

National Youth Rights Association  
Board of Directors, Meeting Minutes 8/29/2005

**Roll Call:**

Present:

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

Absent

Jess Caralize	Director
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**Officer Reports:** At the beginning of the meeting, the officer positions from the 04-05 term still applied. As President and Executive Director, Alex Koroknay-Palicz submitted a report to the board via email. His report contained some good news, including progress with grant applications, a significant donation to a NYRA chapter in New Jersey, and a promising campaign emerging in Ohio. Everyone was pleased with Alex's report. The Secretary, Scott Davidson, delivered his report during the meeting. There were no serious concerns regarding Scott's report.

**Agenda:**

**Officer elections**

**Secretary:** Scott Davidson was nominated to serve a third term as Secretary. He was reelected by a vote of 8-0.

**Treasurer:** Keith Mandell was nominated to serve as Treasurer. Keith declined the nomination. Katrina Moncure was nominated to serve as Treasurer. She was elected by a vote of 8-0.

**Vice President:** Jay Leff and Pamela Tatz were both nominated to serve as Vice President. While all agreed that both had made significant contributions to the organization, different board members felt that one or the other candidate would make a better Vice President. Each candidate made their case, then they left the room so board members could discuss the matter openly. Pamela Tatz was elected via "secret ballot" by a vote of 5-3. Pam and Jay agreed to vote for each other.

**President:** Robert Reynolds was nominated to serve as President. After promising to appoint Alex Koroknay-Palicz Executive Director, Robert was elected by a vote of 7-0.

## **Committee Appointments**

The new President, Robert Reynolds, had wanted to create a number of new committees in addition to the traditional board committees. The board felt that this was not a decision to be taken lightly, and tabled the creation of new committees till the next meeting. In the same resolution, the board voted to approve Robert's appointments for the six existing committees by a vote of 8-0. The appointments for those committees are as follows:

Finance: Chair Jay Leff, Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Katrina Moncure.

Bylaws: Chair Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Scott Davidson, Chris Howell.

Positions: Chair Scott Davidson, Jess Caralize, Katrina Moncure.

Nominations: Chair Chris Howell, Jess Caralize, Alex Koroknay-Palicz

Executive: Chair Robert Reynolds, Pamela Tatz, Keith Mandell.

Compensation: Chair Keith Mandell, Jess Caralize, Jay Leff

## **Meeting Scheduling**

After extensive discussion, it was determined the board would meet on the following dates: September eleventh, October sixteenth, November twentieth, December eleventh, January twenty second, February nineteenth, March 19<sup>th</sup>, April twenty third, May twenty first, and June twenty fifth. The board also determined regular meeting are to be held at 7:30 PM, EST. This resolution was approved by a vote of 7-0.

## **Kevin Keenan and Scarlett Swerdlow Added to Board of Advisors**

Scarlett Swerdlow and Kevin Keenan, who are prominent figures in the SSDP and the ACLU, respectively, served as NYRA directors for the 04-05 term. The new board voted by a vote of 7-0 to add them to the board of advisors.

## **The board commends Rich Jahn**

“For a number of years, Rich Jahn has been an integral part of the National Youth Rights Association. As secretary to the board of directors, Rich wrote excellent minutes and kept extensive records. As member services director, Rich developed NYRA's membership database. This database has become an essential tool for NYRA staff members. As chairman of the bylaws committee, Rich wrote the final language for most of the recent bylaw amendments. Rich's deep understanding of youth rights and parliamentary procedure have been indispensable to the board of directors. As NYRA's second longest serving board member, Rich had an excellent attendance record, and was vital to the board. The board thanks Rich for his past service to the National Youth Rights Association, and looks forward to his return next year.” The board approved this statement by a vote of 7-0.

## **Alternates Issue Referred to Bylaws**

For several months, some NYRA members have been calling for “alternate directors” who could vote in the place of absent directors. The matter was referred to the bylaws committee by a vote of 7-0.

### **Chapter Policy Referred to Committee**

There had been much discussion about chapter policy on the board of director’s mailing list. Everyone agreed it was important that the board devise policy regarding chapters, and that such policy would require a lot of work. The board agreed that it would be nearly impossible to set so much policy with nine people at one night. The board voted by a vote of 7-0 to create an informal temporary committee comprised of Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Scott Davidson, Chris Howell, and Keith Mandell. The committee exists to recommend chapter policy for board approval.

