

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

May 15, 2003  
Board Meeting Minutes

The PFLAG NH Board of Directors met on May 15, 2003, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Concord, New Hampshire for a brief meeting.

In attendance were: Gayle, Margie, Roberta, Carol, Jeremy, Gordon, Lisa, BarbieAnn, Paula and Sheila.

## Discussions

1. April's meeting minutes - Tabled.
2. Roberta thanked Peg & Dave for including us in their Northeast Tour.
3. Web Domain  
A quorum of the board voted to let Jeremy change our web domain to one that allows for more space and less cost. Jeremy assured the board that there would not be an interruption in service. We would also retain the same web address (www.pflagnh.org).
4. GSA's & Congress Contacts  
Roberta asked for a show of hands of how many board members had contacted their local high schools and asked if they had a GSA. Only two members had. Roberta then asked how many board members had looked over the info from National about contacting their congressperson. 5 members had.

*Action Items:* Contact your local high school and let them know who you are, and that you are available to talk to them about PFLAG NH and safe schools. Also find out if they have a GSA. Read over the information from National if you haven't already.

5. COLAGE – Tabled
6. Grants & Fundraising  
Gordon reported that he was in touch, via email, with Elizabeth Kennedy from Partnership for Nonprofits (PEN), and was hopeful that a grant would be found soon.

7. Boston Pride Day- Saturday, June 14th  
Margie reported that she had contacted Boston PFLAG and they said we were welcome to march with them again this year.
8. Speaker Bureau Dates

## JUNE 2003

6/18/03-Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield- Margie and Lisa will join a panel for their Gay & Lesbian Awareness Day for employee education.

## SEPTEMBER 2003

Casey Family Services – Concord – Margie is coordinating a panel for 15-20 families for Sept. GLBT education. Also they want handouts for their Concord office... This contact was from the Littleton engagement earlier.

## OCTOBER 2003

Program for a Library Conference in Worcester, Ma focusing on GLBT materials in libraries. Roberta Barry has contacted the Chair Steve Russo. Also Margie Lindsley gave Roberta- Nancy Grants # as another contact and possible speaker for PFLAG.

9. Safe Schools Grant  
Roberta announced that she had accepted the grant of \$1035.00 from PFLAG National for the Safe Schools Curriculum book. Roberta also reported that she might have an intern to work on the book project database.

*Action Item:* Everyone should start getting together the information to be included in the manual.

10. Spring/Summer Fundraiser  
Roberta is going to begin working on the fundraising letter.
11. Speaker Series  
Roberta announced a speaker series that the Keene Chapter is working on in collaboration with GLSEN, AIDS Services of the Monadnock Region, and the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church. In October, they will be bringing Sabrina

Sojourner to Keene to speak, and in November, they will be bringing Troix Bettencourt to Keene to speak.

## 12. Retreat Dates

*Action Item:* Paula will check her calendar to see what dates will work the best for a summer retreat, and will email the possibilities to everyone.

## 13. Book Review

BarbieAnn reviewed the book "Man Who Would Be Queen". To sum it up, she said it was "transphobic junk science". BarbieAnn will be submitting a review of the book to the newsletter.

## Chapter Reports

### Upper Valley

The Upper Valley Chapter of PFLAG New Hampshire met on Monday May 5 at 7:00 pm in Auditorium A of the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. There were 10 individuals present. Justin Wheeler a second year medical student at Dartmouth Medical School spoke about his experiences working with Manchester Outright as part of a Schweitzer Fellowship. We discussed not only how Manchester Outright worked but how we might bring similar opportunities for GLBT youth to the Upper Valley and questions involving transgender and intersex youths. We also provided support to a mother looking for ways to support her son, a high school student, who has recently come out as gay.

For our June meeting people were asked to bring their favorite books on GLBT issues with the thought that we might get ideas about books to either buy for our chapter library or donate to DHMC.

### Plymouth

The meeting tonight at 7pm was attended by one...me. I waited 30 minutes but no other people arrived. (This is so discouraging. It is a good thing there were events last month.)

### Concord

16 people attended. Including one new person brought by a member.

