

National Youth Rights Association  
Board Meeting Minutes, 3/2/2006

**Roll Call:**

(Note: This was a specially scheduled board meeting. There was some confusion as to the time and date of the meeting, which made it more difficult for directors to attend.)

Present:

Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Jess Caralize	Director
Keith Mandell	Director

Absent:

Robert Reynolds	President
Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Chris Howell	Director
Jay Leff	Director

**Officer Reports:**

The President, Vice President, and Executive Director did not submit reports, as this was a specially scheduled meeting. The Secretary reported that he was preparing an extensive report on NYRA policy. The Treasurer reported that NYRA currently had over \$2,500 in its name.

**Agenda:**

Increasing Quorum Requirement

As the NYRA board has grown considerably over the years, both in the number of members and its level of activity, many in NYRA felt that the current minimum for a quorum was too low. Scott Davidson proposed that the board change the minimum from three to five directors. There was some concern that it would be difficult for the board to make last minute decisions with five being the minimum for a quorum, but the board felt that in such instances the Executive Committee could make decisions on behalf of the board. The resolution was approved by a 4-0 vote after little discussion.

Abortion and Parental Notification Discussion

There had recently been a lot of debate in regard to NYRA's position of neutrality on issues pertaining to abortion. That debate was covered in the minutes of the February meeting. Jason Kende, one of NYRA's most active members and a vocal critic of the current policy, attended the specially scheduled March meeting to discuss some of his

concerns. Jason was unsure of the purpose of the March meeting. He felt that it should have been more effectively announced. Essentially, Mr. Kende stated that he could either get signatures to have a proposal put on the ballot this summer, (which he felt would be “easy”,) or the board could hold a widely publicized meeting to discuss the issue and reach some sort of conclusion later in the term. Davidson felt that it would be foolish to have the membership vote directly on the issue, as many members don’t have an in depth understanding of youth rights issues and NYRA’s role in the greater movement. Davidson introduced a resolution to better educate NYRA’s membership in regard to said issues, then withdrew his motion and instead offered a general suggestion that NYRA do more in the way of internal education. The board lost quorum in the middle of this discussion, but generally agreed that a meeting would be better than the signature route.

Note: The discussion that took place after this item was not technically part of the meeting, as the board had lost quorum.

#### NYRAthon 2006

Last year, NYRA held a highly successful fundraiser, known as NYRAthon. The NYRA board agreed that such a fundraiser should be an annual event. Keith Mandell proposed that the fundraiser include a service component. Eventually, the board decided to keep the contest largely the same as it had been the previous year, but to also have a service based contest in the fall. NYRAthon 2006 was announced to the membership not long after the meeting.

#### Networking, NYRA-NYC Campaign

Keith Mandell and others felt that Alex Koroknay-Palicz needed to do more with regard to networking. Koroknay-Palicz felt that while networking is good when done in the right way, networking for abstract support is often counterproductive. Davidson disagreed, and argued that abstract support has some value. Kende, who was still present, and is an active member of NYRA’s New York Chapter, proposed that National use the NYC campaign as an opportunity to network. The discussion soon drifted, and those present talked about how national could work synergistically with the New York chapter. Eventually Koroknay-Palicz agreed to write a sample letter, and Davidson agreed to provide some flyer content and possibly do workshops.

#### **Resolutions:**

##### **05-06 Resolution 21**

The board hereby resolved to amend the bylaws, in such a fashion that the minimum number of board members necessary to constitute a quorum be raised from three to five.

Votes For:

Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer

Scott Davidson  
Keith Mandell

Secretary  
Director

Votes Against:

None.

(Note: Jess Caralize was not present at the time of this vote.)