

Signed: _____
Dated: _____

**CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES' CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

Office of the State Comptroller, 3rd floor Conference Room F
55 Elm Street, Hartford
1:38 pm – 2:32 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cindy Cannata (FOI)

Valerie Clark (OPM)

Kathleen Gensheimer (Judicial)

Peggy Gray, VICE CHAIR (Comptroller)

Ina Wilson (Education)

Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq (DOT)

Charles Kistler (State Retiree)

Tim Newton CHAIR (Correction)

Joshua Scollins (DAS)

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sheila Hummel (DECD)

Kristen Miller (Legislative Mgmt.)

CAMPAIGN STAFF

Jan Gwudz (Director)

Joyce LeBaron (Coordinator)

GUEST

Jacqueline Kozin (Comptroller's Office Staff)

FEDERATION(s)

Ann Pean (United Way)

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

Chair Tim Newton called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

The minutes from the previous meeting of November 8, 2016 were approved, and were unanimously accepted.

Nominating Committee---Kathleen Gensheimer

Kathleen Gensheimer explained that the Nominating Committee received many nominations but that the final unanimous decisions are Tim Newton for Chair, and Peggy Gray for Vice Chair. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously, and Tim and Peggy accepted the decision to serve for the next year.

Vote on revised non-discrimination policy --- Tim Newton

Tim Newton presented a motion that the present non-discrimination policy be revised to again include the phrase "sexual orientation" as it has been in the past and was inadvertently missed in the latest revision. The corrected version was accepted; a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Campaign Update--- Jan Gwudz

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS: Jan Gwudz detailed that presently, the Campaign total stands at \$780,000, not counting what was just received today at this meeting. She quoted Campaign standings for this same week in past years to demonstrate that based on those figures; the 2016 campaign total is lower by \$88,000 compared to last year during this same time period. Jan noted that there were a lot more "do not wish to give" returned cards than had been received in the past. Josh Scollins mentioned that there has been a recent increase in the cost of personal and family insurance for managers and that this is being used as a reason by some to not contribute. Discussion ensued

about the timing of other campaigns, such as the Governor's Care and Share; people not understanding what the Campaign is all about, as well as some confusion in reference to the CSEC being called the United Way Campaign.

BJS PROMOTION: Jan reported that the promotion has received an all-time high of 854 applications, which will result in a donation of more than \$4,000 to the Campaign.

EVENT: Jan provided information about a possible basketball tournament that she received from a discussion with Howard Dickenmen. He was not encouraging because of the amount of work and personnel that it takes to put on a tournament. However, another source has made additional suggestions to be researched. Jacqueline Kozin will check with her contact about using the Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection's space for a family game night in February. A night during the week of February school vacation would be preferable.

Around the Table Discussion — Tim

- Jacqueline Kozin stated that only 22 people in her office have donated and morale is down; people are overwhelmed with budget cuts and layoffs.
- Charlie Kistler said he would check on the UCONN Health Center's donations.
- Kathleen Gensheimer explained that Judicial has had 167 retirements and 300 layoffs. Email reminders with the pledge card and links attached are sent to all employees. She also suggested that a special announcement with graphics and logos be created so that each agency will have their own, personal campaign flyer/message.
- Jan reported that the first payroll deduction file will be sent through the CORE CT system on December 21 in order for contributions to be taken from the first pay period in January.
- Josh Scollins says that Dept. of Administrative Services is down by 50% in donations due to the move in location and because of layoffs. DAS did have some very successful events, but these events do not have the same impact a regular donation.
- Jacqueline Henry-Rafiq said that the Dept. of Transportation campaign is concluded, with \$5,800 in events, \$25,000 in pledge card donations. Her report did not include any online donations.
- Cindy said that Freedom of Information will not enjoy 100% participation. It was discussed that even if people purchased something at an event that that would count as participation and/or that a donation could be made in a sealed envelope marked confidential and submitted directly to the campaign office.
- Cindy also mentioned that she found out that there is one employee at the Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection who uses her own personal or vacation time to work on events for the campaign. She would like her and the DEEP coordinator to be recognized at the Spring Recognition Luncheon.
- Ina reported that the Dept. of Education does not have many donations.

Executive Session — Tim Newton

The Committee went into Executive Session at 2:15pm, and concluded at 2:30pm. The meeting adjourned at 2:32pm.

NEXT MEETING: February 14, 2017 at 1:30pm