CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES’ CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 10, 2012
MDC Center
Maxim Road Hartford, CT
1:34 p.m. – 2:14 p.m.

Members Present
Carlos Bonilla (DCF)                      Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (Transportation)
Martha Gallagher (Admin. Services)        Charles Kistler (State Retiree)
Kathleen Gensheimer (Judicial)            Tim Newton CHAIR (Correction)
Burt Gold (State Retiree)                 Christina Taylor (Legislative Management)
Peggy Gray, VICE CHAIR (Comptroller)      Ina Wilson (Education)
Bryan Gunning (Environmental Protection)  

Members Absent/Excused
Joseph Duberek (Emergency Services & Public Protection)
Richard Emonds (CT Culture & Tourism)     Claudia Helfgott (Banking)

Federation Representatives
Steve Kirck (Community Health Charities)
Ann Pean (United Way)                     Judy Weinstein (Greater Hartford Arts))

Campaign Staff
Jan Gwudz (Director)                      Joyce LeBaron (Coordinator)

Meeting Called to Order – Tim Newton
Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:35p.m. A quorum was reached.

Review of December 2011 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton
A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the minutes as presented.

Campaign Update–Jan Gwudz

- Campaign Update: Jan Gwudz reported the Campaign total is just over $1.4M.
- Results from the BJs November promotion total $2,740. The next offering is in February.
- Retirees have donated over $49,000 thus far.
- For the Spring Recognition event two dates were proposed, with the majority preferring a date that falls on a pay day, if the venue is available. Jan will check and report back to the Committee. She asked Tim if a Correction work detail may be available again to help pick up the food from Vinal Tech. It is to be noted that people prefer the food offered by the tech school. Jan will contact Cheryl Cepalak.

Jan asked the committee for ideas on how to thank state employees and retirees for their contributions to the 2011 campaign. Options discussed included: radio interviews, letters to the editor and a Thank You notice on the campaign’s web site.

The purpose of using these methods was explained when Tim said that he did not want the Campaign to take a hit for the cost of a full page advertisement in the newspaper. However, Peggy will contact Anthem to see if funds may be available. Steve Kirck suggested that one letter be drafted and sent to all newspapers. It was explained that the purpose of this letter is to be an OP-ED piece, not a Public Service Announcement or a public relations piece. Jan stated she wants to target specific areas within the state, citing specific agencies and dollar amounts and then send these directly to those newspapers that cover those specific areas.
Jews & Gentiles in Messiah Update — Tim Newton & Peggy Gray

Peggy Gray and Timothy Newton informed the Committee that the Comptroller, Kevin Lembo, would be meeting with an Anti-Defamation League representative on January 17, 2012 and that Peggy will be in attendance. It has been determined so far that the charity in question has signed everything and submitted everything required by State Regulations and has met the criteria. It has been a long-time campaign member. In the 2010 campaign, they received $278. Basically the complaint is that the organization uses subversive methods. However, the Committee does not know this for a fact; all that is known is that the charity has met the State’s criteria for participation in the campaign as stipulated by State regulations. The Committee has been and still is ready to welcome the complainant to come before the Committee to discuss his/her concerns but no one has stepped forward with allegations.

A Committee roll call vote was called for on the question, Should the organization, Jews & Gentiles Joined In Messiah, be allowed to stay in the State Campaign as long as it continues to meet the criteria set forth in the State Regulations?

ROLL CALLED
Carlos Bonilla (DCF) ................................................................. Yes
Martha Gallagher (Admin. Services) ........................................... Yes
Burt Gold (State Retiree) ............................................................. Yes
Peggy Gray, VICE CHAIR (Comptroller) ...................................... Yes
Bryan Gunning (Environmental Protection) ................................. Yes
Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (Transportation) ........................................ Yes
Kathleen Gensheimer (Judicial) .................................................... Yes
Charles Kistler (State Retiree) ..................................................... Yes
Tim Newton CHAIR (Correction) ................................................ Yes
Christina Taylor (Legislative Management) ................................. Yes
Ina Wilson (Education) ............................................................... Yes

The Committee voted unanimously to allow the organization Jews & Gentiles Joined In Messiah to stay in the Campaign as long as it continues to meet the criteria as set forth in the State Regulations.

Other Business — Tim Newton

Tim Newton asked each present, in turn, for other business:

- Charles Kistler—Asked how many Directories are to be ordered for the 2012 Campaign? Answer: 30,000.
- Bryan Gunning—Asked for suggestions how to best thank the various floor coordinators in his agency? Answer: Invite them to the Recognition Luncheon.
- Peggy Gray—The Office of the State Comptroller’s figures are down because of not having many vendors.
- Jan Gwudz—Suggested at the end of March that a meeting for the purpose of instruction or review about how to conduct the Application Review be held. Jan will notify everyone via email once a date is determined and a room is located. Emails will be sent regarding the time and place for the annual Application Review, as well.

Adjournment

There being no more business, a motion was thus made to adjourn at 2:14pm.

Tuesday, February 14, 2012 @ 1:30pm
MDC Center, 100 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)