



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 11, 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 5:01 PM.

3
4 **II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests**

5 The following members were in attendance: Jim Barr, Bert Morton, Lee Korty, April
6 Poole, Arthur Clark, Terry Michael, Mike Johnson, Brian Sylvester, Timothy Bill, Tom
7 Wray, Jan Thompson, Paula Harris

8
9 A quorum was present.

10
11 The following guests were present: Lisa Cotton

12
13 **III. Approval of the June 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

14 Timothy Bill submitted the minutes from the June 13, 2021 annual meeting which
15 had been shared electronically.

16
17 **MOTION** by Bert:

18 Move to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2021 meeting.

19
20 This motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

21
22 **IV. Officer Reports and Executive Board Updates**

23 **A. Treasurer's Report**

24 Brian provided an update (he has not received a statement from June yet). The
25 account balance was reported.

26
27 **MOTION** by Art:

28 Move to approve the June treasurer's reports.

29
30 This motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

31
32 **B. Other Officer Reports**

33 *There were no other officer reports.*

34
35 **C. Executive Board Updates**

36 Jim shared some updates from the July 10, 2021 executive board meeting. The
37 board discussed topics including proposed bylaws changes, the recent elections,
38 the Ritz, the empowerment committee's work, the historical interviews project,
39 the Thanksgiving dinner, board vacancy procedures, meeting formats, the



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM
Zoom and First Church of the Brethren

40 Juneteenth parade, the upcoming board retreat, and the dissolution of PRISM.
41 The executive board retreat will be at 10:00 AM on August 7th.

42 **V. Committee Reports**

43 **A. Finance Committee**

44 *There was no report from this committee.*

45 **B. Pride Picnic Committee**

46 Bert shared a short review of the event. Attendance was close to the most recent
47 picnic, which was a pleasant surprise. Brian shared that we had many new folks
48 in attendance and that we made a little less than \$100.

49 **C. Ritz Committee**

50 Bert and April hope to have more to share about the Ritz soon.

51 **D. Juneteenth Event**

52 Jim shared that our logo was on the event banner and that our participation in the
53 parade went well.

54 **E. Sliders Ball Game**

55 Bert shared that the costs continue to be prohibitive for holding the event at this
56 time. He is still working to see what options are possible for the future.

57 **F. Empowerment Committee**

58 Brian shared some updates from the committee. The committee is adjusting the
59 volunteer contact process so that groups are contacted by the committee instead
60 of the liaisons. The volunteer form will be posted once a month on the Facebook.
61 The form has also been updated.

62 **G. Social Media Committee**

63 Brian shared that the committee met to solidify our social media policies including
64 rules for the Facebook group, a three-strike policy, and website updates. There
65 was a short discussion of the proposed policies. (The full committee report is
66 included below).

67 **H. Thanksgiving Dinner**

68 Brian shared that the event will be November 20th. The board discussed issues
69 with ADA compliance. This year will be at Lincoln Park. Lee shared that the park
70 district is working to improve the accessible of these restrooms.



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM
Zoom and First Church of the Brethren

80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118

I. State Fair Update

Jim shared there will be a state fair, but Equality Illinois will not be having a table this year.

J. Bylaws Committee

Tim shared four amendments the bylaws committee is proposing (included below). There was a discussion of the bylaws and the approval process.

VI. Old Business

A. Update on LGBTQIA History Project

Jim shared that the committee has interviews completed from Robert Robbins and Linda Schroeder. They also have extensive video for the project for Candy Parker. Please share any updates with Julie including changes to the interview list.

VII. New Business

A. Support for People Experiencing Homelessness

April shared some updates on the situation for people experiencing homelessness. If you are interested in participating in the Meal Trains for the tent city, please let April know. She and Bert will look into this as a possible event for CORAL.

B. First Church of the Brethren Centennial

April shared that First Church of the Brethren will be having a centennial celebration and may wish to partner with CORAL on a project. The centennial celebration will be in late April early May of next year.

VIII. Announcements, Updates, and Communication from Other Organizations

A. PRISM Update

As Jim shared before, PRISM has voted to dissolve. CORAL wishes them the best and is ready to support the group if it decides to reform at some point in the future.

B. Womxn Group

April shared that the group is have conversations about a name change and the direction of the group.

C. Church Announcements

Paula shared that Heartland is considering doing a night for the Meal Train as



Coalition of Rainbow Alliances

Monthly Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM
Zoom and First Church of the Brethren

119 well. They are currently pursuing two possible buildings.

120

121 **D. Decatur Pride**

122 Jim shared that Decatur Pride is looking at holding an event on September 18th.
123 They are meeting this week about the date, venue, and logistics.

124

125 **E. Illinois Eagle**

126 Tom shared that the Eagle is about to release a survey about what the
127 community would like to be covered. Please take the survey or reach out to him
128 with ideas.

129

130 **IX. Adjournment**

131 Brian motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved without dissent.
132 The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

133

134 **Dates to Remember**

- 135 • July 10 CORAL Executive Board Meeting 10 AM
- 136 • July 11 CORAL Monthly Meeting 5 PM
- 137 • August 7 CORAL Executive Board Retreat 10 AM
- 138 • August 7 Chix With Stix Golf Outing, Lincoln Greens
- 139 • August 8 CORAL Monthly Meeting 5 PM
- 140 • September 12 CORAL Monthly Meeting 5 PM
- 141 • September 18 Decatur PrideFest 12 PM
- 142 • October 15 Phoenix Center Fall Gayla
- 143 • November 20 CORAL Thanksgiving Dinner
- 144
- 145 • March 26, 2022 The Ritz
- 146

147 Minutes Submitted By: Timothy Bill, Secretary

Social Media Committee

7/5/21 3:00 p.m. at Lincoln Park

Present: Rodney Shoemaker, Tim Bill, Brian Sylvester

1. The FB Private group page:

Tim reported that it was recently discovered that the private page has somehow converted to a public page. Brian stated that he had received a notification from FB that there was a glitch of some kind recently with group pages where all pending postings that ordinarily require admin approval had automatically posted all. The committee discussed how we should approach this change to the private page and it was decided that we would allow it to remain a public page at this time. If anyone posts anything that might be considered sensitive material, we would reach out to the posting individual and ask if they still want the information posted.

