

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** Governor's Council for Sexual Minorities Meeting Minutes

**Date:** December 15, 1978

**Location:** LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL FOR SEXUAL MINORITIES  
238 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

December 15, 1978

MINUTES

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COUNCIL NEXT MEETS ON JANUARY 31, 1979 at 1:30 PM  
in G-12, FINANCE BUILDING, HARRISBURG.

In Attendance: Leslie Phillips, Major John Case, Arthur C. Warner,  
Gerald Brennon, Walter Lear, Lisa White, Jim Huggins,  
David Donaldson and Tony Silvestre

1. Prison Rape

Major John Case discussed the report of the committee on prison rape which committee includes council representatives and members of the Pennsylvania Prison Society. The committee will be meeting after contacts have been made with possible funding sources. The committees written report will be given out at the next council meeting.

2. Advisory Board to the US Commission on Civil Rights

Tony Silvestre reported that a letter requesting agenda time at the Pennsylvania Advisory Boards meeting is being prepared. Among the issues that will be presented are: unequal enforcement of sodomy laws, use of non-sexually related laws to harass gays e.g. disorderly conduct, segregation of homosexuals in prisons, harassment, arrests, physical abuse and verbal abuse of homosexually identified persons by law enforcement officials, lack of police response to homosexually identified persons, discrimination in conditions of parole, discrimination in the publication of cases, and discrimination against transsexuals in marriage contract issues, birth certificate information and job discrimination based on legal definitions of sex.

Recommendations to correct these problems and will be presented to the board. Persons interested in these recommendations or the appearance before the board should contact Tony.

3. Committee on Alcoholism James Huggins and Pam Erdeley

Council members Tony Silvestre and Mary Nancarrow met with Gary Jensen and staff members from the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse. Their response was very positive. They agreed to meet with our Council's committee to discuss training of all D & A counselors in the state and other issues.

#### 4. Health Report Walter Lear

The committee has completed the first draft of the VD pamphlet.  
In addition the survey of medical facilities is being completed.

The meeting opened to the public.

Among the issues discussed were ways to encourage positive, media coverage. After much discussion it was decided that Tony and Jim Guthrie will meet to discuss the possibility of a meeting with media people who are supportive of gay rights.