

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Title: *PA Rural Gay Caucus Legislative Committee Minutes*

Date: May 8, 1976

Location: LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

Contact:

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MINUTES OF THE RURAL GAY CAUCUS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Date: May 8, 1976 5:20 P. M. to 6:30 P. M.

Place: Room 225, Student Union Building, Penn State Campus, State College, Pa.

Present: Bill Hollabaugh, Chairperson
Joseph W. Burns
John Barnes
Jerry Brennan
Paul R. Holtz

Sam Deetz
Tony Sylvestre
Harry Long

REPORTS:

Bill presented a letter written by a sub-committee (copies attached) which we will have printed for as wide distribution as is possible for us to achieve.

Sam stated he will turn over to us several mailing lists for the above letter. Several requests were received for copies of the letter to be included in mailings to be made this week. Tony sent a list of all gay organizations in the state, with envelopes and stamps to be used in the mailing.

Sam also said that the final report on Gay Lobby Day is copied and will be going out this week.

An excellent report by Ken Burke (excerpts attached) on federal legislation was reported. No action was taken on this report at this time.

Tony reported that HOPS had undertaken to retype and reproduce all of the 250 forms used on Gay Lobby Day. This work is nearly completed and should soon be in Bill's hands. The legislative committee commends this splendid effort. The permanent files envisioned in Allentown will soon be a reality, thanks to HOPS.

LEGISLATION:

SB 743- Still in Committee and expected to die there, per Tony. No hearings scheduled.

HB 2220- In the Committee on State Government, no action.

Hill's Bill on Repeal of the Sodomy Statutes- not introduced as of this writing and not expected to be introduced before 5-24-76.

Discussion:

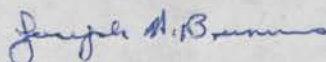
The need to complete the contacts begun on Gay Lobby Day with each legislator in this state was discussed. John Barnes and Paul Foltz of Harrisburg volunteered to contact some. Joe Burns and Bill Hollabaugh had previously volunteered to spend some time Harrisburg making contacts. This work has been delayed pending the return of the reports from HOPS. Tony volunteered reports from his contacts with legislators. And it was noted that the same offer had been made by LE-HI-HO from their regular visits with legislators in their area.

Our relationship to the National Lobby Office being opened in Washington, D. C., was discussed. It was decided to invite a Board Member of that office to address us on the activities and purposes of the organization before formalizing our relationship to it.

The need for total commitment to achieving, even surpassing, the goal of fifty thousand letters in support Senator Hill's Bill. A multi-phase effort has been urged to first have persons write to their own legislators, second to the sponsors and to the committee members to whom the bill is referred, third to urge constituent's visits to legislators, and, just before the bill is to be acted upon, to urge full use of the Governor's Hotline and calls to legislators.

Tony said he would help Harry Long set up more adequate guides for doing the kind of telephone survey which had been made in Lebanon. The committee plans to publish a guide for such surveys.

Respectfully submitted by



Joseph W. Burns, Secretary

5-16-76