

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
New Hampshire Liberty Alliance (NHLA)  
Board Meeting Minutes: August 15, 2004  
Concord, NH

Board Members:

*Present:* Richard Tomasso, Don Gorman, Michelle Dumas, Karen Pratt

*Absent:* James Maynard, Michelle Otterson

*Quorum present?* Yes

*Others Present:*

Other: Karl Beisel, Calvin Pratt, Bill Alleman

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by acting Chair, Richard Tomasso  
Tomasso made MOTION to appoint Karl Beisel interim secretary; Gorman seconded, motion passes unanimously 4-0.
- Gorman stated that Michelle Otterson has not fulfilled her duties as Secretary.  
Discussion.
- Gorman made MOTION for a vote of no confidence on Otterson, calling for her to resign within 10 business days, and to turn over all NHLA materials and property in her possession, including checks; K. Pratt seconded. Roll call vote: Gorman: Y, K. Pratt: Y, Dumas: Y, Tomasso: Y, Maynard and Otterson absent.

*Treasurer's Report (Karen Pratt):*

- Balances stand at: Operations Accounts: \$314.59, Civic Action Accounts: \$2,621.46, PAC Accounts: \$2,400.24.
- Keith Murphy sent out handwritten thank you cards to NHLA donors.
- PAC Revenues & Expenditure Report due August 25; James Maynard's signature on report is urgently needed. Once signed, it will be submitted to Secretary of State.

*Political Director's Report (Don Gorman):*

- Recommended NHLA wait until general election before providing support to candidates or taking related action.
- Recommended using Calvin Pratt's pro-liberty criteria for determining which candidates to support.
- Recommended that the next NHLA meeting occur before the primary election on September 14.
- Tomasso mentioned the candidate survey questionnaire; noted that Dawn Lincoln had volunteered to compile the survey results. Gorman reiterated his recommendation to wait until after the primary before sending candidate questionnaires.

*Membership Director (Richard Tomasso)*

- 195 members total
- 70 of those members are NH residents
- 3 people with updated addresses/e-mail since last meeting
- 1 new volunteer since last meeting
- The membership form will be updated with new address.

*Civic Action (Michelle Dumas)*

- Liberty Scholarship Fund (LSF) working on spin-off from NHLA. Mike Fisher is collecting LSF materials necessary to proceed.
- 3 people are currently involved in ongoing research of charities; task is time consuming, due to the difficulty in finding charities that meet the appropriate criteria. Noted that no more manpower is needed for this task at this time.

*Research Committee (Calvin Pratt)*

- Recommended regular meetings held every other week.
- Recommended Committee produce one piece per week (article or commentary).
- Is and will be receiving commentary and research papers from various people; some pieces may be submitted to newspapers and other publications in whole or in part.
- Tomasso recommended research papers be written in the form of an executive summary and main body.
- Tomasso asked if these papers were intended to support specific policy; C. Pratt stated they were.
- Tomasso suggests that Research Committee work toward coming up with background material for testimony on specific legislation.
- Board discussion on web site navigability and interactivity. C. Pratt suggests the ability to allow comments on articles from members.
- Gorman asked about the possibility of posting surveys and questions on the web site; C. Pratt stated that they could.
- C. Pratt stated he is working on two articles; the first "Why Liberty" to explain what NHLA stands for, and a second article titled "The Bureaucratic Dilemma."
- Some general discussion about paper topic ideas.

*Prior Business*

- Tomasso talked about member outreach and whether or not this is a good idea at this time.
- Dumas stated that NHLA needs to be a bigger organization in order to justify its efforts.
- K. Pratt suggested that the Annual Meeting be used to help get people involved. This was followed by some general discussion about the Annual Meeting.

- K. Pratt recommended setting up an Annual Members Meeting in October.
- Tomasso brought up the subject of outreach, and possible events in which NHLA to participate. Mentioned GO-NH Banquet on Sept. 11, and Constitution Day event on Sept. 14.
- Gorman strongly recommended use of booth at the Deerfield Fair. Booth could be shared with 3 or 4 organizations in order to provide manpower and defray costs. The booth would promote several organizations that fall under the NHLA “umbrella.” Noted that 250,000 people pass through the fair. Suggests that NHLA-supported organizations be non-partisan.
- K. Pratt stated that new and upgraded materials were needed; specifically, new XL t-shirts, and more/upgraded brochures.
- Dumas made motion to do all three events (GO-NH banquet, Constitution Day and Deerfield Fair). K. Pratt seconded, motion passed unanimously, 4-0.
- Discussion of fundraising ideas.

#### *New Business*

- Tomasso recommended discussing format of agenda for NHLA meeting on or before the next meeting.
- Tomasso suggested Sept. 12 as date for next meeting
- Discussion with Bill Alleman about web site; Dumas to handle coordination with Alleman on web site with regards to GO-NH banquet ticket sales.
- Question as to if GO-NH would provide a display table if NHLA sells 6 tickets.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. (no quorum)*

*Minutes submitted by Secretary, Karl Beisel*