

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

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** *PA Rural Gay Caucus Legislative Committee Minutes*

**Date:** May 22, 1976

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

**Contact:**

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Date: May 22, 1976TIME: 7:00P.M. - 9:00P.M.PLACE: Sam Deetz<sup>o</sup> Apt., 248 Queen Street, Northumberland, Pa.

Present: Bill Hollabaugh, Chairperson                      Sam Deetz  
 Joseph W. Burns    Janet Cooper  
 Richard G. Hoffman    Dave

REPORTS:

Bill reported that he had been in touch with Artemis House in Harrisburg relative to the possible storage of legislative files. He is to meet personally with them

Bill also is in possession of a considerable number of the LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION PACKETS prepared by Harry Langhorne. The booklet is entitled Gay Legislation '76, Pennsylvania; it is 56 pages; The bulk of it is endorsements of Gay rights, with introduction and lists of states and cities having rights bills, and the text of of few bills pending in state, federal, or local levels.

The copies Bill has were given to Bill by Harry for the purposes of contacting legislators with them, as was their original purpose. Additional copies are available for 75¢ from Bill, Harry Langhorne, or by writing to Gay Legislation '76, Box 15786, Middle City Station, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

LEGISLATION:

The only change is that Senator Hill did not introduce his bill for Sodomy Repeal.

DISCUSSION:

Since Senator Hill did not introduce his bill, it became necessary for the committee to reassess its goals. All plans pertinent to its introduction are simply held in check.

A five prong thrust for Gay Rights was adopted by the committee.

The first goal is to see if we cannot help to have the Repeal Bill introduced by one of the Co-sponsors or another Senator. Toward this end, Bill and Joe have set up an appointment to see Senator Messinger (Dem.-Lehigh), a Co-sponsor about his views on Gay Rights and possible introduction of the Repeal Bill. The appointment is set for June 10.

The main thrust of the Committee, however, is to be directed toward involving people in the November Elections. It is felt that by providing campaign workers we can best gain political pull, and insight into the workings of government. Hill's cold feet, it was felt, are a clear indication of our lack of political strength, since we believe it to be based on a private poll he took of his fellow Senators on the issue of Repeal.

Another activity to be pursued by a sub-committee of the Legislative Committee is to find out the strategies used in states where Repeal was successful. This sub-committee has not been appointed, and volunteers are sought for this important task.

Another thrust, indicated by the increasing frustration of our dreams, is to gain political savvy in our local situations. That is to understand who holds the power, who controls the power holder, and how we can best use our small influence to gain the ears of those who do make the system work.

The final thrust, of course, is cooperation and interchange with other persons and groups working for, or supporting the same goals. Toward this end, we are increasing the mailing list of those who receive our minutes and actively seeking friends.

NEXT MEETING:

Bill has called a special meeting of The Legislative Committee of the Caucus in conjunction of with the Legislative Committee of the Governor's Council on Sexual Minorities chaired by Mark Segal.

The meeting is on June 12, a Saturday, at Dignity headquarters, 250 South 12th Street, Philadelphia. The time is 2:00 P.M. All committee members are urged to attend.

Submitted by Joseph W. Burns, Secretary, June 1