



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2021 at 5:00 PM
Zoom and First Church of the Brethren

1 **I. Call to Order**

2 The meeting was called to order by Jim Barr at 5:04 PM.

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4 **II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests**

5 The following members were in attendance: Julie Koon, April Poole, Rex Schadow,
6 Jim Barr, Mike Johnson, Brian Sylvester, Rob Weis, Timothy Bill, Ann Engel, Paula
7 Harris, Bert Morton, Lee Korty

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9 A quorum was present.

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11 The following guests were present: Karen Reynolds, Terry Beard

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13 **III. Approval of the May 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

14 Timothy Bill submitted the minutes from the May 9, 2021 annual meeting which had
15 been shared electronically.

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17 **MOTION** by Brian:

18 Move to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2021 meeting.

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20 This motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

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22 **IV. Officer Reports and Executive Board Updates**

23 **A. Treasurer's Report**

24 Brian provided the treasurer's reports for April and May. He provided the monthly
25 totals and a list of expenses for both months. The final balance for April was
26 reported and remained the balance through the end of May.

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28 **MOTION** by Ann:

29 Move to approve the April and May treasurer's reports.

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31 This motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

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33 **B. Other Officer Reports**

34 *There were no other officer reports.*

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36 **C. Executive Board Updates**

37 The next Executive Board meeting will be July 10th at 10:00 AM at First Church of
38 the Brethren. There were no other updates from the board.

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40 **V. Committee Reports**



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A. Finance Committee

There was no report from this committee.

B. Pride Picnic Committee

Bert reported that the committee is ready to hold the event on the 19th. Lee shared the event will be at picnic area 3. We will need a 10x10 tent for the event. He has purchased water for the event. Jim provided a report of those in attendance and there was a short discussion of the orders. The group discussed the date of the event and the potential scheduling conflicts with Juneteenth.

C. Ritz Committee

Bert reported we should be ready to launch a webpage for the Ritz in the next week. The committee is hoping to meet in the next couple of weeks to begin the next stage of planning for this event.

D. Juneteenth Event

Rob reported that we have eight folks who have volunteered to participate in the march on the 19th. We are meeting at 8:45 AM at the corner of MLK Drive and East Capitol Ave. The parade starts at 10:00 AM and is less than one mile in length. A few more folks volunteered to participate. There will be posters for people at the event.

E. Sliders Ball Game

Rex noted that there is a ballgame after the pride picnic on June 19th. We could have an informal pride night if people are interested. There was a discussion of this event. Anyone interested should contact Rex.

Bert reported that we have been in contact with the Sliders and conversations are ongoing about collaborating on a future event.

F. Empowerment Committee

Julie reported that the committee met on May 28th (included below). The committee is composed of Julie Koon (chair), Rob Weis, Brian Sylvester, April Poole, and Paula Harris. The committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month.

G. Social Media Committee

Brian reported that we are working to setup a meeting in person. Tim reported that he is working to make sure the website it up to date. It now includes a listing



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80 for the SIU School of Medicine Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

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H. Thanksgiving Dinner

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I. State Fair Update

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There was no report here. Jim will make contact with Mike Ziri to confirm Equality Illinois's plans.

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MOTION by Paula:

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Move to accept all oral committee reports.

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This motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

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VI. Old Business

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A. Update on LGBTQIA History Project

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Julie reported that we have interviews to post once a month for the next several months. There was a short discussion of possible interviews.

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VII. New Business

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A. Moving Update

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Ann shared that she is moving to California and that this is her last meeting as a board member. Her phone number and email will not change, and she wants to stay in contact. She asks that you stay in touch!

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B. Fifth Street Update

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Rob reported on the partnership between Fifth Street and Harry Carlson. They are holding a ceremony for Buff on July 3rd. Fifth Street is providing a tent and chairs. There will be a potluck after the event that takes place at Buff's house.

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C. Brian's Birthday

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Rob shared that a group will have an impromptu dinner event after the meeting to celebrate Brian's birthday.

