

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, NH

Minutes of the Meeting of the State Council

NH Freedom to Marry Office, Concord NH

Sunday, 18 March 2007

Call to Order

Carol called the meeting to order at 14:00.

Council members present: Carol Perkins, Margie Lindsley, Phyllis Cudmore, Roberta Barry, Gordon Sherman, Gayle Spelman

Others present: Lee Marcroft-PRIDE committee chairperson

Business

Database

It was noted that Margie, Roberta, Jeremy, and Carol met last week (3/10) to work on updating the database. They worked on the Concord and Keene chapter member lists, trying to clean them up. They reported modest success and will continue to meet monthly.

Action item: Margie requests updated membership lists from both the Lakes Region (contact-Paula Spink) and Seacoast (contact-Meg Cartwright) chapters.

Review of Sunday Meetings/Shared space with NHFTM and Transgender Support Groups

We noted that the Sunday PFLAG support/advocacy meetings (held on the 3rd Sunday from 3-5pm) are going well, though a little slowly in reaching new members and getting current members to participate more.

Our collaboration with NHFTM is very beneficial as we now have all the Concord chapter's library books (from First Congregational Church) easily accessible for people to borrow. They are in the front office on the prominent bookshelf where all collaborating groups can have access. Also, we have four filing cabinet drawers in which to store our pamphlets and brochures.

We agreed that the council should continue to meet once a month from 2 - 3pm.

Financial Report

Carol handed out the current balance sheet (see attached). She noted that she has spoken with the new Belknap County District Attorney about the case and was pleased to report that he has made our case a priority and will press Ms. Elliott to make a more concerted effort to pay restitution. As well, we were notified that even if she does qualify for disability, she is still required to pay restitution.

During the financial report, it was proposed that we give \$100 to NHFTM for their generous allowance of us to use their office space. Roberta moved, Margie seconded.

A second motion was made to donate \$100 to Seacoast Outright for their current fundraiser. Roberta moved, Margie seconded.

Roberta also recommended that we look into possibly donating to Concord Outright; however, we should discuss this with Mo Baxley first to assess where the need lies.

Speaker Bureau

Roberta did a speaking engagement at the School for International Training in conjunction with GLSEN. She spoke along with Mario Cossa, a well-known GLBT speaker. She earned PFLAG \$500 for her efforts and urges our speakers to request donations more often.

There is a speaker's training in Mass. on April 14-15, being put on by Pam Garramone of Greater Boston PFLAG. Any of our members are urged to participate to improve their speaking skills. We do feel that we have enough qualified speakers in NH to utilize for organizing our own trainings and would like to try getting that up and running.

New Members of State Council

We would like to formally recognize our new members and extend invitations to a few others.

New members: Phyllis Cudmore is our new New England Transgender Coordinator, filling Lisa Hartley's former position. Gerri Cannon is a new member who has significant experience with SpeakOut and has been a strong PFLAG advocate and ally.

Potential members: Lee & Christine Marcroft as contacts for the new Manchester chapter and PRIDE organizers. Lee Newman from SAFE-NH and as liaison to the FTM Transgender community.

Multicultural Event/Concord/June 23

The council has agreed to sponsor a table representing PFLAG at "The Changing Face of Concord" multicultural event (2nd annual). There is a modest fee. The event will be held on Sat. June 23rd from 5-9pm. We need volunteers.

Other Business

We would like to get out a paper newsletter in beginning to mid-May to all our current members and supporters.

Action Item: Please work on small articles about your chapters, education and advocacy work, etc.

Adjournment

The council adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy Winnick, clerk