

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

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

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

55 Elm Street, Hartford

1:34 p.m. – 2:17 p.m.

Members Present

Cindy Cannata (*OGA/FOI*)

Martha Gallagher (*Admin. Services*)

Kathleen Gensheimer (*Judicial*)

Peggy Gray, *VICE CHAIR (Comptroller)*

Claudia Helfgott (*Banking*)

Sheila Hummel (*DECD*)

Charles Kistler (*State Retiree*)

Tim Newton *CHAIR (Correction)*

Chris Taylor (*Legislative Management*)

Members Excused

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

Jacqueline Henry Rafiq (*Transportation*)

Bryan Gunning (*DEEP*)

Ina Wilson (*Education*)

Federation Representatives

Steve Kirck (*CHC*)

Laura McLelland (*GHAC*)

Ann Pean (*UW*)

Campaign Staff

Jan Gwudz (*Director*)

Joyce LeBaron (*Coordinator*)

Meeting Called to Order – Tim Newton

Committee Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:34p.m. A quorum was reached.

Review of November 2012 Meeting Summary – Tim Newton

A motion was presented and unanimously passed to accept the November 2012 minutes as presented.

Nominating Committee

Kathleen Gensheimer, on behalf of Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq and Charlie Kistler, reported that Tim Newton (chair) and Peggy Gray (vice chair) have been nominated to represent the committee as chair and vice chair, respectively for 2013, stating "If you [*Tim and Peggy*] are willing to continue to serve, we make a motion to accept you as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Campaign for 2013." This motion was unanimously passed by the Committee; Timothy Newton will serve as Chair and Peggy Gray will serve as Vice-Chair for 2013. The Committee also thanked them for their continued work.

Campaign Update– Jan Gwudz

- Jan reports that the BJs promotion has garnered more than \$8,000 for the Campaign, with \$2,650 from the November promotion alone.
- The Campaign results thus far total \$710,987.
- Some highlights are:
 - Correction, Insurance, Three Rivers, Secretary of the State's Office and Motor Vehicles have already surpassed their respective 2011 totals. Jan attributes the outstanding success of DMV, for instance, to its strong backing by Commissioner Currey.
 - UCONN Health Center and UCONN Storrs are down considerably from last year.
 - After the Commissioner Breakfast, DDS and DMV Commissioners went back to their offices and sent out emails to their staffs.

- Martin Heft from the Lt. Governor's office had suggested that the committee look at starting the Campaign in July. The start date would be contingent on when the application review is completed and approvals for participation are granted. If they review are final approvals are completed by June 1st, then the Campaign could start in July. Peggy Gray then made a motion to change the Campaign start date to earlier in the summer and finish by November 15th.
- Peggy Gray updated the committee on a meeting that she and Bryan Gunning had with an employee who made a complaint about one of the approved charities listed in the 2012 directory. Bryan Gunning and Peggy Gray met with the person for over an hour. The complainant claims that one charity is anti-gay in practice despite the fact that it signed off on the anti-discrimination policy, as required by State Regulation. Bryan looked on the website with the complainant who pointed out that it was a "Christian organization" and that "they are against gays." The person then said that he still wants to register a complaint. Chris Taylor had done some research as well. She noted that the organization's website did refer to boycotting "Mix It Up at Lunch Day." Supposedly the boycott is a thinly veiled attempt to prevent the promotion of the homosexual lifestyle in public schools. The State does not condone any statement by a charity. The Committee cannot go any deeper than the regulations, which state that a charity must sign off on the anti-discrimination policy. Peggy gave the campaign's Norwich office address to the person to lodge a complaint by mail.
- Discussion ensued regarding acknowledgements. Jan stated that she has been told by several donors that acknowledgments are not being received. Peggy and Jan will work on clarifying the CSEC acknowledgment policy, which will include information about the solicitation of donors. The application will also inform federations and the United Ways of a new committee policy that will require the filing, with the PCFO, of an annual report regarding the distribution of CSEC funds to their member charities. The policy must be adhered to by 2015.
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Round Table comments —Tim Newton

- Sheila Hummel reported that her campaign is wrapping up but it is hard to compete against the Governor's Care and Share and the efforts made on behalf of the Hurricane Sandy victims.
- Chris Taylor pointed out that her campaign is down 2%, exactly the amount as those who've retired.
- Cindy Cannata commented that FOI is down as well.
- Martha Gallagher explained her plan to put out another call for cards and that her agency had another vendor, which should generate more money.
- Charlie Kistler planned on making another call to UCONN.
- Peggy Gray said that many people have been giving to an in-house situation wherein an employee suffered a tragedy.
- Peggy Gray reported that a one time gift retiree solicitation form would be going out in a late December mailing. She said discussions are still taking place regarding the possibility of an on line retiree form for those who wish to sign up for a monthly deduction.

Meeting Adjournment —Tim Newton

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

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 55 Elm Street, Hartford.

The meeting concluded at 2:17 p.m.

(Respectfully submitted by Joyce LeBaron)