

CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Office of the State Comptroller, 3rd floor, Conference Room F

55 Elm Street, Hartford

1:35 p.m. – 2:31 p.m.

Members Present

Cindy Cannata (*OGA/FOI*)

Joseph Duberek (*Emergency Ser. & Public Protection*)

Martha Gallagher (*Admin. Services*)

Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR (Comptroller)*

Bryan Gunning (*DEEP*)

Claudia Helfgott (*Banking*)

Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (*Transportation*)

Sheila Hummel (*DECD*)

Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)

Tim Newton *CHAIR (Correction)*

Ina Wilson (*Education*)

Members Absent/Excused

Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)

Christina Taylor (*Legislative Management*)

Federation Representatives

Tom DeCoursey (*Global Impact*)

Steve Kirck (*Community Health Charities*)

Campaign Staff

Jan Gwudz (*Director*)

Joyce LeBaron (*Coordinator*)

Meeting Called to Order – Tim Newton

Committee Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:35p.m. A quorum was reached. At this time, Tim welcomed new Committee members Cindy Cannata from the Office of Governmental Accountability (FOI) and Sheila Hummel from Economic & Community Development.

Review of Sept 2012 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the Sept 11, 2012 minutes as presented.

Retirees – Tim Newton

A question about recognition of Leadership Givers who are retiring was raised. Suggestions of small gifts for just those who are Leadership Givers was discussed. Martha asked how we could track that so as not to slight someone due to an oversight. Perhaps a Certificate of Thanks could be issued and the coordinators within each agency could let the campaign staff know when employees are retiring so staff can check to see if they are a leadership giver. A certificate for any retiring leadership giver will be sent to the agency.

Jan mentioned that employees who are retiring soon are asking how they can continue to give on a monthly basis as a retiree. Peggy reminded all that pension statements are not mailed to retirees any more.

Campaign Update– Jan Gwudz

- Jan distributed a document outlining various events planned to promote the campaign. Discussion ensued regarding the October 25th Bushnell Park Kick-Off event. Jan reviewed the various events and asked invited committee members to attend.
- Regarding the purchased items for the Commissioner/Union breakfast, Peggy Gray brought up a point of order. The Committee does not want the Campaign staff to spend personal monies for any items. She asked that \$1,000 be kept on hand for necessities. Further discussion showed that there can be money in petty cash for such items by simply adding to what is already allotted.

- Jan explained the purpose of the Breakfast is to bring attention to the Campaign and to get the Agency Heads to support and lead by example. Tim supported this idea by giving examples of certain agencies that won't even pick up their materials or distribute them.
- Jan listed the to-date total for the Campaign donations as \$22,746 with an additional \$961 from retirees.
- It was determined that The Burt Gold Dedication Award will be established in Mr. Gold's honor, now that he is retired from the committee.

Round Table discussion – Tim Newton

A discussion ensued regarding certain calls that have been received from State employees objecting to certain charities that they view as "fraudulent." They feel that if a charity is not serving Connecticut but say, is international instead, that it does not belong in the Campaign. Jacqueline wanted to know if this information on requirements can be included in our materials. It is published on our website.

- Peggy reported on attending the Campaign event at the Secretary of State office, where there were many one-time gifts and events such as penny wars being held. The managers supplied the food. Cindy Cannata stated that this was reassuring; Peggy said that everyone was very supportive.
- Claudia reported that her agency was holding a pancake breakfast and had coin jars.
- Martha said that the slide show has been shown and DAS will also have speakers and a golf tournament, with the Commissioner attending.
- Sheila described "fun raising," speakers and other events.
- Jacqueline mentioned an auction and bake sale at her agency.
- Bryan reminded the Committee of the upcoming soccer game and the Kick-Off.
- Cindy talked of special events being planned at the Government Accountability Office.
- Joe informed the committee that he would be sending out the pledge cards soon and that his agency will be having vendor sales, even into February.
- Ina explained that she was waiting for the Education Commissioner to send out information to employees; Peggy asked that the Commissioner receive a visit, but Ina said that he'd been traveling a lot around the state.
- Claudia asked if the Commissioners have a monthly meeting. Jan answered that yes, and either the Governor or Mark Ojakian, will be speaking on behalf of the Campaign.
- Tim described Correction at being close to 50% of goal.
- Peggy recounted an experience wherein a single mother stated that she can only give \$4 a pay period and that it means that her children have to take lunch from home instead of buying it but that she feels that this small sacrifice is the "right thing to do" for charity.
- Tom DeCoursey related that he'd been to DCF in Danbury to speak to about 200 people. He used the demonstration with the clean water tablets and the Plumpy nutritional product.
- Jan asked committee members how she and Joyce could get a timely response to proofing documents when they are emailed to them so that work can progress appropriately. Jacqueline said that the Committee should be given a deadline by which to respond.

Meeting Adjournment –Peggy Gray

Tim asked for a motion to adjourn, with a reminder that the next meeting would be held on

Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 55 Elm Street, Hartford.

The meeting concluded at 2:31p.m.

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)