



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2020

Attendees: Jim Barr, Paula Harris, Chris Boyster, Brian Sylvester, Rob Weis, Rodney Shoemaker, Bert Morton, Lee Korty, Marty Wilson, Rex Schadow, Linda Rendleman, Roz Stein, Timothy Bill

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM by Jim Barr.

II. Introduction of Guests

No guests were present.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Timothy Bill submitted the minutes from the February 9, 2020 meeting. Chris motioned to approve the minutes. Rex seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Treasurer Report

Brian Sylvester provided the treasurer's report. He reported the monthly account balance that included \$60.38 pledged to support the Junior League grant and \$1,625.17 pledged to the Support the Children project. Chris motioned to approve the report. Roz seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. PRISM Update

Timothy Bill submitted a report for PRISM (included below).

B. Social media

Rodney Shoemaker noted that he has posted everything for the Ritz so far. Please send him any additional information. There are 439 members currently in the group. Rob asked if that membership list was available. Rodney will check and see if there's a way to download the list.

C. Decatur Pride Update

Jim Barr reported the group will be meeting a week from now. September 12th will be the date for Decatur Pride.

D. Insurance Update

Paula Harris has still not been contacted by Troxell. Roz has contacted a possible alternative company.

E. Junior League Grant Update

Rob Weis provided a written report for the Junior League grant (included below).

After the community forum, CORAL selected three key areas of focus. The written report has also been published on Facebook. Rob is waiting to hear back from the Junior League about the unspent funds.

There was a discussion about including a focus on lesbian representation in the organization. The wording on the second area of focus was updated to include 'strengthening diversity and community including lesbians, trans, and people of color.'

F. Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health

Rob Weis submitted a report for the Support the Children Project (included below). The committee is looking for artwork for the room and is searching for approvable furniture.

G. Ritz 2020

Jim Barr reported that the Ritz committee met this afternoon at 3:00 PM. We currently have 22 tables committed for the event. The governor's office is sending a representative. We are working on arranging a projector for the space, ordering flowers, and getting quotes for boutonnieres.

Bert Morton noted that our goal is to reach 25 tables for the event. Tickets are due by March 20th.

H. Springfield Call 2 Action

Jim Barr noted Springfield Call 2 Action will be meeting Monday March 16th at 5:00 PM. They are continuing to work on passing a sick day ordinance for the city of Springfield.

I. Springfield Sliders Event

Rex Schadow reported that the game will be Thursday June 18th at 6:30 PM. Gates will open at 5:30 PM. Tickets are \$8.00. CORAL will have two banners for the event – one that is present all season and another the night of the game.

We are looking into the Public Health Department distributing information

about PrEP at the event and Fifth Street Renaissance having their testing bus available.

The first 500 people at the event will get a pride towel. Rex is investigating having the Capital City Men's Chorus singing the national anthem. CORAL has 100 tickets to do with as we please. Rex is inquiring about when we will get those tickets. Equality Illinois will not be participating in the event this year.

J. Communication from Other Organizations.

No other organizations shared updates.

K. Trivia Night for Junior League of Greater Springfield

Jim Barr noted that this event was a fun night. The others who attended agreed with his assessment.

L. Trivia Night for Phoenix Center

Jim Barr reported that this event was well attended. CORAL had sponsorships of three rounds at the event.

M. Habitat for Humanity Home Project

Jim Barr provided a report for this project. Habitat for Humanity will be holding a walk event on April 26th at 1:00 PM in Enos Park. The cost is \$20 per person. CORAL will be providing a team for this event. Individuals should contact Jim Barr, Bert Morton, or Roz Stein if they are interested in participating. Each person will pay CORAL and CORAL will provide a check to Habitat for Humanity. The group will be meeting again on Tuesday at noon.

N. Committees

Jim Barr explained that individuals can now volunteer for the newly created committees. Those committees are: Finance (with Brian as chair), Bylaws, Trivia Nights, Pride Picnic, Thanksgiving Dinner, Pridefests, Sliders Baseball Game (with Rex as chair), and the currently operating Ritz committee.

Roz volunteered to chair the Bylaws Committee. Rob suggested we include a membership committee. Any other suggestions for committees should be shared with Jim to be approved by the permanent council. Any committee with a chair can move forward with their business.

VI. New Business

A. Public Health Popular Opinion Leader Campaign

Rob Weis reported that Public Health is looking for younger volunteers to help with distributing information about PrEP at Pridefest. Contact Rob if you know anyone who might be interested in this opportunity. Volunteers would be provided with training and would earn \$20 per hour at Pridefest.

