

Arizona Democratic Party
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Caucus
January 2009 Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2009
Wyndham Hotel, Phoenix, AZ

Officers Present:

Les Krambeal- Chair
Amanda Simpson- Vice Chair
C.J. Carezza- Secretary
Bob Bland- Treasurer

Members & Guests:

Trish Rensink, Sharon Thomas, Stephen Cody, Devin Rankin
Becky Coran, Kenny Jacobs, Amelia Craig Cramer,
Paul Durham, Daria Lohman, Leonard Walker, Steve Brittle
additional guests may have been present who did not sign in.

Called to Order: Meeting was called to order at 11:00am

Introductions: Brief introductions of all those present were made.

Elections: Exiting Chair, Les Krambeal explained the election procedures and nominated for chair, Paul Durham. His nomination was seconded by Kenny Jacobs. Having no other nominations, Paul was elected by unanimous consent..

Steve Brittle nominated for vice-chair, Barb McCullough-Jones. Her nomination was seconded by Bob Bland. Having no other nominations, Barb was elected by unanimous consent.

Bob Bland nominated for Secretary C.J. Carezza. His nomination was seconded by Barbara McCullough-Jones. Having no other nominations, C.J. was re-elected by unanimous consent.

Becky Coran nominated for Treasurer Bob Bland. His nomination was seconded by Kenny Jacobs. Having no other nominations Bob was re-elected by unanimous consent.

Committee Breakout: The 4 standing committees held break-out sessions and reported back to Paul their choice for committee chairs. The following people were appointed to the respective committees:

- Amelia Craig-Cramer - Membership
- Stephen Cody - Rules & By-laws
- Devin Rankin - fundraising
- Trish Rensink - Regional Advisory

General Business:

- Elections having been completed newly elected chair Paul Durham began the meeting by opening the floor to discussion about ideas for a 2 year strategic plan.
 - Daria Lohman - We should get aggressive with candidates running for offices to prepare them for issues specific to the LGBT community.
 - We need to make sure that we are prepared with literature, facts, & additional information as needed.
 - Amelia Craig-Cramer - We should create a list of legislative issues and organize them in a priority of most important to deal with.
 - Steve Cody - Work with other caucuses to help spread the message to a wider audience.
 - C.J. Carezza - Is a member of the Progressive caucus.
 - Bob Bland - Is a member of the Hispanic caucus.

- Daria Lohman – is a member of the veterans Caucus.
 - Ken Jacobs – It is likely that in 2010 there will be an anti-gay adoption measure on the ballot. We need to be prepared to take our message to those outside the State Committee Participants.
 - Leonard Walker – We should take our message to places like churches.
 - Becky Corran – We should host PC training and encourage members of the LGBT community to become new PC's.
 - Devin Rankin (AZ Dem Party) – The Caucus should work to create a fact sheet. Many people in the legislature just do not have the awareness of the hardships felt by the LGBT community.
 - Daria Lohman – Need to work out a messaging campaign that stresses on how civil rights should not be taken away based on a majority vote.
 - Steve Brittle – Create a \$5.00 club and at the same time work closely with candidates who are running clean, to help them with their \$5's.
 - Andrea (?) – Create strong relationships with all of the candidates.
 - Paul Durham – We should work to establish a 2 way communication with not just candidates and Legislatures, but with the State Party as well.
 - Devin Rankin – Reach out to opponents within the party to create an ally vs. creating an enemy.
 - Trish Rensink – Back in the 60's everyone wanted to be an activist, The Obama election has once again inspired people to become active. We need to identify those people and work to keep them activated throughout the next 2 – 4 years.
- The Following candidates for various State Committee executive board positions spoke to caucus members.
 - Charlene Fernandez – 1st Vice Chair
 - Paul Eckerstrom – Chair
 - Harriet Young – 1st vice Chair
 - Mohur Sidwah – 2nd vice Chair
 - Bree Behlke – Vice Chair (Represented by Katie Hobbs)
 - Vince Rabago – Vice Chair
 - Jo Kelleher – Vice Chair
 - Ruben Gallego – Vice Chair
 - Harriet Young – Vice Chair

Adjournment:

- A Motion to adjourn was made by C.J. Carezza, and seconded by Barb McCullough-Jones. The motion was carried, and meeting was adjourned.