

New Hampshire Liberty Alliance (NHLA)

Board of Director

Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2009

1. Call To Order

- (a) Chairman Dawn Lincoln called to order the regular meeting of the NHLA at 6:40 PM January 5, 2009 in Epsom, NH.

2. Roll Call

- (a) NHLA Secretary Steve Villee conducted roll call. (The board members that were present have an asterisk to the left of their name):

* Dawn Lincoln (Chairman)		* Jeremy Olson (Research)
* Dan Itse (Political Action)		* Carol McGuire (Treasurer)
* Michelle Levell (Membership)		* Steve Villee (Secretary)
Shuvom Ghose (Vice Chair)		

- (b) Quorum: Yes
- (c) Other members present:
- i. Jon Bender
 - ii. Denis Goddard

3. Secretary's Report-Steve Villee

- (a) Carol moved to accept the minutes of the December 1 meeting. Dawn seconded. One amendment was proposed: under Discussion of Gold Standard, item (a), replace “The consensus was that we should have fewer bills” with “It was suggested that we should have fewer bills”. With this amendment, the motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report-Carol McGuire

- (a) Carol did not have a written treasurer’s report. However, she summarized the situation verbally: there were a few PAC donations, but no other activity for the month.
- (b) There was an extensive discussion of fundraising ideas.
- i. A joint fundraising event could be effective, but it would have to be with a non-partisan group such as Gun Owners of NH, Granite State Taxpayers, or Cornerstone Policy Research.
 - ii. Carol proposed that we do more extensive training this year, and that we hold an event at a nearby restaurant after one of the training sessions where people can meet some reps over cocktails.
 - A. The group settled on Tuesday, January 20 for an afternoon training session at the state house to observe some committees in action. Then the cocktails event would be from 4-6 pm at a nearby restaurant, with a \$5 cover, cash bar, and a 50-50 raffle.
 - B. Another training session, focusing on how to testify, was suggested for Saturday,

January 24.

5. Chairman's Report-Dawn Lincoln

- (a) Carol volunteered to find a suitable location in Concord for the next meeting on February 2.
- (b) The group discussed a posting on the FSP forum (<http://forum.freestateproject.org/index.php?topic=16478.msg198311#msg198311>) where someone remarked that the NHLA didn't take a position on prostitution. Also, there was a posting on the NHLA forum (<http://www.nhliberty.org/forum/index.php?topic=1571.0>) where someone asked about Civic Action. Since we no longer have a Civic Action department per se, Jeremy will remove the corresponding tab from the web site.

6. Membership Director's Report-Michelle Levell

- (a) There are 758 regular members (up 24 from last month), plus 13 lifetime members.
- (b) Jeremy is working with Michelle to resolve the membership database issues.

7. Political Action Director's Report-Dan Itse

- (a) Dan disagreed with the suggestion made at the last meeting that we reduce the number of bills in the Gold Standard. Any pro-liberty or anti-liberty bills up for vote should be included. Dawn proposed only one limitation: that the Gold Standard be kept to one page.
- (b) Dawn emphasized that if the marijuana decriminalization bill sponsored by Steven Lindsey is indeed pro-liberty, then we must support it even if NH Common Sense opposes it for strategic reasons. Dan pointed out that it should be called "penalty reduction" rather than "decriminalization".
- (c) There was a discussion of how to get input from lots of people about bills being considered for the Gold Standard. Denis suggested having a mailing list, billreviewers@nhliberty.org.
- (d) We should encourage members to run for local office, since the filing period is coming up soon. Dan will contact Don Gorman to see if he wants to do some training with a focus on local politics, such as a mock town meeting.

8. Research Director's Report-Jeremy Olson

- (a) The bill review system is up and running. Of the 96 bills that have been entered into the system, all but one have been reviewed. About a third to a half of the committees now have contact people. But not too many have volunteered to be contact people for specific issues.
- (b) Jeremy would like to schedule one more bill review training session.

9. Old Business

- (a) Shuvom was not present to discuss the Liberty Dinner. Dan suggested that it should be held the week after the 4th of July. Carol suggested finding a good speaker, and working around that speaker's schedule.

10. New Business

- (a) Denis plans to distribute to each NH house rep and senator a flyer with a DVD presenting the Philosophy of Liberty animation (<http://nhliberty.org/philosophy>). He wanted permission to present it as a joint statement of the NHLA and the Libertarian Party. The consensus was that any public association with the LP would jeopardize our non-partisan status, but it would be okay to issue the flyer under just the NHLA name.
- (b) The group discussed a spreadsheet sent by Lasse Pitkäniemi containing an extensive statistical analysis of NHLA scores for each representative.
- (c) The next meeting will be on February 2.

11. Adjournment

- (a) Carol moved to adjourn the meeting. Dawn seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.