B. Public Facebook Page Proposal.

Timothy Bill submitted a proposal for creating a public Facebook Page for CORAL (included below). After a short discussion, Chris motioned to approve the proposal. Rex seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Proposal to Create the Position of Historian

Paula Harris made a motion that CORAL create the position of historian and appoint Lee Kory to this post. Lee would continue to hold important organization documents and would coordinate his efforts with the organization secretary. Roz seconded this proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Proposal to Get an Estimate for CORAL T-shirts and Polos

Rob Weis suggested that CORAL should get an estimate for t-shirts and/or polo shirts for the organization. Roz supported this by making this suggestion into a motion. Chris seconded. After a short discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Dates to Remember

- March 7th – Church of the Brethren Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
- March 8th at 5:00 PM – CORAL Monthly Meeting – Heartland MCC
- March 10th – Phoenix Center Educational Series
- March 14th – GLAD Social (TBA)
- March 17th – Primary Election. Please vote.
- April 3rd and 4th – Club La Cage
- April 11th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM – Heartland MCC Pancake and Sausage breakfast at Applebee's on Veterans Parkway.
- April 16th – Fifth Street Renaissance/SARA Center Art Auction
- April 26th at 1:00 PM – Walk For Habitat for Humanity
- May 16th – Springfield Pridefest

VIII. Adjournment

Chris motioned to adjourn. Paula seconded. The motioned carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Minutes Submitted By: Timothy Bill, Secretary



March 8, 2020

PRISM has the following updates to report:

Illinois Times Article

Co-chair Dustin Patton was interviewed for the Illinois Times article about the CORAL community forum. That article can be found here:

<https://www.illinoistimes.com/springfield/rainbow-connections/Content?oid=11896474>

Future Events

PRISM is working on arranging the following events for later this spring:

- Speed Networking Event
- Out Professionals Panel at UIS
- Day/Eve Before Pride Brunch/Dinner

Dates and locations for these events will be shared once they have been confirmed. We have run into some logistical complications that have delayed us setting dates for these events.

Submitted by Timothy Bill

Junior League Grant Community Forum/Training

Updates

A communication for feedback has yet to be sent to Forum participants. Panelists have been thanked and action has been taken on information gathered at the event and determined by CORAL. CORAL has identified the follow areas for focus;

1. Community Calendar on a CORAL website with a volunteer arm

- o Sharing social media with each other (other organizations)

2. Connection to new organizations - possible organizations include

- o Blue Cross / Blue Shield
- o Mature individuals
- o The OUTLET
- o Rainbow Room
- o Substance abuse
- o AARP
- o Etc.
- o Outreach to the black community

3. Leadership development

Next Steps

A report will be outlined to be shared on the Facebook Group. Brian is focusing on generating a report for the Junior League and reconciling expenses. This can not be submitted until 6 months after the event. \$60.38 remains. The Junior League of Springfield has been contacted to determine what they would like us to do with the remainder of the funding.

Submitted by Rob Weis
March 8th, 2020.

Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Center

These are the updates for Lincoln Prairie (LPBH) for the March Board meeting;

Furnishing the LGBT lounge with appropriate furniture, etc. to make the room feel like a place the kids can socialize;

- 1) Floor covering – Here and ready to be laid.
- 2) Light coverings - Here.
- 3) Wall coverings – Zebra on the way and other options are being considered.
- 4) Furnishings – Working with Lincoln Prairie to select furnishings.
- 5) Room set up - Tentatively set for the afternoon of March 21st.

\$1370.45 remains in the budget.

Respectfully Submitted

Rob Weis

Provided 3/8/20

A Proposal to Create a Public Facebook Page for CORAL

Rationale

As Facebook has evolved, the site has added the functionality known as Pages. Pages “enable public figures, businesses, organizations, and other entities to create an authentic and public presence on Facebook¹.” Creating a public Facebook Page would provide CORAL with a means of connecting to a larger audience on Facebook.

Currently, CORAL has a Facebook Group which is a place where members of CORAL can share information with each other but is not available to people outside the group. Essentially, Pages are a means of communicating externally with a larger public and Groups are a way of sharing information internally within CORAL.

Facebook Pages are free to setup and publish. They allow for the administrators of the page to moderate comments (or prevent others from posting entirely), the fans are kept private (except for your friend list), and a Page would allow CORAL to do advertising and promoting of events on Facebook. A Facebook Page would not (and should not) replace the current Facebook Group.

Other Organizations with Pages

- Phoenix Center
- Springfield Pridefest
- Brothers and Sisters Together
- Springfield PFLAG
- PRISM
- UIS Gender and Sexuality Student Services
- Lincoln Land Gay Straight Alliance
- Equality Illinois
- Springfield Call to Action
- Fifth Street Renaissance
- Capital City Men’s Chorus
- Club Station House
- Decatur Pride
- Prairie Pride Coalition
- Heartland MCC
- First Church of the Brethren
- First Presbyterian Church
- Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Church

Submitted by Timothy Bill

¹ Facebook Tips: What’s the Difference between a Facebook Page and Group? - <https://www.facebook.com/notes/facebook/facebook-tips-whats-the-difference-between-a-facebook-page-and-group/324706977130/>