



CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 8, 2010
1:35 p.m. ~ 2:25 p.m.
Dept. of Labor
200 Folly Brook Road
Wethersfield, CT

Members Present

Joseph Duberek (*Emg. Mgmt & Hmld. Sec.*)
Richard Emonds (*CT Culture & Tourism*)
Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)
Burt Gold (*State Retiree*)
Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR* (*Comptroller*)
Bryan Gunning (*Environmental Protection*)
Claudia Helfgott (*Banking*)

Marilyn Kaika (*Transportation Dept.*)
Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)
Tim Newton, *CHAIR* (*Correction*)
Christina Taylor (*Legislative Management*)
Ina Wilson (*Education*)
Denise Worster (*Labor*)
Peggy Zabawar (*Admin. Services*)

Members Absent/Excused

Lt. J. Paul Vance (*Public Safety*)

Federation Representatives

Ann Pean (*CT United Ways*)

Steve Kirck (*Community Health Charities*)

Campaign Staff Present

Jan Gwudz (*Campaign Director*)

Joyce LeBaron (*Campaign Coordinator*)

Meeting Called to Order – Tim Newton

Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Review of May 9, 2010 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the May 26, 2010 meeting summary.

Campaign Update – Jan Gwudz

Jan Gwudz reported:

- **Retiree contributions:** \$27,048
Retirees will have up until June 30th to sign up for payroll deduction.
- **Union Campaign Chair discussion:** Jan explained that since this position has historically been very difficult to fill, she suggested that it seemed prudent to let the search for this position slide. Bryan Gunning, Peggy Gray and Tim Newton concurred.
- **Loaned employee update:** To date, there have been 9 employees approved as well as 5 retirees who will serve as Loaned Employees. Positions still need to be filled for the Middletown, Danbury, Milford and Bridgeport areas.
- **2010 Agency Coordinators/Retirements:** Many who have served in the past have just or will be soon retiring. Therefore, new volunteers are needed to step up to fill the places of those who'd previously served.
- **Changes to Agency Coordinator Meetings:** Starting with the 2010 Campaign, and to accommodate those more experienced and comfortable with acting as agency coordinators, training sessions will only be provided for new volunteers. Returning coordinators will be able to look at refresher materials online on the Campaign website. This new provision will not require experienced coordinators to have to leave their work locations to attend a meeting covering material they have already put into practice. As always, the Campaign staff will be available by phone and email to answer any questions they might have.

Round Table Discussion – Tim Newton

Tim Newton opened this discussion wherein all in attendance could freely participate in a discussion revolving around ways to increase donations, participation and interest in the Campaign. Fundraising ideas were also shared.

Bryan Gunning opened with a summary on the successes of the various events such as a Dunkin Donuts event, a Book Sale, Silent Auction, Bowling, Arts & Crafts, T-Shirts, Jewelry, Shoes and Soccer Match.

More conversation ensued regarding having an event involving the Fire Arms Training Simulator trailer as a possible fundraiser. Bryan Gunning, Joe Duberek and Tim Newton will investigate this possibility.

Denise Worster said that she felt there had been an attitude change and a less-generous feeling because workers are reflecting the disappointment at mandatory furlough time. Their agency stays mostly with outside vendors for fundraising.

Peggy Zabawar expressed similar feelings citing the change in leadership and lack of time to accept responsibilities involving the Campaign. She said that staff is resentful about working on the Campaign because they feel it is not a work related activity. Bryan Gunning suggested that morale can be elevated by presenting a lot of personal recognition awards as he does because ego-building is very motivating as is positive feedback. Jan Gwudz said the campaign can provide agency awards at its annual recognition event in May.

Peggy Zabawar asked how a coordinator gets appointed. Denise Worster answered that DOL has always used an appointment with a title as an incentive to participate. Peggy Gray said that in her office, there is only one person needed to organize their vendor events because the vendor can handle everything.

Additional ideas were presented such as Dept. of Education's cookout, DOT's Halloween party, with a Jello toss, jukebox and costume contest.

All agreed that this discussion was fruitful and at that time Tim Newton commended everyone on the fine attendance.

Partners for a Better World Member Agency resubmission – Tim Newton

Partners for a Better World communicated with Jan that American School for the Deaf had been denied participation because their non-discrimination policy did not meet the CSEC's and state's requirements. The charity wished to be reconsidered for participation in the Campaign by submitting an updated policy after the application deadline had passed. However, it was felt that it is up to each Federation to check to make sure that their own agencies submit the proper information the first time and prior to the deadline. If the Committee were to allow resubmissions after the deadline, committee members felt that it would set a precedent for allowing exceptions and thus negate the rationale behind a submission closing date. Therefore, the request to resubmit their corrected application was denied by the Committee because it was after the deadline. Peggy Zabawar asked if this was fair and if the individual charity sees the CSEC application and rules. Tim Newton explained that it is the responsibility of the Federation and used the example of those who apply for employment with the State through the DAS application process. If a person misses that application deadline no interview is granted. He adamantly declared that a deadline is a deadline. Jan reminded all that if exceptions were granted, it would set a precedent and other dependant processes would be delayed such as the publication of the Directory. In conclusion, the Committee confirmed their decision for denial. Based on the original submission, the American School for the Deaf would not be allowed to participate in the 2010 Campaign.

Adjournment – Tim Newton

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING:

DATE: **September 14, 2010**

TIME: **1:30 p.m.**

PLACE: **Dept. of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington**

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)