

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
New Hampshire Liberty Alliance (NHLA)
February 19, 2006
Manchester, NH**

Board Members:

Present: Cal Pratt, Karen Pratt, David Mincin, Karl Beisel, Rich Tomasso, Keith Murphy, Don Gorman [arrived late]

Quorum present? Yes

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 5:11 p.m.

Secretary's Report (Karl Beisel)

- K. Pratt made MOTION to approve minutes from December. C. Pratt seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Beisel made MOTION to approve minutes from January. C. Pratt seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Treasurer's Report (Karen Pratt)

- Account Balances stand at a total of \$6,761.20, including the PAC at \$3,571.24, Civic Action at \$2609.83, and Operations at \$580.13
- Gorman made MOTION to accept treasurer's report. Murphy seconded. Motion passed 7-0.
- Rich noted Karen's term ends in March, need to open up nominations for this position. Has not received one nomination for Karen Pratt. She stated that she would prefer not to have another term. Dave suggested nominating someone not from the Manchester area, since most board members are from this area. Cal Pratt suggested Christine Lopez. Karen Pratt suggested Dawn Lincoln. Don suggested Carol McGuire. Karen suggested Bradley Keyes. Rich suggested Tony Lekas. Dave suggested Susanne Hudson.

Civic Action (Dave Mincin)

- Mincin expressed desire to have Civic Action wait until after the legislative session before any significant activities.
- Has the name of a woman who runs a soup kitchen in Concord that doesn't take government money, and suggested making a small donation.
- Tomasso asked if we have an adopt-a-highway spring cleanup. Mincin responded that the seacoast highway effort would resume in April. Discussion about the possibility of a Merrimack Valley adopt-a-highway.
- Beisel noted that he may be appointed to the board of FOR MANCHESTER, and could work with NHLA Civic Action.
- K. Pratt suggested a mock legislature for school students.
- K. Pratt suggested choosing 5 charities for grants.

Political Action (Don Gorman)

- NHLA members have a constant presence at state house, and on any given day there are about 2 people there. About 6 to 8 can be counted on to be there on a regular basis.
- Some legislators are wearing NHLA pins.
- Not getting any feedback on tracking the Senate. C. Pratt stated it was difficult, and that he talked to majority leader who said he couldn't get people to show up for roll call votes. Gorman suggested publishing an op-ed over this situation of unrecorded votes.
- Mincin asked if the NHLA planned to support any local candidates for office. Discussion.
- Tomasso stated that people had asked to testify for the NHLA. He noted that Carol McGuire and Dennis Goddard had both asked to speak on behalf of the NHLA.
- Gorman wants a message posted to remind people of upcoming state legislative races, and to decide by April 1 whether or not to run.

Research (Cal Pratt)

- C. Pratt presented a list of 2006 roll calls so far this session.
- Tomasso stated that “crossover” for the legislature is mid to late March.
- Gorman stated he felt we did not have the manpower to produce an interim report card, and suggested we not do one.
- Discussion of end result of analysis on triage. C. Pratt stated that final analyses are being posted on GeneralCourt.org.
- Mincin made MOTION to authorize \$100 to use for online advertising GeneralCourt.org on NHInsider.com. C. Pratt seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Chair's Report (Rich Tomasso)

- Regarding the issue of NHLA board members holding partisan office, concerns include 1) keeping the NHLA non-partisan, 2) the potential for conflict of interest in granting contributions to candidates who are also board members, and 3) the potential conflict of interest in assigning grades in the legislative report card. Mincin suggested we table the matter until the appointed committee presents its recommendations to the full Board.

Membership (Keith Murphy)

- Stated he has not received any new memberships since being elected Membership Director. Beisel stated that he will look into the website reporting this.
- Stated that he does not know how to access the membership database.
- Gorman stated his concern that new members are not getting any response after joining.
- Murphy stated that he is now drafting a letter and membership card.
- Beisel stated he would reformat the brochure to have form on edge.
- Beisel asked if any other changes were needed on the brochure. Tomasso asked to remove the DFC information.
- Gorman asked if we wanted to start charging for basic membership. Tomasso stated that it would require a bylaws change.
- Mincin made MOTION to have the first year's membership remain free, but that subsequent years are paid. Tomasso expressed concern about the logistics involved of such an arrangement. C. Pratt made MOTION to table the matter. Mincin seconded. Murphy and Beisel stated that they would look into improving membership management online.
- Bylaws Ratification: Murphy moved to adopt the amendment to the bylaws stating “A member may be removed from the NHLA by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.” Gorman seconded. Motion passed 6-1 (Mincin opposed).
- Gorman expressed his sense that membership growth has been leveling off and suggested improving this by offering those who refer members half the money they collect from membership dues. Discussion. Gorman suggested giving the idea some thought and bringing it up again at the next meeting.

Other Business

- Mincin made MOTION to publish minutes starting in January 2006. Motion passed 7-0.
- Regarding the Liberty Dinner, Murphy stated that he sent hardcopy invitation to John Sununu, but puts odds at 35% because of a tight Senate calendar. Discussion of other possible speakers.
- Tomasso stated that CNHT's Taxing Times newspaper is printing the NHLA report card in the next issue.
- Murphy suggested everyone bring all NHLA merchandise to the next meeting to redistribute and account for everything.

Adjourned 7:15pm

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Karl Beisel