2. Posting rules:

Tim brought a set of rules for the postings to the pages, some examples presented by FB and some that he came up, that we could post on the page for members to refer to before attempting to post information that may be denied. Recently, Brian posted a Memorial Day notification that was met with some negativity as a result of a posting by that same member who had tried to post a political statement. It was thought that the negativity may have been caused by the denial of that posting. By publishing this set of rules on the page, denials could be referred back to those rules so the member would be aware of our reasoning beforehand. The rules were approved by the committee.

3. Recurring FB messages:

The Membership Empowering committee has requested that we repost the membership request form approximately every two weeks as they see an uptick in new volunteer forms coming in after each posting. The committee discussed this and came to the conclusion that posting this information too often may be a bit too redundant and might not be taken seriously after a while. So the committee decided that the posting will be done on a monthly basis moving forward.

4. CORAL website:

Currently, Tim is the only member to have admin capability to the website and there should be back-up. Brian stated that he would be willing to take that on but would need some instruction on how to keep the site up to date.

5. Newsletter:

Brian briefly suggested that possibly we add an e-newsletter to our website. This was discussed by the committee and it will be brought up at either the executive meeting or retreat. Brian also asked the committee how they would feel about taking on the responsibility of designing event/function

flyers and announcements in the future. The committee discussed this and decided that it was a duty best left to the committee assigned to the event/function.

6. Social Media Policy:

With the addition of the rules that Tim suggested and the information that was decided in the previous committee meeting, Brian will prepare a rough draft for the policy and present it to the committee at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments – Organization Governance

The board governance training provided by Bruce Nims offered insights into the optimal governance of a local non-profit organization. While not all of the content reflected the structure and organization of CORAL, the principles related to governance provided some small areas for improvement. Upon reflection from this training, the following bylaws amendments are proposed (**additions in green, deletions in red**):

Amendment 1: Coordinator Job Descriptions

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 2. Coordinators: The general membership may elect such other coordinators as the affairs of CORAL may require, each of whom shall hold office for such a period, have such authority, and perform such duties as The Board may, from time to time, determine. **Coordinator positions should have clear job descriptions including expectations and assigned duties.**

Section 3. Term of Coordinators: The coordinators of CORAL shall be elected annually by the general membership and shall hold office for one year unless they shall sooner resign, or shall be removed, or otherwise disqualified to serve. All coordinators must be approved annually by the general membership at the annual meeting.

Amendment 2: Committee Governance

ARTICLE VIII: COMMITTEES

Subject to the applicable provisions of the General Not-For-Profit Corporations Act of the State of Illinois, The Board may appoint, or the general membership may recommend, by resolution, such committees as it deems appropriate to assist CORAL in carrying out its purposes and The Board in the management of THE COALITION. **Committees should have a clearly stated purpose, membership including chair(s), set of expectations, and duration.**

Amendment 3: Office Job Descriptions

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 6. Duties: The duties of the officers are as follows:

1. President: The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer; shall preside at all meetings of both The Board and members of CORAL. **The President shall oversee the annual budgeting process and the updating of the organization's strategic plan.**
2. Vice President: **The Vice President shall oversee the annual evaluation of the executive board and shall, from time to time, solicit feedback from the community concerning the mission, governance, and operation of the organization.** The Vice President shall act in the place and stead of the President in the event of their absence.

3. Secretary: The Secretary shall record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of The Board and of the membership meetings; **shall keep the corporate seal of THE COALITION and affix it on all papers requiring said seal**, shall serve notice of meetings of The Board and members; shall keep appropriate current records showing all members of CORAL and those of their number who have the power to vote their membership; and shall perform such duties as required by The Board. All records of the corporation shall be kept by the Secretary or the person so designated.
4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and deposit or cause to be received and deposited in a timely manner and in appropriate bank accounts all monies of CORAL and shall disperse or cause to be dispersed such funds as directed by resolution of The Board or general membership. Copies of all legal documents, IRS filings, state filings, and other tax documents shall be kept by the Secretary or the person so designated. **The treasurer will make a report of the organization's finances at executive board and monthly membership meetings. The treasurer will also make sure that at least one other member of THE COALITION is capable of making required organization financial filings and is listed on organization bank accounts in the case of a vacancy in the office.**
5. Member-at-Large: The Members-at-Large shall serve as representatives of the membership **and the larger LGBT+ community**; shall exercise and discharge other duties as may be required of them by The Board.

Amendment 4: Indemnification and Insurance

ARTICLE IV: EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 16. Indemnification and Nonliability: The directors and officers of THE COALITION shall be indemnified by THE COALITION to the fullest extent permissible under the laws of the State of Illinois. When acting in good faith, the directors and officers of THE COALITION shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the corporation.

Section 17. Insurance: Except as may be otherwise provided under provisions of law, the board of directors may adopt a resolution authorizing the purchase and maintenance of insurance on behalf of any agent of the corporation (including a director, officer, employee, or other agent of the corporation) against liabilities asserted against or incurred by the agent in such capacity or arising out of the agent's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify the agent against such liability under the articles of incorporation, these bylaws, or provisions of law, up to the maximum extent of the insurance policy.