

Signed: _____
Date: _____

**CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 16, 2014**

Office of the State Comptroller, 3rd floor, Conference Room F
55 Elm Street, Hartford
1:33p.m. – 2:19 p.m.

Members Present

Cindy Cannata (<i>OGA/FOI</i>)	Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (<i>Transportation</i>)
Valerie Clark (<i>OPM</i>)	Charles Kistler (<i>State Retiree</i>)
Joseph Duberek (<i>Emergency Ser. & Public Protection</i>)	Kristen Miller (<i>Legislative Mgmt.</i>)
Peggy Gray, <i>VICE CHAIR (Comptroller)</i>	Tim Newton <i>CHAIR (Correction)</i>
Kathleen Gensheimer (<i>Judicial</i>)	Ina Wilson (<i>Education</i>)

Members Excused

Jason Crisco (<i>Admin. Services</i>)	Patrick Kilby (<i>CHRO</i>)
Sheila Hummel (<i>DECD</i>)	

Federation Representatives

Gary Kozak (<i>CHC</i>)	Lorna Sager (<i>CHC</i>)
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Campaign Staff

Jan Gwudz (<i>Director</i>)	Joyce LeBaron (<i>Coordinator</i>)
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Meeting Called to Order ---Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:38 pm. The Minutes from the previous meeting of May 13, 2014 were approved, and were unanimously accepted.

Commissioners/Union Breakfast – Jan Gwudz

Jan Gwudz presented the plan for the annual Commissioners/Union Breakfast. It was decided that the breakfast be held after the upcoming elections. The same venue at the Executive Dining Room within the Legislative Office Building was chosen along with a similar menu to last year's highly successful event. The agenda should be kept very informal to encourage and allow for free conversation and participation from attendees. Jan will check with the Comptroller's office on a date and disseminate that information to the Committee via email.

Kick-Off Summary—Jan Gwudz

A recap of the Annual Campaign Kick-Off summarized a well-attended event. Though some felt that the crowd was larger than in 2013, Jan explained that there were about 350-400 in attendance. However, many of the committee expressed that the crowd seemed to have a lot of fun and that the event was entertaining and exciting. The crowd was enthusiastic about the vintage and antique cars. Tim Newton indicated that something similar be used for next year, and strongly suggested motorcycles. Joe Duberek stated he had a contact at Gengras Harley Davidson and would contact the business and get back to the Committee with answers when he received them. It was noted that State employees are not shy about helping themselves. Jan then suggested that next year we use a Fall/Harvest theme, soliciting donations from local orchards and using pumpkins, hay bales, apples, cider and mums. Jan said that though she'd researched using the Armory she was told that we'd be charged, so that it would be cost-prohibitive. Joe Duberek volunteered to contact them to see if that could be side-stepped.

Entrance by Mr. Lembo – Tim Newton

At this time, Kevin Lembo stopped in to the meeting to say hello, to update the Committee on his recent Campaign activities and to show his support. He reported that he had visited several agencies such as Insurance and Dept. of Correction. Tim expressed appreciation for Mr. Lembo's Campaign support and his willingness to serve as the 2014 Statewide Chair. Mr. Lembo thanked the Committee and staff and then concluded his visit.

Campaign Update – Jan Gwudz

Cindy Cannata described a potential problem wherein a DAS worker expressed concern that the Campaign utilizes the DAS courier service for delivery of Campaign materials, as, the worker stated, the Campaign is not a State agency. Jan explained that the DAS mailroom supervisor, Mike, did not feel that way and in fact, has been extremely supportive. Furthermore, Jan cited the fact that many years ago the Campaign was granted permission to use the service and Tim corroborated this information. Additionally, the Judicial Branch has been working in conjunction with the DAS courier service and the Campaign staff to get the bulkier items to the mailroom. The Committee wanted to go on record to thank DAS for their service on behalf of the Campaign.

Jan reported that the Retiree solicitation was going well. To date 183 one time gifts in the amount of \$10,653 have been received and \$9,180 in monthly deductions was pledged by 47 donors.

In discussing retiree giving, the topic of offering donors an option to donate online was brought up. The State Comptroller's office does not have an electronic signature system in place at this time but is working on developing this process now. Other online payment options, such as GoFundMe.com and PayPal take a 10% fee and credit cards charge about 3%. As these methods of online donation deplete the Campaign, these are not viable approaches.

Jan reported that the possibility of a statewide email introduction/reminder about the Campaign is being reviewed. Kathleen requested a personalized message for the Judicial Branch.

It was announced that Jason Crisco and his wife just welcomed a baby son. Since the Committee maintains the Sunshine Fund, Peggy suggested that in lieu of flowers, it would be helpful for the new parents to receive a meal delivery from a local restaurant. Jan will purchase and send this to the Crisco family.

Community Health Charities Update Gary Kozak — President, CHC of NE

Gary Kozak, President of Community Health Charities of New England spoke about the budget and that CHC of NE will be joining the national organization, Community Health Charities of America. The national organization does not want to carry over staff banked time earned from employment with Community Health Charities of NE. Gary explained that the national office wants this issue "cleaned up before the merger." Gary will send Jan the value of the banked days so the committee can review and vote on it, since the current 2014/15 CSEC operating budget was approved in February 2014.

Opportunity for each attendee to speak — Tim Newton

Charlie: UConn received all their materials

Kathleen: Requests that printing the Directory from the website be suppressed so that employees don't waste paper.

Cindy: Just starting her campaign and does have events planned.

Kristen: Defers

Valerie: Has already reached 17% of her goal; hopes to go paperless in the future.

Ina: Just starting

Joe: Will have a book sale. Has no official announcement from Commissioner

Jacqueline: Has done or will be doing a number of events including Club 26, coin wars, Ice Bucket challenge.

Lorna: Commented on success of Kick-Off and that she'd heard positive comments that the event was well-received.

Joyce: Offered PowerPoint presentations to any who would like to use them.

Tim: DOC already has \$10,000 and he projects over \$100,000 since they've hired 900 new officers over the last 2 years.

Peggy: She has a brand new coordinator. Has pending vendor sales.

Meeting Adjournment — Tim Newton

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

REMINDER: NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY October 14, 2014 at 1:30pm

The meeting concluded at 2:19 p.m.

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)