



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances Monthly Meeting May 14, 2024

Members Present

Jim Barr President,
Brian Sylvester Vice President
April Poole Treasurer
Lisa Cotton Activities Coordinator
Mike Johnson, Rex Schadow, Rob Weis, Harry Carlsen, Bert Morton, Lee Korty,
David Yankee, Candice Clodfelder, Sam Downs

Meeting called to order at 5:08pm

Approval of minutes from March 12, 2023 - Lisa made a motion to accept the minutes, Brian seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report- see printed copies. April went over the financial reports. Lisa made motion to accept treasurer's report and file for audit. Rex seconded and the motion was passed.

Executive Board Meeting- Decatur Pride was awarded \$500.00 with one dissent. Logan Pride was awarded \$500.00 with no dissents.

Committee Reports

Ritz- There is \$2,100.00 in outstanding invoices owed to CORAL. One Platinum sponsorship from IDHR for \$1,000.00. Others entities still owing are UIS Performing Arts, Resistor Sisterhood, Democratic Party, Vicky Davies, and Acorn Equality (2 seats). We may want to consider other venues for next year. Decision needs to be made shortly if we are to stay at Crown Plaza. Jim reminded everyone that next year the last Saturday of March 2024 is also Palm Sunday.

Membership

Brian reported 3 possible volunteers.

Social Media

Brian reported that he will be posting different Pride Flags for each day in June in honor of Pride month.

Activities

Lisa will report in New Business

Finance

April reported finance committee has not met due to activities surrounding Ritz. All monies from Ritz have not been collected.

History

Jim had no report.

Partners & Supporters

Petersburg's first Pridefest is June 24, 2023, from 3 to 11 pm. Wispy Tea would like to hold an event in future. Three alderpersons would also like to be listed as friends/supporters of the LGBTQIA community. They are Jenifer Notariano, Lakeshia Purchase, and Erin Conley.

April moved to accept all committee reports, Lisa seconded, and motion passed.

Old Business

Lucky Horseshoes – Pride night is Thursday, June 22, 2023. Lisa reported that there will be a parade and we need about 50 persons. Groups which have expressed an interest are: UIS, PFLAG, Springfield Police Department, Mayor and SIU School of Medicine. Lisa said she needs about 4 persons from each group. We will need to bring the CORAL banner. There will be new CORAL bags to give away and wrist bands and Habitat for Humanity T-shirts. We will need to establish a budget for the event. CORAL t-shirts and Polo shirts will be available for sale. Lisa has flyers to take. Illinois Times will be a media sponsor. Lee reminded everyone to enter "CORALPRIDE" in the coupon code when buying tickets and proceeds will be given to CORAL at end of baseball season.

Pridefest- CORAL has a double booth in spaces 67 and 68 across from Leland Hotel on Capitol. Drop off is from 7 to 9AM. Bert stated that he will be there at 8:30 AM and needs 6 persons to help set up the tent. We will need the CORAL banner for the parade. Rex made motion to sell CORAL shirts and was seconded by Lee. Motion passed. April will see to it that the fee for license to sell is paid.

Habitat for Humanity – Bert reported that even though the Habitat walk is in the Enos Park District, because of restrictive rules, Habitat cannot build in that area. A \$250.00 donation was made to Habitat by CORAL, with another \$300 dollar in donations made by CORAL members.

APL Wrap-up – Lisa reported that the last help day generated 8 volunteers with 4 persons from one new family. She said that they can use help anytime from anybody and it does not need to be part of a CORAL sponsored event.

Blue Cross Blue Shield – 200 boxes of produce were distributed at the YMCA on 4th and Carpenter. CORAL partnered with BCBS to pass out the boxes. CORAL has agreed to partner with them again in July. Possible event ideas were School Kits, A Farmer's Market, vaccinations, and medical checkups.

Pride Picnic -The next Pride Picnic is June 17, 2023, at Shelter 4 in Lincoln Park from 4 to 10 PM. The following will be provided: Jim – lemonade, Lori – potato salad, Lee - slaw and tea, Brian- chicken. April will check on getting a handicap accessible porta potty for the event. Board needs to place an ad in Illinois Times calendar of events. We could possibly speak with Tiffany Lapp on this.

Decatur Illinois Pride Food Drive – The next food drive is July 15, 2023 from 10 to 12:30 PM at Walmart parking lot. Decatur Pridefest is Sept 9, 2023 at Fairview Park. Note: Decatur Illinois Pride does their food drive the second Saturday of every other month.

New Business

Pride of Petersburg – Petersburg will be hosting their first Pridefest on June 24, 2023. Broadgauge Restaurant is the major sponsor for this event. Brian made motion to give \$500.00 to Petersburg Pridefest. Lisa seconded. Motion passed with 2 dissents.

Logan County Pride – Sam reported that the Logan County Pridefest will be held on June 3, 2023 on the square in downtown Lincoln. CORAL was asked to bring a tent and some banquet tables and chairs.

Juneteenth – The celebration will be held at Comer Cox Park on June 17, 2023. A \$25.00 dollar registration fee has been paid for the parade entry and we will need the CORAL banner. For more details check with Harry Carlsen.

Springfield Police Department – Lisa reported the department will work with us on anything we have planned we just need to include them. Possibilities are Pride Picnic and/or Stella's for coffee with a cop at 7:30 am on June 5, 2023. A lunch at Pridelinc on Thursday June 15, 2023 has been scheduled. You must call in your reservation by 5 pm on Tuesday to be included in this event. Contact person was Ryan Leach and the police liaison to the gay community is Tyler Sullivan.

Elections – Mike reported that we had the following positions up for nomination: President – Brian Sylvester, Secretary – Lori Carlsen, Member-at-large A – David Yankee. Lisa made motion to accept all candidates nominated. Rex seconded and motion passed. Candidates elected by acclamation.

Bylaws - Mike made a motion to amend bylaws in Section 4 to read that the board appoint a person to an open vacancy until the term of that vacancy has ended (Deleting copy that read "until the next election"). Rex seconded and motion passed.

Phoenix Center – David reported that Jonnna wants to reach out to CORAL to discuss any issues we have between our two groups. This will be sometime after Pridefest.

Equality Illinois – Jim reported that Equality Illinois is having a fund raiser Sunday June 4, 2023, in Chicago. It is something we may want to think about for next year.

5th Street Renaissance – Rob reported their annual meeting will be Wednesday May 24, 2023, at 6 pm at Erin's Pavilion. They are also planning a water balloon fight for the end of July possibly the 29th.

Storage Unit – April will go ahead and pay rent for next three months. In meantime, we need to check with MCC about donating their storage unit and if Church of the Brethren will let us keep the storage unit on their property (where it is currently).

April made motion to adjourn meeting and Mike seconded. Motion passed.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM