



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2021
Zoom and First Church of the Brethren

Attendees: Jim Barr, April Poole, Bert Morton, Lee Korty, Roz Stein, Mike Johnson, Timothy Bill, Julie Koon, Ann Engel, Paula Harris, Brian Sylvester, Rob Weis, Jan Thompson

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

The roll call was taken and the members in attendance were recorded.

III. Approval of the January 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Timothy Bill submitted the minutes from the January 10, 2021 meeting which Jim had shared electronically. Paula moved to accept the minutes. Brian seconded. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved.

IV. Officer Reports and Executive Board Updates

A. Treasurer's Report

Brian reported that we have not received a statement from the bank. Brian will email out a report to the Executive Board and the Finance Committee once he has received a report.

B. Other Officer Reports

There were no other officer reports.

C. Executive Board Updates

Jim reported that the next board meeting will be Saturday, April 10th at 3 PM at First Church of the Brethren.

V. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

Brian reported that the committee did not meet this past month. Brian will work with Tim to setup a virtual meeting.

B. Pridefest Committee

April reported that Pridefest is a go for this year. The city and county will need to approve the event. The mayor is supportive of holding the event. We may be able to use the Y block to allow for more physical distancing. The event would take place on the third Saturday in May. If we cannot hold a physical event, we may hold a virtual event.

C. Pride Picnic Committee

There was no report from this committee.

D. Ritz Committee

Bert reported that the committee is getting together to reach out to everyone on our list to feature some sponsors or partners on the website. We have 18 sponsors at this point and 41 advertisers. The Ritz is postponed to March 26th, 2022. More information will be forthcoming. Bert is hoping to have many updates for the executive board meeting in April.

E. Food Pantry Committee

Jim thanked Rob for bringing hot beverages and treats to the volunteers and April, Roz, and Bert for coming out in the cold. April reported that the group has been putting about 5 boxes of food in both locations each week. That amount of food usually fills the pantries. We have received donations to support the food drive which are all promptly spent to purchase more food and supplies.

Lee reported that if we have extra food, we have been distributing it to other micro-pantries around town. The committee is keeping track of all donations to include on our financial reports. At the end of the initiative, the committee will be sending out thank you cards to those who donated.

To improve the social media coverage of the events, Ann will step back in for the last two weeks to promote these two dates and drive up our coverage. April also asked everyone to share those events on their personal social media accounts.

There was a discussion about continuing this project and about how we are concluding the project. Ann moved to end the project at the end of February. Bert seconded. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved.

F. Nominations Committee

Mike Johnson reported that the nominations committee contacted Rodney Shoemaker to notify CORAL internet followers of the upcoming election for Member-at-Large. We have had contact with nine persons. Three have said yes. Those three are: Rosalind Stein, Jan Thompson, and Deb Torres. There was a discussion of how the nomination committee will solicit nominations. Tim also added Julie Koon's name to the list of those willing to run for the member-at-large position.

G. Ad Hoc Committee to Develop Social Media Guidelines

Jim was asked to put together this committee. Ann is willing to serve. Brian suggested that he, Tim, and Rodney also join this committee. Brian reported that there have been a couple of posts that may create some issues. He suggested that we should create guidelines for posting content on the page and in the group. Roz suggested that the committee also address the timeliness of posting requests. Paula suggested that the committee address who becomes an administrator and why. Jim appointed these four individuals to serve on this committee.

VI. Old Business

A. Bruce Nims Board Training Update

Jim reported the list of 13 individuals who are attending this event. We can have up to 15 people in attendance. Paula added that two individuals from Heartland MCC are also interested bringing our total to 15. She will send their contact information to Jim. There was a discussion of the logistics of the event and how people will attend. April, Tim, and Bruce will connect about the logistics of the event.

B. Fifth Street Art Auction

Rob reported that the event was a success and noted that the art auction is continuing if you still want to purchase something. You can find the login information via the Fifth Street Facebook page.

VII. New Business

A. Sponsorship for Springfield Pridefest

Jim reported that Jenna had reached out asking if CORAL wanted to be a sponsor for Springfield Pridefest. The group discussed sponsoring Pridefest again this summer. April moved to table this agenda item until the next Pridefest meeting. Roz seconded. The motion passed. Jim will let Jenna know that we are tabling becoming a sponsor for the moment.

B. Online Community for Lesbian, Bi/Pan Sexual Womxn

Tim reported that an ad hoc group met to discuss creating an online community for LGBTQ Womxn in the Springfield area. He included a written report (included below). Tim will keep CORAL notified of any further developments of this group.

VIII. Announcements, Updates, and Communication from Other Organizations

A. PRISM Update

Tim reported that PRISM has continued to meet but that there were no other updates. He submitted a written report (included below).

B. Consolidated Election on April 6th

Jim reported that Randy shared information regarding the upcoming local and municipal elections. Elections are important and our votes influence how local dollars are spent. There was a discussion of which candidates are running. To find out more information on the upcoming election, visit your local elections office website.

C. UIS GSSS Program Coordinator Update

Tim reported that Dre Duvendack has been hired as the new program coordinator for the office of Gender and Sexuality Student Services at UIS.

D. United Way 21-Week Equity Challenge

Tim shared that the United Way of Central Illinois is holding a 21 Week Equity Challenge. The 21 Week Equity Challenge is a program that encourages Illinois residents to engage in racial equity conversations to gain a deeper understanding about the impact systemic racism and inequity have on our state and in our local communities. The link to participate is: <http://springfieldunitedway.org/21week>

E. Website Photos

Brian reminded the board to submit photos for the website. So far, Tim is the only person with a photo on the website.

F. Habitat for Humanity

Jim reminded the group that the walk will take place virtually on April 25th this year to support the local Habitat for Humanity Project.

IX. Adjournment

Brian moved to adjourn. Ann seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:33 PM.

Dates to Remember

- February 14th – Valentine’s Day
- February 14th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- February 25th – Board Governance Training – 6:30 PM
- February 27th – Board Governance Training – 10:00 AM
- March 1st – Board Governance Training – 6:30 PM
- March 14th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- April 6th – Consolidated Election – Please Vote – 6AM–7PM
- April 10th – CORAL Executive Board Meeting – 3 PM
- April 11th – CORAL Monthly Meeting – 5 PM
- April 25th – Walk for Habitat for Humanity

Minutes Submitted By: Timothy Bill, Secretary

Online Community for LGBTQ Womxn Working Group
Meeting Report
February 14, 2021

Attendees: Timothy Bill, Jonna Cooley, Dre Duvendack, Ann Engel, Randy Kaw, Julie Koon, Anne Margaret Mayberry, Roz Stein, and Jodi Tabor

Meeting Summary

Our discussion covered many topics including the OWLs dinner group, other outreach efforts from the Phoenix Center such as the Pride on the Patio events, the SALO barn dance, the need for visibility for events geared towards lesbian/bi/pan womxn, the desire for more opportunities to socialize for all age ranges, support for those who have lost a partner or significant other, and physical spaces/bulletin boards.

Our conversation moved in the direction of creating a private Facebook group for area LGBTQ womxn to get connected and meet some of the needs we identified. We identified taking the following actions:

Actions

1. Facebook Group - Jonna agreed to create a group and to add Ann, Anne Margaret, Dre, and Julie as moderators
2. Guidelines for the Group - Once the group has been created, we can send suggested rules for this group or guidelines to Jonna (jcool.phoenix@comcast.net). These guidelines can be instituted as actual rules for the group (<https://www.facebook.com/community/whats-new/using-group-rules>).
3. Survey for Next Meeting – Tim will create a Doodle poll for a follow-up meeting in 2-3 weeks. Here is a Doodle poll for that meeting: https://doodle.com/poll/8uchap7tr4bd93bh?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link. If these dates don't work, we can always look further into the future too.

Future Actions

1. Publicize the Group - Once the group is ready and the rules are in place, CORAL can share the group with all of the other organizations that attended the Community Forum last spring. We will encourage all of those organizations to share information about the group on their social media. We can each share this group with our networks to promote it as well!
2. Watch the Group Flourish! – We are very hopeful that this group can be a place for meaningful connections and cooperation for LGBTQ womxn in our area!

Submitted by Timothy Bill



February 14, 2021

PRISM has the following update to report:

Meetings

PRISM has continued to meet over the past month with meetings held January 20, January 27, February 3, and February 10. Conversations about upcoming initiatives and meetings have been ongoing.

Leadership Team

Co-chair: Dustin Patton

Co-chair: Blake DenHerder

Treasurer: Shaun Thrasher

Events: Bree Kopczynski

Member: Timothy Bill

Member: Chris Boyster

Member: Nathan Leitner

Member: Paul Staab

Submitted by Timothy Bill