

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Havenwood Heights Chapel, Concord, NH  
20 July 2004

## Call to Order

Roberta called the meeting to order at 18:59.

Directors Present: Roberta Barry, Sheila Dion, Cheryl Elliot, Lisa Hartley, Duncan McInnes, BarbieAnn Rounds, Gordon Sherman, Marianne Storer, Jeremy Winnick

Directors Absent: Kit Carter, Louis Hobbs, Margie Lindsley, Alicia Maggio, Carol Perkins, Gayle Spelman

Guests: Kelly, Pat Storer

## Business

### Jim Bretz

Lisa provided an update on Jim Bretz, noting that he has been interred in New York. She does not know what has happened to his partner, Bill. Roberta asked Lisa to research what Bill's needs are, for a possible PFLAG donation.

Sheila asked that people send her memorials about Jim for possible inclusion in the newsletter and Website.

### Contact Information Update

Roberta asked to be kept informed of any contact information updates. She provided the following updates for Gayle Spelman:

New cell number: 455-6948

New e-mail: gspelman@verizon.net

### National News

Roberta distributed instructions on how to get signed up for National's weekly alert. Gordon noted that the current week's alert was 28 pages long.

Roberta reported that some anti-gay groups are trying to steal the heart and triangle image from the PFLAG logo to use as their own. She noted that all chapters are now required to sign that they are representatives of an official PFLAG chapter and that they promise to use the logo only for PFLAG-based purposes.

### Booth at Concord Market Days

Gordon reported that the booth location this year was poor. He noted that an adjacent group had complained about the low traffic and was refunded their booth cost. He's looking into getting a refund for PFLAG too.

Sheila reported that there was no tent or canopy provided and that she borrowed one for their use during the event. She noted that it was an essential element.

Sheila **moved** to purchase a canopy for PFLAG's permanent use. The canopy itself, sides, and a carrying cart will cost around \$150. Lisa seconded. Passed unanimously.

Pat noted that the company she works for makes canopies like this and offered to arrange the purchase.

### New Banner

Jeremy showed his vector-based designs for the PFLAG-NH logo and state chapters. Kelly reported that Alicia has dropped her involvement in this project. Sheila recommended that we "shop around" before selecting a company to create the banner.

Jeremy agreed to work with Kelly to complete the final design of the banner. Duncan agreed to search for vendors. Roberta asked that the completed banner be presented at the September board meeting at the latest.

### Political Action Workshop

BarbieAnn provided a marriage update and Roberta depicted the money imbalance between the pro and anti-GLBT forces. Anti-GLBT is *much* better funded.

Sheila presented the methods of contacting one's representatives in order of effectiveness: face-to-face meeting, then phone call, then e-mail. She also noted that open houses are not as effective because reps who attend tend to be already on board.

### Treasurer's Report

Cheryl noted that the June bank statements had just arrived and promised to provide a treasurer's report at the next board meeting.

### Administrative Assistant's Report

Sheila reported that there are 137 members currently. She noted that the Spring Fundraiser has yielded \$735 from non-members who are now supporting members. An additional \$400 has come in from existing supporting members.

### Freedom to Marry Donation

Sheila reported that the bulk of FTM's spending is in outreach efforts, which are more costly since FTM is not a 501(c)(3) organization.

Gordon noted that it would be beneficial to PFLAG if there was an acknowledgement in writing noting what PFLAG has done for FTM. Lisa asked that a cash donation be added to that list.

Gordon **moved** that the PFLAG board match his personal donation of \$100 to FTM in the name of Jim Bretz. Lisa seconded. Passed unanimously.

Duncan reported that he would check with the Seacoast chapter for a donation. Roberta asked each chapter to consider making a donation. Donations can be mailed to NHFTM, P.O. Box 4064, Concord, NH, 03302-4064.

### Curriculum Project

Sheila reminded everyone that this is a grant effort and those working on it must record their hours. This project must be completed by October 28.

Speaker Bureau

*Margie was absent.*

Roberta reminded everyone to file a report for each speaking engagement completed.

Summer Strategic Planning Retreat

Discussed whether to continue to pursue this, due to difficulty in scheduling it. Lisa noted that one of the benefits will be political action skills which can then be used during the month or two prior to the election.

Discussed the logistics of the meeting itself. Settled on a short business meeting preface from 6-6:30, followed by a dedicated strategic planning workshop. Settled also on a workshop that considers PFLAG's goals 1 and 5 years out.

The board agreed to hold the workshop in conjunction with the September 21 board meeting. Sheila noted that she will send to the board a template of prior strategic planning that PFLAG has done. If Tawnee Walling is unable to attend that evening, the meeting will be a regular business meeting.

NH Tree

Marianne reported that the 2005 conference is already being planned. The theme will be "Break Out" and will be held April 8-10.

Board Miscellany

Roberta reminded everyone that Ursula and Sandy are no longer on the board and should be removed from personal mailing lists.

Sheila noted that it is Gordon's sixth (and final) year on the board. Lisa, Duncan, and Roberta reported that they will not be on the board next year either. Sheila warned that some board member recruiting would have to take place before the end of the year. She noted that one does not have to be on the board to join committees, attend meetings, or contribute.

Lisa **moved** to appoint Pat to the board to fill out the remainder of Ursula's term. Duncan seconded. Pat agreed to the appointment. Passed unanimously.

Roberta asked Kelly to consider a position on the board. Kelly agreed to think about it.

Lisa **moved** to reimburse Gordon \$65 for PFLAG merchandise. Duncan seconded. Passed unanimously.

## Chapter Reports

Upper Valley

BarbieAnn reported an attendance of 6, including a new mom with daughter who was coming out and has a partner; held a support group for her. Mom wants to know more about how to deal with the world than how to deal with her daughter. Noted that Sharon Underwood's famous letter has been plagiarized recently.

Concord – from Margie via e-mail

*6/20 Meeting*

Six people attended including one new person. Had a TG discussion in regards to family members and coming out. New person has supportive children and sister.

Religion and homeless kids discussed. There is a new video out about homeless kids from the Matthew Shepard foundation that Margie will order for a chapter program. All who attended Boston Pride expressed what a great day it was and how heartwarming it was to see so many supportive people.

Kelly spoke about her presentation at the Teen Care Clinic at Concord Hospital with Margie.

Upcoming Market Days in Concord discussed. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

7/18 Meeting

Six adults attended the meeting including two new people, the parents of a gay son.

Discussion focused on ways for the father to feel comfortable with the coming out of his son. (The mother had readily accepted her son.) He felt "betrayed" after being heavily involved in his son's childhood (sports, Boy Scouts) to learn in his adult years that the "vision" he had for his son was not going to happen.

Before leaving the father brought home a PFLAG book which may help him to accept his son.

Plymouth

*Carol was absent.*

Lakes Region

*Gayle was absent.*

Seacoast

Marianne reported attendance of 7 at the July meeting, which was a support group. They are trying to find a school for a 15-year old TG member who has been being home-schooled lately due to harassment at the public schools.

Keene

Roberta reported attendance of 12 in July, including 2 new families. She's looking into hosting a potluck in August. She wants to have separate support groups for kids and adults. She collaborated with AIDS Services at a booth at a rock festival where they sold/distributed condoms. Kelly was nicknamed the Condom King at this event.

Straight Spouse Network

Nothing to report.

North Country

*David was absent.*

## Adjournment

Roberta asked that the August board meeting be skipped so that she, Sheila, and Gordon can work on grant issues. Roberta asked for a voice vote in favor of skipping the August board meeting; all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned by general consensus at 21:04.

Respectfully submitted,

| Jeremy Winnick, recording secretary