 Norwich, Vermont; Moderator: Beth Dingman.

The goal of the meeting was to encourage collaborative programming among people and/or agencies involved in gay/lesbian/transgendered issues. We wanted to learn what people are currently doing, and explore if there is any possibility of us doing some of it together. Alexis Jetter of G/LEARN gave a brief synopsis of some of the projects G/LEARN has done over the past few years. Then we went around and everyone spoke about the programs they were engaged in and where they perceived gaps in service.

By the end of the meeting there seemed to be a general agreement that some sort of resource guide would be helpful. G/LEARN has decided to take that on as a project. There was also some discussion about the possibility of a glbt center - a space where people could get together, show movies, have speakers, whatever. A subcommittee is being formed to look into this.

Also: On Saturday October 5 as part of the first reunion by DGALA (Dartmouth Gay and Lesbian Alumni) Nancy Mogielnicki and I had table space with PFLAG literature.

### **5. Other Business:**

The next board meeting will be November 19, 2002, at the South Congregational Church in Concord.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Dion  
Administrative Assistant