

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

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

55 Elm Street, Hartford

1:30p.m. – 2:47 p.m.

### Members Present

Valerie Clark (*OPM*) (*Excused early*)

Jason Crisco (*Admin. Services*)

Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)

Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR* (*Comptroller*)

Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (*Transportation*)

Patrick Kilby (*CHRO*)

Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)

Kristen Miller (*Legislative Mgmt.*)

Tim Newton *CHAIR* (*Correction*)

### Members Excused

Cindy Cannata (*OGA/FOI*)

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

Sheila Hummel (*DECD*)

Ina Wilson (*Education*)

### Federation Representatives

Ann Pean (*UW*)

Lorna Sager (*CHC*)

### Campaign Staff

Jan Gwudz (*Director*)

Joyce LeBaron (*Coordinator*)

### **Meeting Called to Order --- Meeting Summary --- Tim Newton**

Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. The Minutes from the previous meeting of November 18, 2014 were approved, and were unanimously accepted.

### **Nominating Committee for Chair/Vice Chair --- Kathleen Gensheimer**

Kathleen Gensheimer, Charlie Kistler and Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq served on the Nominating Committee for the Chair/Vice Chair positions in 2015. Kathleen announced that there were six submissions in all; three for Tim Newton for Chair and three for Peggy Gray for Vice-Chair. Motions were made and unanimously in favor and both Tim and Peggy graciously accepted the positions for 2015. Both Tim and Peggy reiterated that should anyone else be interested in either position that they were willing to concede. Both pledged support of any new officers, citing examples of times when they each had to call previous committee chairs for readily-given advice.

### **SmartPhone Application --- Patrick Kilby**

Patrick requested tabling of this subject as he is still gathering information. He offered to email it to each of the Committee members when the information was prepared. The Committee agreed.

### **Campaign Update --- Jan Gwudz**

Jan Gwudz informed the Committee that as of Tuesday, December 9, that the 2014 Campaign total thus far was about \$900,000, not all of it having been entered into the database as some had just been received that morning. BJs garnered 718 applications, resulting in \$3,590, the highest total received from them so far. The Campaign has received about \$50,000 from State Retirees.

### **Rolling Over Pledges from One Year to the Next, Continuously --- Kathleen Gensheimer**

Kathleen reported on requests she'd had from several Judges who would like to have an opportunity to simply allow their individual pledges to be in effect continuously, year to year, without having to complete a new pledge card each year. Peggy and Jan explained that this is not possible because by State Law, the Campaign has to have a signature each year to become effective for that year.

### Plaques and Awards --- Jan Gwudz

Jan explained that while the various plaques and awards presented at the annual luncheon recognition event were intended to show honor for unusual merit and to create friendly competition, the opposite has happened in the case of Dept. of Children & Families, Norwich. Because that department wins the award each and every year, others disregard it, because it is almost expected. It was suggested and accepted that we discontinue presenting that award.

A discussion then ensued regarding a three to four tier system be put in place, ranking all agency by size, similar to how high school sports are ranked. Jan will return to the next meeting with a list of all agencies with how many employees are in each. The Committee will then decide how to rank them and base awards on percentage of increase in donations from an agency's prior year campaign total. Tim said that this would be good as we need to change the awards to "keep it fresh."

Jan requested a definitive answer regarding the number of Directories to be published next year. It was decided to print 27,500. Sticky computer calendars and pens were popular giveaways and will be used again for the coming year. A request that the pens provided should have blue ink was discussed as official documents now need to be signed in blue ink to differentiate the originals from photocopies done in black. Charlie requested a price check on spiral bound note pads; while Jan said that last time she checked they were too expensive, she would check again.

### State Agency Campaign Updates --- Committee Members

Kathleen Gensheimer requested that the various awards discussed previously in this meeting be posted in a special section on the CSEC website so people can see who won.

Charlie Kistler said that he will be picking up probably the last UConn Health Center pledges this week.

Tim announced that Correction is at \$100,000, close to their goal. He credits the dedicated core of coordinators in his agency. He also suggested that Mr. Lembo have a meeting with the head of UConn Health Center as a type of commissioner visit.

Kristen Miller reported that while her agency is donating about \$26,000, it is down about 5% from last year.

Jason Crisco mentioned that his agency still is having vendors and events and praised their coordinator, Kelly Dillon.

Patrick Kilby said he would have liked to use a desirable parking spot as an incentive for participation, so Jackie suggested a silent auction or something similar. Lorna mentioned that at a state agency she recently visited they have an official sign announcing that this spot was won by someone donating to the CSEC. He also asked about meeting with Commissioners; Jan stated that most have been met with and that is only something we do in the springtime as staff is busy with campaign related duties.

### Executive Session --- Peggy Gray

At 2:07pm, Peggy Gray requested that the Committee go into Executive Session; Jan Gwudz was asked to stay for informational purposes.

### Meeting Adjournment --- Tim Newton

At 2:46pm, the Committee came out of Executive Session. Tim asked for a motion to adjourn, with a reminder that the next meeting will be held on:

**REMINDER: NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2015 at 1:30pm**

The meeting concluded at 2:47pm.  
(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)