

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
New Hampshire Liberty Alliance (NHLA)
January 8, 2004
Manchester, NH

Board Members:

Present: Richard Tomasso, Don Gorman, Cal Pratt, Karen Pratt, Karl Beisel, Dave Mincin

Quorum present? Yes

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Tomasso.

Secretary's Report (Karl Beisel)

- Received 5 votes for Civic Action Director election; all 5 were for Dave Mincin.
- Tomasso made MOTION to accept election and welcome Dave Mincin to the Board. K. Pratt seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- Tomasso suggested minor changes to minutes; K. Pratt made MOTION to accept minutes as amended. Motion passed 6-0.

Treasurer's Report (Karen Pratt)

- Balances stand at: Operations Accounts: \$770.82, Civic Action Accounts: \$298.24, PAC Accounts: \$900.24. Organization total: \$2025.39.
- Old PayPal account recurring donations have been cancelled; beginning to see resubscriptions to the new Civic Action (NHLA) account.
- Gorman asked if K. Pratt was planning to get bring in a professional fundraising organization. K. Pratt explained "gambling night" fundraising event. She also suggested soliciting larger donors: invite a small number of potential large donors to small speaking engagements. Mincin suggested combining multiple organizations to increase size of event. Discussion. Tomasso emphasized need to create NHLA's own identity. Discussion about advertisement and media coverage.
- Mincin suggested the NHLA give more support to local races and issues.
- Gorman asked about membership dues; Tomasso talked about the membership levels Dawn Lincoln developed, and suggested that this issue can be revisited. The first memberships expire in November 2005.
- Beisel asked if there were any hard dates on fundraising activity. There are none so far. K. Pratt will gather information about proposed fundraising events before next Board meeting.

Civic Action Director (Dave Mincin)

- Adopt-a-Highway activity will wait until after winter.
- Gorman suggested Special Olympics as a civic action activity.
- C. Pratt talked bout Fair outreach.

Political Action Director (Don Gorman):

- Gorman lead a successful campaign/politics school today (Jan. 8).
- Beisel asked to make GeneralCourt.org an official NHLA project. C. Pratt made MOTION that it be made so. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 6-0. Beisel will let Board know when an official announcement can be made.
- Gorman will follow up with people at seminar to see if they had filed for election.
- Gorman will also visit State House twice a week or thereabout.
- Tomasso asked for people's notes from meeting with "boys in the basement" to put together a final report on the meeting.
- Tomasso suggested holding another seminar focusing on City Elections. Gorman noted that he did not get into campaigning much in the class today; Tomasso suggested a campaign-focused seminar in February.

Research Director (Cal Pratt)

- Dawn Lincoln has been handling bill review triage, being conducted in an online discussion group, which is working well. Suggests showing list of suggested positions on bills and having the Board vote on the list as in a "consent calendar."
- Beisel asked about white papers; Discussion about who is knowledgeable to write them.
- Gorman asked about criteria for measuring a bill. Discussion about how a legislator will know if a bill is good or bad. Gorman suggests having a member assigned to each legislative committee.

Chair's Report (Rich Tomasso)

- Working with Seth Cohn on new web site. Described new and interesting features. Seth will talk to Michelle Dumas about switching domains.
- NHLA has been asked to join the LP and GO-NH in endorsing "The Failure of Gun Control" report to be given to all New Hampshire legislators. Will e-mail cover letter. Discussion to be conducted online and endorsement withheld until the next Board meeting.

New Business

- Tomasso suggests Dawn Lincoln and Seth Cohn work on phone tree after winter.
- C. Pratt suggested an end-of-year accomplishments e-mail; Tomasso noted that new web site would have targeted mass mailing capabilities.
- Noted upcoming events:
 - Next Board member election is in March; Don Gorman will be up for re-election. Slate of candidates must be ready by March 1st.
 - Keith Murphy will be in state at end of January.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Karl Beisel