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D. CORAL Apparel

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Rex shared that it would be nice if we had CORAL t-shirts or polos for events as more events start happening in person. After a discussion, a committee was

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120 formed to look into this topic. The committee will be composed of Rex, Bert,
121 Brian, April, Rob, and Tim. The committee will report back with a proposal for the
122 membership.
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124 **E. Bylaws Committee**

125 Tim shared that there are bylaws amendments for the committee to review. After
126 a short discussion, the bylaws committee will consist of Jim, Lee, Tim, with Paula
127 joining. Tim will ask Roz if she is still interested in serving and chairing this
128 committee.
129

130 **F. Future Meetings**

131 Tim also asked if the group was willing to go back to fully in person meetings.
132 After a short discussion with the group at this meeting, the Executive Board will
133 discuss this at the July board meeting and make a recommendation.
134

135 **VIII. Announcements, Updates, and Communication from Other Organizations**

136 **A. PRISM Update**

137 Tim shared that he did not have a report to share from PRISM. Brian shared that
138 PRISM is still being charged a statement fee for their bank account.
139

140 **B. Womxn Group**

141 Ann reported that the group is thriving with over 80 members. Dre and Anne
142 Margaret are still the admins of the group. A small online Zoom meeting went
143 really well. A committee meeting will be happening sometime soon.
144

145 **C. Church Announcements**

146 April shared that there will be a birthday party for Bobbi Dykema on July 10th from
147 2-5 PM. There will be cake and ice cream.
148

149 Paula shared that Heartland MCC has been meeting at the AIDS Memorial (bring
150 a lawn chair if you plan on attending). There will also be a Blast Off of Candy
151 Parker event from 7-9 PM on July 4th. Contact Paula or April for more
152 information.
153

154 **D. LGBT Housing Initiative**

155 Bert shared that Keller Williams has joined the LGBT Housing Initiative (a 501c3
156 organization) and will be giving back 25% on commissions (20% to the client and
157 5% for LGBTQ individuals experiencing homelessness) on each sale.
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E. Decatur Pride

Jim shared that Decatur Pride is looking at hosting a small event in September (all details are currently tentative).

IX. Adjournment

Rex motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

Dates to Remember

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|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| • June 19 | Juneteenth Celebration | 10 AM |
| • June 19 | Pride Picnic | 12 PM |
| • June 21 | Springfield PFLAG Meeting | |
| • July 3 | Memorial Service for Buff Carmichael | |
| • July 10 | CORAL Executive Board Meeting | 10 AM |
| • July 11 | CORAL Monthly Meeting | 5 PM |
| • August 7 | CORAL Executive Board Retreat | 10 AM |
| • August 8 | CORAL Monthly Meeting | 5 PM |
| • March 26, 2022 | The Ritz | |

Minutes Submitted By: Timothy Bill, Secretary

Community Empowerment Committee Meeting Minutes 5-28-21

1. The meeting started at 6 pm. Rob Weis, Tim Bill, Julie Koon, Brian Sylvester, and April Poole were in attendance. Paula was unable to make the meeting.
2. We discuss the current process of collecting volunteer data and there were no questions about how the process works.
3. The question of what each Liaison's responsibilities are was addressed.
 - a. Liaisons to partner organizations were discussed because they are the individuals contacting the volunteers interested in their assigned organizations.
 - b. We discuss what information they were going to be able to share with the volunteer. Each liaison would need to keep up-to-date as to what was happening within their partner organizations.
 - c. Once the volunteer is contacted the the liaison passes on their information to their organization.
4. We discussed opportunities to grow the volunteer community.
 - a. We are able to post a link to the form on FB. Tim Bill will start scheduling an automatic post every two weeks to FB for volunteers, which will include a link to the volunteer form.
 - b. We talked about the use of a QR code which would take the user directly to the form when scanned by a cell phone camera.
 - i. The code could be used on flyers.
 - ii. We could also revise our business cards to include the code.
 - iii.
 - c. Tim Bill plans to discuss business cards with the board next meeting.
 - d. We also discussed possibly adding a post to church bulletins including our QR code.
5. The committee members are going to explore additional ideas about how we can share our volunteer form. At the next meeting we may have updates on the progress of the liaisons and the QR codes on the business cards.
6. We agreed to meet every fourth Thursday of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.