

National Youth Rights Association
Board Meeting Minutes, 2/19/2006

Roll Call:

Present:

Robert Reynolds	President
Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Jessica Caralize	Director
Chris Howell	Director
Jay Leff	Director
Keith Mandell	Director

Absent:

Alex Koroknay-Palicz Executive Director

Officer Reports:

Robert Reynolds reported that he was learning more about fundraising, and that he would be able to apply it to NYRA. Pamela Tatz reported that the Berkeley chapter had not been particularly active. Alex Koroknay-Palicz did not deliver a report. Katrina Moncure reported that NYRA had about \$2,500 dollars. Scott Davidson reported his activities to the board. There were no serious concerns regarding any of the reports.

Agenda:

The agenda was rather extensive. Some items were moved around and tabled on account of the Executive Director's absence.

"Give Five" Time Donation Proposal

Keith Mandell had suggested that NYRA members be encouraged to donate five hours of their time through short, distinct assignments. This would give potentially active members an easy way to become involved, and would provide NYRA with some much needed research. Members would research DC area high schools that could be potential recruiting targets, potentially sympathetic law professors, etc. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea.

Out Reach to DC Area High Schools

Keith Mandell reported that he sent Alex Koroknay-Palicz a list of high schools that he should contact. This item was not discussed at length, as Alex was not present.

Introducing NYRA to Youth Advocacy Law Professors

At this time, Robert Reynolds left the meeting and Pamela Tatz became chairperson. This item was tabled, as Alex was absent.

Possible Position Paper on Parenting

Scott Davidson introduced this item, and briefly explained that he felt there was a need for a position on youth rights friendly parenting in NYRA's platform, but withdrew the item until a later date.

Encourage Executive Director to Put Disclaimer on Forums

At the time of the meeting, NYRA's forums still did not have a disclaimer. The board agreed that this needed to be done as soon as possible.

Amending Resolution 00-1

00-1 is an important resolution limiting NYRA's policy. Scott Davidson felt that the first clause of this resolution was too restrictive and possibly ageist, so he introduced a resolution to amend it.

The first part of 00-1 previously read: "The issues upon which the organization acts are limited to those affecting people in their teens and 20s in the United States."

The first portion of 00-1 now reads: "NYRA focuses on issues affecting young people in the United States."

Discussion of Abortion Position

NYRA currently has a position of neutrality on abortion and all issues surrounding it, including parental notification laws. Recently, a potential chapter in Oregon wanted to work on parental notification laws, and was told they could not, which sparked a heated debate over the merits of the neutrality position.

Davidson and Koroknay-Palicz are staunch supporters of the current position. Jason Kende, Chris Batchelor, and Jay Leff think it should be amended. While they feel that NYRA should not take a position on abortion itself, they think that parental notification laws are something chapters and even the national office should be working against. Those who support the current policy agree that parental notification laws are ageist, but they feel that since abortion is such a divisive issue it is impossible to separate it from the issue of parental notification, even if you attempt to do so in a position paper. The discussion was rather long winded and inconclusive. The board agreed to look in to this again at a special meeting to be held in the near future.

Resolutions:

05-06 Resolution 20:

Resolution 00-1 amended. The board hereby resolves to amend resolution 00-1. The first part of the resolution, which read “The issues upon which the organization acts are limited to those affecting people in their teens and 20s in the United States,” shall now read “NYRA focuses on issues affecting young people in the United States.”