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Title: Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: March 4, 1977

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Contact:

LGBT History Project
Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu



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

March 15, 1977

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES
MARCH 4, 1977

1. Committee Reports

Welfare - We expect the secretary to formally oppose Senate Bill 83.

Walter will ask the Welfare Committee if the Department Newsletter announced the Council complaint procedure.

Education - The committee will have a final meeting on the education brochure on March 10, 1977.

Finance - The committee discussed the need for the committee to function more effectively and especially on the matter of foundation grants. We asked Sam to organize a reorganization meeting in Philadelphia.

Criminal Justice - Don Borbe of Philadelphia has asked our committee to meet with him and representatives of prisoner rights organizations in order to exchange information and coordinate efforts. Dolly will be asked to organize the meeting.

Employment - a) Arrangements were made to reschedule the meeting with Milt Berkes, Dan Harley (Affirmative Action), Tony, Marilyn and Dolly on the complaint procedure and related matters.

b) Marilyn spoke at an AFSCME, Council 90, meeting. Her talk was very well received but after stepping down from the podium, she was attacked by the

convener for not being a union member. He also claimed that gays were well protected by the union. A letter will be sent to McEntee, Union President, about the meeting.

c) Individual Council members are preparing a draft for a proposed Council policy statement on the employment of transsexuals. The statement will be submitted to the Employment Committee and Special Minority Concerns Task Force for review.

d) The state Civil Service Commission will send notices of all job openings to all state gay groups. They have invited us to appear on a T.V. and radio show. Employment Committee members from Harrisburg and others will handle this through the Employment Committee.

2. Committee Organization

A number of Council members and committee members have raised serious questions about the functioning of certain committees and many suggestions have been made about forming new committees and dissolving some others.

In place of a program this month, persons attending the March meeting will be able to meet with the particular coordinator of their committee to discuss committee functioning. Some proposals which Council members have already made will be discussed viz:

a) Dissolution of the Community Relations Committee and a forming-out of its functions to a beefed up P.I.E. Office, to a new committee or board which will be responsible for all sensitivity and training of state workers and others, etc.

b) Reorganization of the Finance Committee.

c) Dissolution of the Human Relations Committee and the Liquor Control Board Committee.

d) Formal establishment of the Third World Committee.

e) Restructuring of the State Police Committee to include all police concerns.

This set aside time serves as our annual review of the Council. Breaking up into four groups will give everyone time for input. Discussion need not be limited to the committees under a particular coordinator. The breakdown is: Sam Deetz - Finance, Legislation; Marily Hewitt - Third World, Special Minority Concerns, Community Relations; Dolly Shuster - Employment, State Police, Human Relations, Liquor Control; Walter Lear - Health, Welfare, Education and Youth.

Since this discussion may profoundly affect the Council in the coming year, all Council members and committee chairpeople are urged to attend.

3. Press Kit

A legislative press kit is being prepared. It will include information on legislation for newspaper, radio and T.V. files. A press kit was suggested on transsexuality. The Special Minority Concerns Task Force will be asked to prepare it. Other suggestions should be made to the appropriate committee.

4. White House

The National Gay Task Force leadership is meeting with Midge Costenza of the White House on March 26. In keeping with Council suggestions, Tony has asked the Governor to write to President Carter suggesting that National Council for Sexual Minorities be formed.

5. A number of complaints have been made to Council members about the exclusion of lesbian issues from International Women's Year Activity. Tony will ask the Women's Caucus of the Council to make suggestions on how the Council can bring lesbian concerns to the International Women's Year committee and then feminist groups and meetings.
6. The Steering Committee members approved the draft of incorporation proceedings for the "Friends of the Council".
7. Attached please find a list of programs suggested by Council members. At the line to the left please place a number from

one to six indicating the order of presentation that you desire. A number 1 means that you would like that program presented as soon as possible. Additional topics can be written in. Please drop it in the mail today so that arrangements can be made.