



Board of Directors --- Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 3pm
Location: Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church – Harrison Room,
511 Groveland Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Attending: **Board Members:** Dave Anderson, Sally Brown, Kate Cimino, Martha Field, Sue Horvath, Gunnar Liden, Craig Luedemann, Steve Marchese, Paul Mellblom, Tim Mungavan, Dan Newman, Lynn Regnier, Barb Rose, Suzanne Walsh, Carol Watson, Harvey Zuckman.
Members: Sarah Martin, WAMM; Claire Todd, PFLAG; Janet Asanchev, Older Women’s League of Minnesota; Erika Thorne, Friends for a Non-Violent World; Vanessa LaRowe
Staff: Matt Hunter; Cynthia Breslauer & Beth Marie Ward to present under New Business.

- I. **Call to Order:** -- Paul Mellblom called the meeting to order at 3:10pm.
- II. **Introductions/Recognition of Visitors**
- III. **Agenda:** Approved as presented.
- IV. **Approval of Consent Agenda:**
Motion to approve the Consent Agenda: M/S/P
- V. **New Business:**
 - A. **Volunteers for PRIDE in Loring Park:** Beth Marie is seeking more volunteers to staff the CSM booth this weekend.
 - B. **House Party:** Sue Horvath is hosting the next CSM House Party on Thursday, August 5th. Paul Mellblom will host one in the future. Two additional hosts are being sought.
 - C. **Board Retreat:** Paul reported that the Executive Committee would like to schedule an extended board conversation to advance the topic of “Who We Are and What We Do”. It was agreed that this was needed and after discussion about timing and process Matt was asked to coordinate possible meeting dates and times and email this information to the board.
 - D. **2009 EOY and 5/31/10 financial statements:** Sue reported that the 2009 EOY report is near completion and it appears that there will be a \$5,000

deficit. She is waiting for a few more bits of information for consideration before presenting this report to the board in July. The 2010 financials still show some variables that require more information as well before presentation and she expects this to be completed for the July meeting.

- E. Points System:** Sally reminded the board that the committee has been working on this system for three years and is now asking the board to provide direction if they are required to do any additional work on this. Discussion followed.

Motion to approve the Point System as presented at the May, 2010 meeting. M/A/P (Vote: 9 yes, 3 no, 2 abstentions)

- F. Fundraising:** Gunnar requested that all board members pledge their financial support and delivered reminders to members who have not yet done so.
- G. United Way:** Paul and Matt reported on their meeting with Ed Marek, Minnesota Environmental Fund regarding United Way policies that impact CSM and other federations. They have asked other federations to participate in signing a letter to United Way which Matt and Ed will present personally to the new executive director at UW. They will also explore media opportunities that include a strategy to promote “choice in giving”.
- H. Bylaws Committee:** Steve reported that Matt had researched other federations in other states regarding conflict of interest laws and to determine how other organizations are dealing with this issue. There appeared to be a wide variety of responses. The current structure of CSM does not allow for a quorum to exist so that at-large members can make the decisions on conflicted matters. The committee is continuing their discussion. Their future recommendation seems to be predicated on whether or not CSM is a community driven organization or a member driven organization. They have requested that the board provide feedback and direction on this issue.

VI. Board Discussion: Strategic Planning continued: Paul reviewed the main points from the April meeting and the discussion continued as follows:

- Concern expresses that CSM could lose the historical context of ‘who we are’—a progressive membership group formed to raise money and founded on self-determination and community principles—and become just another federation.
- Concern that CSM won’t be here in 2 years.
- What do we need to do to become more relevant and how is this in conflict from us becoming what we want to become?
- How do we define ‘community’ if not the membership?

- Liking CSM because people are working together to solve problems including how to raise money. By identifying ‘community’ in general terms we basically end up with non participants deciding how to spend the money.
- Originally CSM was not based around workplace giving. Has the giving environment changed enough to relook at ways to raise money?
- Social change is not always progressive and not always fair.
- How do we define social change, social justice and progressive
- Why should a donor give in 2010 without history and faced with a choice of organizations available and a choice of giving methods?
- We have to be able to explain why CSM is different and why they (donors) should give their money to us when they can find any individual organization directly.
- The process needs to be defined as to what we are going to talk about.
- Donor is a key to define as many don’t even work in a traditional workplace anymore.
- Mission is first. We should define our mission and purpose and clarify before we move forward. We need an outside facilitator to move this ahead.
- Define community vs membership.

Discussion will continue at the upcoming board retreat sessions.

Meeting Adjourned: By Paul Mellblom at 5:08 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Regnier, July 8, 2010.