

National Youth Rights Association
Board Meeting Minutes, 4/23/2006

Roll Call:

Present:

Robert Reynolds	President
Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Chris Howell	Director
Keith Mandell	Director

Absent:

Jess Caralize	Director
Jay Leff	Director

Officer Reports:

The Executive Director sent a report to the board via email. Among other things, the report indicated that he and Mike Males had been working on generating some media attention for Males' teen driving study. They secured a radio appearance. The report also stated that NYRA was not going to be getting the several hundred dollars in monthly ad revenue that it had been hoping for. The President reported at the meeting that he had placed an ad on facebook, and that he was looking to possibly team up with some of the local activists in Santa Cruz. The Vice President reported that the Berkeley chapter was considering two possible fundraisers, a dance and a bowl-a-thon. The Treasurer reported that NYRA had over \$3,500 in the bank, but also noted that \$2,000 of that amount was grant money for the Vermont chapter, which did not belong to the national office. The Secretary reported that he had found someone who might be interested in sponsoring a local choice bill in Albany, and that he had found a viable Congressional candidate interested in lowering the voting age.

Agenda:

General Fundraising Concerns:

NYRA's annual fundraiser had not been going well. Some directors promised to try to donate more from their personal incomes, and some fundraising ideas were brought up. People felt that any fundraising efforts that the organization undertakes should not require any kind of large up front commitment. The President and Executive Director agreed to meet to discuss mailing information to people who have been top donors in the past, and to those individuals whose membership had recently expired.

Voting Age – Coordinated Action

Keith Mandell, the head of chapter formation, stated that there had been a great number of recent chapter intents, and that many of them were interested in pursuing the voting age. Mandell felt that NYRA should capitalize on this opportunity to organize a coordinated effort to lower the voting age. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea.

Time Sheets

Keith Mandell noted that the Executive Director had fallen behind with his time sheets. The board took note of Mr. Mandell's observation.

NYRA-OC, CDP Convention

NYRA-Orange County had informed NYRA that they intended to attend the California Democratic Party's Convention in Sacramento to advance youth rights issues, particularly the voting age. Natasha Hull-Ritcher, NYRA-OC's President, asked NYRA for help. Pamela Tatz said that she was thinking of attending the convention, and would be in touch with Natasha.

Bylaw Amendments

At a previous board meeting, NYRA members Adam King and Jeff Odgis brought up some possible amendments to the bylaws, which were referred to committee. The bylaws committee discussed the changes proposed by Mr. King and Mr. Odgis, and Scott Davidson reported the committee's recommendations.

Davidson had felt that the changes to the chapter policy proposed by Mr. Odgis were good, but Koroknay-Palicz and Howell disagreed, feeling that the language was overly complex and confusing. Thus the committee recommended that NYRA's chapter policy remain the same.

The committee recommended that the board vote to approve some but not all of the changes proposed by Mr. King. The committee felt that there was no need for a bylaw dictating what would happen in the absence of a senior member (order of chair, etc.) The committee recommended that the board change the word "annual" to "special" in the bylaw that had previously read "if at an annual election, a resolution is passed by two-thirds of the members voting that a director be removed from office." The board also voted to make the attendance policy slightly stricter, changing the bylaw that had previously read "if a director fails to attend or participate in all meetings of the board of directors for a period of two consecutive months or four consecutive meetings, whichever time period is longer" to "if a director fails to attend or participate in all meetings of the board of directors for a period of two consecutive months or three consecutive meetings, whichever time period is longer."

Resolutions:

05-06 Resolution 25- Amend bylaw 13d

The board voted to amend bylaw 13d to read “if at a special election, a resolution is passed by two-thirds of the members voting that a director be removed from office.”

Votes For.

Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Chris Howell	Director

Votes Against.

None

Abstaining.

None

(Note: Keith Mandell and Robert Reynolds were not present at the time of this vote.)

05-06 Resolution 26 – Amend bylaw 13f

The board voted to amend bylaw 13f to read “if a director fails to attend or participate in all meetings of the board of directors for a period of two consecutive months or three consecutive meetings, whichever time period is longer....”

Votes For.

Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Chris Howell	Director
Keith Mandell	Director

Votes Against.

None

Abstaining.

None

(Note: Robert Reynolds was not present at the time of this vote.)