### **New Business:**

There was a lot of new business. Keith Mandell brought up the idea of holding a contest and awarding a prize to whomever could post the most NYRA related text ads on the internet. Everyone thought it was an interesting idea. Keith also thought it was important to start contacting more high school. Alex Koroknay-Palicz submitted a strategic plan to the board via email. The plan, which is to be presented to foundations, calls for NYRA to focus most of its resources on the voting age. Everyone agreed that it was an excellent plan for the most part. Scott Davidson felt that it might attract “one issue people” who would eventually erode NYRA’s core philosophy. Keith Mandell felt that it would alienate chapters that choose to work on other issues. There was a long discussion about this, and the board agreed to continue the discussion after the meeting adjourned.

### **Resolutions:**

**05-06 Resolution 1.** Scott Davidson reelected Secretary.  
The board reelects Scott Davidson to the office of Secretary.

#### Votes for

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

#### Votes against

None.

**05-06 Resolution 2.** Katrina Moncure elected Treasurer.  
The board elects Katrina Moncure to the office of Treasurer.

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

**05-06 Resolution 3.** Pamela Tatz elected Vice President.  
The board elects Pamela Tatz to the office of Vice President.  
This resolution was passed by a vote of 5-3 via secret ballot.

**05-06 Resolution 4.** Robert Reynolds elected President.  
The board elects Robert Reynolds to the office of President.

Votes for

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

Votes Against

None.

Abstaining

Robert Reynolds	President
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**05-06 Resolution 5.** Committee Appointments.

The board approves the committee appointments below, and tables the discussion of new committees to a meeting to be held at a later date.

Finance: Chair Jay Leff, Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Katrina Moncure.

Bylaws: Chair Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Scott Davidson, Chris Howell.

Positions: Chair Scott Davidson, Jess Caralize, Katrina Moncure.

Nominations: Chair Chris Howell, Jess Caralize, Alex Koroknay-Palicz

Executive: Chair Robert Reynolds, Pamela Tatz, Keith Mandell.

Compensation: Chair Keith Mandell, Jess Caralize, Jay Leff

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

**05-06 Resolution 6.** Meeting Schedule.

The board resolves to meet at 7:30 PM EST on the following dates: September eleventh, October sixteenth, November twentieth, December eleventh, January twenty second, February nineteenth, March 19<sup>th</sup>, April twenty third, May twenty first, and June twenty fifth.

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

Note Jay Leff was absent at the time of this vote.

**05-06 Resolution 7.** New Advisors.

The board resolves to add Scarlett Swerdlow and Kevin Keenan to the Board of Advisors.

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

Note Jay Leff was absent at the time of this vote.

**05-06 Resolution 8.** The board commends Rich Jahn.

“For a number of years, Rich Jahn has been an integral part of the National Youth Rights Association. As secretary to the board of directors, Rich wrote excellent minutes and kept extensive records. As member services director, Rich developed NYRA’s membership database. This database has become an essential tool for NYRA staff members. As chairman of the bylaws committee, Rich wrote the final language for most of the recent bylaw amendments. Rich’s deep understanding of youth rights and parliamentary procedure have been indispensable to the board of directors. As NYRA's second longest serving board member, Rich had an excellent attendance record, and was vital to the board. The board thanks Rich for his past service to the National Youth Rights Association, and looks forward to his return next year.”

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

Note Jay Leff was absent at the time of this vote.

**05-06 Resolution 9.** Alternates issue referred to bylaws committee.  
The board resolves to charge the bylaws committee with the responsibility of determining what bylaw changes would be necessary for the board to institute a system whereby two alternate directors could vote in the place of absent directors.

Votes for

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

Votes against

None.

Note Jay Leff was absent at the time of this vote.

**05-06 Resolution 10.** Chapter policy issues referred to committee.  
Recognizing the need for the board to set a lot of policy with regard to chapters, the board resolves to create a new, impermanent and informal committee to look in to the matter. Said committee shall be comprised of Alex Koroknay-Palicz, Scott Davidson, Chris Howell, and Keith Mandell.