The Marcroft's donated a book "Why Men Don't Listen and Women Can't Read Maps". There is a great section in the book on homosexuality explaining it is a natural occurrence. Thank you Marcrofts. On the

other end of negative GLBT education, especially trans, Barbie Anne spoke of a book that is being used in some college classes called "The Man Who Wanted to Be Queen." She stated it is full of nonsense and was researched in Drag bars and the author never talked to the educated trans or GLBT world.

There was a discussion of a member's lesbian daughter still having a problem with how accepting her parents are. Her group of friends doesn't have accepting parents, etc, so we expressed that it takes time. She is getting better at understanding their acceptance. We suggested that they should send her pictures of them marching in the pride march next month! One member stated he still had problems with his family ignoring the fact that he has a partner and asking how he is, etc. This led to a discussion by Lisa on the price we pay for secrecy and the myths we keep. Gay people can have loving relationships and how this might keep gays in the closet and keep some from becoming allies. GSA's were discussed and explained, as well as a military discussion.

Gordon filled in the group on last Thursdays (5/15/03) Board dinner workshop with our guests - David Mallory our PFLAG National Field & Policy Coordinator, and Peg Gage our Northeastern Regional Director. The evening included Advisory Council members and any PFLAG members who wished to attend. New people who attended left with a bigger understanding of what PFLAG work we is being done in New Hampshire, and they were given some educational tools to take back to their communities.

Lisa attended a meeting last Tuesday (5/13/03) for the New Hampshire Commission on the Status of Women's Gender Equity in Education Task Force. This was a discussion on awareness, training and education on gender issues in our educational workplace, including violence, curriculum & educational programs. She stated it went very well and was welcomed. She left a "Hatred in The Hallways" book, along with other handouts.

Announcements: Margie updated the group on Boston Pride March - 6/14/03. We will march again with the Boston PFLAG group. Email or call Margie if you want to go. We'll probably meet in Concord.

Core Meeting Followed: New positions as follows: Alicia Maggio Treasurer, Cy Sherman Secretary, and Kellie Rheault Librarian. Lisa Hartley will work on

the Web page. Paul Belyea will continue with Concord Monitor Ads. Group effort on Advertising, membership and fundraising. It was decided to continue the Concord Monitor 3x3 ads for meeting and programs for the next few months. The Marcrofts gave a donation to cover the ads. Discussion on ways to advertise and the need to get more handouts to our local doctors, dentists offices. Group will work on together. Kellie and Margie will work on the library this summer and inventory current books. Programs as follows: Sept.- Lisa Hartley – Trans program, Oct.- Kellie and Margie – youth speakers for Coming out month, Nov. – Core Meeting, Dec. holiday party with Paul's music. Group also discussed a picnic this summer. Margie will check with Chamber of Commerce for calendar of events for future PFLAG table. Cy will forward minutes of meeting to Margie.

#### North Country

Our May meeting was held at the usual, third Monday, 7-8 PM time slot. David Pendleton opened and welcomed one visitor, who arrived to see who was there. They chatted for a while about personal matters, politics and the weather. Both went home refreshed.

#### Seacoast

We have had several new parents attending meetings in both May and June. In fact the stories were so

powerful and sad that we never did get to a program in May - just kept listening and trying to be supportive. In June we had a representative from a newly formed drama group in Hampton come for the program. The group's first production will be The Laramie Project which will be done the last weekend in August, at Hampton High School. She was very excited about the prospect and wants as much publicity as possible. I don't know the times of the performance, but will get more information out as soon as I found out.

#### Keene

We have lots going on. The big news is our collaboration with AIDS Services, GLSEN, the UU Church, and several other groups, to bring a speaker series to Keene in Oct. and Nov. It's amazing what can happen when groups work together and get a grant to bring about a major education initiative. I'm so excited about this one. There will be a poster for you all at the next board meeting. On another note, we are still working with GSA kids at Keene High School. They seem very happy to know there are other adults in their community who care about them and support their lives.

#### Lakes Region

Gayle S. and a woman new to PFLAG attended the May meeting.