



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2020

Attendees: Ann Engel, Brian Sylvester, April Poole, Rex Schadow, Lee Korty, Rob Weis, Jim Barr, Bert Morton, Linda Rendelman, Roz Stein, Timothy Bill

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jim Barr at 5:01 PM.

II. Introduction of Guests

No guests were present

III. Approval of the July 12th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Timothy Bill submitted the minutes from the July 12, 2020 meeting. Jim presented one correction. Paula moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Rex seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

Brian Sylvester provided the treasurer's report. The balance is the same as last month. The Black Lives Matter Donation, Insurance Check, and the First Church of the Brethren checks are outstanding.

We have received a \$200 donation from an individual who missed the Pride Drive and a \$200 check from the Crowe Plaza. We also received two thank you notes from the Pride Drive – one from the Central Illinois Foodbank and one from the Phoenix Center.

Rex moved to approve this report. Lee seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

B. Bylaws Committee

Jim and Lee reported that the next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, August 11th, at 6:00 PM at the Pride Picnic area in Lincoln Park. Roz provided a short update after she arrived.

C. Ritz 2021 Committee

No report

D. Thanksgiving Dinner Committee

Brian reported that the committee has not met yet but is working to schedule a meeting soon.

E. Trivia Nights Committee

No report

F. Pridefest Committee

No report

G. Membership Committee

Rob reported that the committee is meeting via phone on Friday afternoon. Rob proposed that the committee is renamed to the Engagement Committee or Outreach Committee. Rob wants to establish a process for staying connected with people who have been engaged with CORAL in the past. The committee will let Jim know what name they prefer after the meeting.

Paula moved to receive all committee reports. Brian seconded. The motion carried.

V. Old Business

A. Professionals in the Springfield Metro Update

Tim provided a written report (included below) from PRISM. The LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois is reaching out to downstate businesses to make connections, provide services, and conduct trainings.

B. Social Media Update

No report

C. Board Training Update

Jim reported that after discussing potential dates, the middle date range of February 25th (evening), February 27th (morning), and March 1st (evening) was selected for the board training. These dates are still to be confirmed with Bruce Nims. Jim is working to confirm the attendees and a location. There was a short discussion of possible attendees we may wish to invite. Jim and Rob will work on a letter to reach out to those organizations and individuals.

D. Habitat for Humanity Walk Update

Jim reported that the walk has been postponed until April 25, 2021. They will be holding a meeting on Tuesday. Jim plans to phone into the meeting.

E. Committees

If you want to serve on a committee or if there is a committee that needs

to be formed, please let Jim know.

F. Permanent Council Updates

Jim reported that the permanent council voted to donate \$200 to Black Lives Matter for their school supply drive. The donation was appreciated and happened to be documented in the local paper.

The permanent council had a Zoom meeting this past Monday night about the Springfield Call 2 Action letter which calls for the removal of artwork and monuments connected to Stephen Douglas and Pierre Menard from the state capitol. The permanent council voted to sign onto the letter.

G. Website for CORAL

Tim presented a draft of the future CORAL website. There was a short discussion of the different features of the website.

H. AIDS Walk Springfield

Rex reported that AIDS Walk Springfield has been postponed until events like the walk can be hosted safely.

VI. New Business

A. Partner Organizations and CORAL Contacts

Please forward the contact information for our partner organizations to Tim to add to our spreadsheet. We are looking for the contact person, number, and email in case someone other than the liaison needs to contact that organization.

B. Internships – Rob Weis

Rob discussed the possibility of bringing in an unpaid intern to help with website development, marketing, event promotion, and other activities for CORAL. There was a short discussion of creating this opportunity. Rob will keep us informed about this possibility.

C. Phoenix Center Gayla

Jim reported that the Phoenix Center will be hosting the Fall NO GO Gayla on October 16th. The event will take place in either To Go or No Go fashion depending on the comfort level of the individual. The event details are going to be sent out soon.

VII. Communication from Other Organizations

No additional announcements were made.

VIII. Adjournment

Paula moved to adjourn. Linda seconded. The motion carried.

Dates to Remember

- August 9th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM (via Zoom and First Church of the Brethren)
- August 16th – CORAL Permanent Council Meeting – 3 PM
- August 22nd – Buff Carmichael's Celebration – 1-10 PM
- September 13th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- October 11th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- October 16th – Phoenix Center No Go Gayla – 5 PM
- November 3rd – Election Day – Please Vote
- November 8th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- March 27, 2021 – The Ritz

Minutes Submitted By: Timothy Bill, Secretary



August 9, 2020

PRISM has the following updates to report:

LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois is conducting outreach to downstate businesses and business owners. They are hoping to make connections, offer services, and provide trainings to LGBT business leaders throughout the state. They held an outreach meeting on August 6th via Zoom. In addition to interviewing Ryan Bandy, owner of Club Station House and Win, Lose, or Draught Bars in Springfield, they had three main points of their presentation.

1. Membership Benefits

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois offers multiple services to LGBT business leaders throughout the state. For the rest of 2020 and 2021, they are waiving the silver membership fees for anyone interested in becoming an LGBT certified business. They provide marketing assistance, networking events, professional developments, and an LGBT business membership directory.

2. LGBT Business Enterprise Certification

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce is providing LGBT Business Enterprise Certifications for majority LGBT owned and operated businesses. This certification is similar to the Minority-Owned Business Certification and Women-Owned Small Business Certification programs. Chicago is currently conducting a study of city spending with LGBT owned businesses and the LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois will be advocating for statewide recognition of the program in the future.

3. Downstate Trainings

The LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois will be offering a Downstate LGBTQ+ Biz Boot Camp in 2021. They are hoping to have a strong turnout for this training event.

If anyone has any questions about this or would like to get connected, please contact Timothy Bill or check out the LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois website <http://lgbtcc.com/>.

Submitted by Timothy Bill