



**CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES'
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, September 21, 2010
1:34 p.m. ~ 2:12 p.m.
Dept. of Labor Annex
38 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT

Members Present

Martha Gallagher (*Admin. Services*)
Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)
Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR* (*Comptroller*)
Bryan Gunning (*Environmental Protection*)
Claudia Helfgott (*Banking*)

Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)
Tim Newton, *CHAIR* (*Correction*)
Lt. J. Paul Vance (*Public Safety*)
Ina Wilson (*Education*)
Peggy Zabawar (*Admin. Services*)

Members Absent/Excused

Burt Gold (*State Retiree*)
Joseph Duberek (*Emg. Mgmt & Hmd. Sec.*)
Richard Emonds (*CT Culture & Tourism*)

Marilyn Kaika (*Transportation Dept.*)
Christina Taylor (*Legislative Management*)
Denise Worster (*Labor*)

Federation Representatives

Laurie Dorn (*Community Health Charities*)
Steve Kirck (*Community Health Charities*)

Ann Pean (*CT United Ways*)
Jane Penfield (*Greater Hartford Arts*)

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 1:34 p.m. Martha Gallagher was introduced as the new DAS designee to the committee, replacing Peggy Zabawar who announced that she is unable to attend future CSEC meeting because the meeting date conflicts with her work schedule.

Review of May 9, 2010 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the June 8, 2010 meeting summary.

Discussion & Vote on Over/Under Payment from PCFO – Tim Newton & Laurie Dorn

Community Health Charities of NE CFO, Laurie Dorn, explained that there was an overpayment of \$1,964 to CT State Employees' Federations. In 2007/08 CHCofNE underpaid the federations by \$1,656 due to a 12/31/07 deposit recorded after the final distribution. In 2008/09 CHCofNE overpaid the federations by \$3,620. There was a duplicate booking of \$5,255 offset by a missed deposit of \$1,635 (a frequent retiree amount).

Laurie spoke with the state auditor requesting the \$1,964 overpayment be processed against the 2009/2010 distribution. The auditor suggested the CSEC committee vote to approve her recommendation. Laurie attended the CSEC meeting to answer any questions that the committee may have. Peggy Gray asked if there is a system in place to prevent further incidents from occurring. Laurie noted that Accounting now matches total receipts with the cash available for distribution. The Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation and allow the PCFO to process the net overpayment against the next 09/10 distribution.

Campaign Update – Jan Gwudz

Jan Gwudz reported:

- **Loaned Employee Report:** A Loaned Employee is still needed for the Middletown area and Jan is still looking for recommendations.
- **Joe Duberek:** We have lost Joe Duberek as a LE. Peggy Zabawar would like a specific job description so that she may continue to search for a replacement.
- **Higher Education Commissioner's Office:** This office decided to hold a short, two-week campaign and thus far, is just 3 short of 100% participation.
- Almost all Campaign material has been distributed.
- Interest among some charities has been generated to join the Campaign.
- To date, there are 90 payroll deductions from retirees totaling \$33,936.
- There have been 221 one-time gifts equaling \$10,997.
- For the BJ's promotion, 747 applications have been turned in, netting the Campaign \$3,735 in donations.
- The Campaign website has been completely updated, directing donors and coordinators to materials.

Emails Received – Tim Newton & Jan Gwudz

Two emails* (*see Exhibits A & B, attached as page 3*) expressing concern about the participation of various charitable organizations' participation in the Campaign, were brought to the attention of the Committee. Upon discussion, it was determined that the charities under scrutiny did, in fact, meet the criteria for inclusion in the Campaign. Whereas the Committee appreciates the sensitive consciences of some State employees regarding certain religious or political views, these views would not disqualify these charities from being a part of the Campaign.

Individual Reports – Tim Newton

Tim Newton reported that Dept. of Correction donations and participation seems to be up in most areas.

Bryan Gunning reported that the Dunkin Donut event will most likely take place in November and he would like to see a plaque made for them in recognition of the way they support the Campaign.

Claudia Helfgott reported that Banking is using two new coordinators this year and the Kick-off is Sept 23rd.

Ina Wilson told the Committee that the Education Commissioner's letter will be sent out soon.

Jane Penfield presented the Committee with a plaque of appreciation, stating that the State Campaign is one of their top 10 supporters.

Ann Pean cited housing needs as an example of what many 211 Infoline callers are requesting information on from this information and referral phone service.

Next Meeting & Adjournment – Tim Newton

The meeting was to be held in October but since no business is pending, it was deemed unnecessary. Therefore, the next meeting will be held on November 9. This meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING:

DATE: Tuesday, **November, 2010**

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

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

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)

***PLEASE NOTE:** BELOW IS THE AFOREMENTIONED ATTACHMENT SHOWING EXHIBITS A & B

***Attachment to Meeting Summary of September 21, 2010**

The following are excerpts of two email items received by the Campaign office expressing concern about certain charities and their eligibility to participate in the campaign.

Exhibit A

I am wondering how this political advocacy organization gets tax-exempt status, and why its specific mission is not listed in the CSEC booklet, and why it's even in the booklet. They are engaged in a bigoted hate campaign against Moslems and actively advocate against the separation of church and state, the basic human needs of undocumented immigrants, reproductive freedom, and access to health care for all Americans, to name a few. <http://www.aclj.org/Issues/>.

American Center for Law and Justice | Washington D.C.

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Exhibit B

Hi Tim, I understand that you're the chair of the CT State Employees Campaign committee and that you have a committee meeting coming up soon. While browsing through the 2010 Directory of Charitable Organizations, I came across an organization whose mission does not seem consistent with the CSEC criteria stated below:

* Be engaged in the delivery of charitable and public health, welfare, environmental, conservation or service purposes

The name of the organization is Jews & Gentiles Joined in Messiah (#8157 on page 26 of the directory under Independent Charities of America) and their mission, as stated in the directory is to "raise awareness of Jewish believers in Jesus & support growth of Israel's Messianic (Christian) congregations." I do not believe that raising awareness, i.e., proselytizing, meets the criteria.

I did not do an exhaustive search, but noticed two other organizations that seem to have primarily religious missions, i.e., spreading the word of a particular faith, that don't seem consistent with the criteria:

* #8459 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes

* #7811 - Bible Believers Fellowship, Inc.

Thank you for your consideration.