

MASW Central Chapter Board Meeting Report
2 pm, Wednesday February 17, 2010
606 East Capitol, JC

Present: Stu Murphy, Barbara Ross, John Bennett, Stephanie Pate, Jim Hill, Don Love (reporting)

The meeting was held in conjunction with the Economic Justice Task Force, which included a presentation by Kelly Anthony with Jobs for Justice. What she said about JwJ being a “campaign-based” organization is useful to MASW. JwJ picks issues that can be won and then rallies supporters from as many different groups as possible around it. And they urge a “solidarity pledge” – that groups that receive help in one campaign will help groups in the next campaign, even if it’s not their prime focus.

Kelly also spoke about combating harmful initiative petitions with “decline to sign” tactics – explaining to potential signers why a petition is a bad idea. We will try to help with a training in Columbia.

1. Financial Report: Current balance \$774.85. Don is in trouble with the auditors for not saving a receipt for lunch at the Copper Kettle, but now he knows better.

2. programs/initiatives in planning stages.

a. Scott Perkins, David Huddlestonsmith and Don Love are collaborating on anti-bullying/suicide prevention. David is working on a survey to document the need for support. The profiling project will fit well with diversity training in schools.

b. HRTF Profiling: Columbia police chief Ken Burton is cooperating with this effort to improve law enforcement by reducing unconscious bias and building better links to community groups, especially minorities.

c. HRTF: The Only Good Indian: movie presented by director, 4 pm, Thursday, March 4, Langston Hughes Theater, LU, followed by ad hoc dinner.

d. HRTF is also working on hate crimes, immigration issues, job discrimination, universal design, and legislative issues.

e. The Campaign for a Taser-Free Zone has become the main focus of most Columbia activists, with a voter initiative petition. Don will continue to represent control efforts, but CC supports Taser-free Zone.

f. healthcare reform: Amy Smoucha is willing to speak in Columbia. We’ll look for a good time to do this.

g. Economic Justice TF is interested in a lobby day: CC will support

h. Oxfam/Global Warming event March 2, Jeff City Library.

i. Foster Care Lobby Day: CC will help present DeAnna Alonso’s legislative priorities (aging out of foster care and equal distribution of resources statewide) at the capitol. She also needs help influencing Corrections to keep track of former foster care youths who have ended up in prison, so the problem can be better documented.

j. Stephen A. Glassman, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission Chair, is being brought to LU by Kylar Brodhus March 10 and 11. HRTF may use grant money for an evening, open-to-the-public event.

3. Lobby Days:

a. Mira: Tuesday, 2/23. I can't find confirmation of this, so check before going.

b. PROMO Equality Day, Wednesday, 3/24; CC will contribute a \$50 sponsorship.

4. Student Advocacy Day (Tuesday, March 2): It should be a rewarding experience for CC members to make contact with these students who are training in social work. The students should benefit from contact with people in the profession. CC will help staff an MASW table for the students to go to if they have questions or concerns while they are in the capitol. Chapter members are invited to the Governor office building at 1pm- for lunch and the wrap up session.

5. Next meeting: 3 pm, Monday, March 15, CSJ.

Don Love