

National Youth Rights Association
Board Meeting Minutes, 9/11/2005

Roll Call:

Present

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

Absent

Jessica Caralize	Director
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Officer Reports:

The President, Vice President, Executive Director, and Secretary all submitted reports to the list via email. There were no serious concerns in regard to said reports.

Agenda:

Alternate Directors

At the August meeting, the board asked the bylaws committee to draft amendments to the bylaws to be instated if the board decided to have alternate directors. Davidson prefaced the proposal, saying that “the members of the committee do not necessarily agree with the merits of the proposal, but feel that if it is to be done, this is the best way to do it.”

The committee’s proposal was as follows:

1. The Board may chose to appoint alternate directors who will exercise a proxy vote in board meetings where one or more directors are absent. Alternate board members serve for one year, or until the next annual election, whichever comes first, and must be approved by an affirmative vote of 2/3rds of the Board. Alternate Directors must be members of the organization.
2. If it is clear either through written or verbal communication that one or more directors will be absent for the duration of a meeting - alternates may vote in place of the absent directors. However alternates may not cast a vote on essential matters to the corporation such as approval of budgets, approval of long-term strategic plans, impeachments of officers, directors or staff, any matters concerning position papers, the mission statement, and resolution 00-L, or on any matter the board deems by resolution to be "essential to

the corporation." For all other board matters, the alternate vote shall be regarded no differently than a regular director.

3. The board may appoint a "first alternate director" and a "second alternate director" but no more than two alternate directors. In the event that one director and only one director is absent the "first alternate" shall fill the vacant seat for the aforementioned meeting. If more than one director is absent, or if one director and the first alternate are absent then the second alternate shall fill the vacant seat.

4. If an alternate director neglects his/her duties, the board may remove the alternate director by an affirmative 2/3 vote.

The board voted on this matter without extensive discussion. The resolution failed, with two voting for, one voting against, and five abstaining.

New Committees

Robert Reynolds had put forth the idea of forming several new committees to address the needs of the organization. Reynolds originally called for committees dealing with compensation for staff members; chapter formation; organizational outreach; the voting age; high school policy; and digital design.

Some board members felt that some of the committees were redundant. It was decided that the function of the proposed outreach committee was already being performed by the staff. The board also decided against forming a voting age committee. The board voted to form a chapter committee by a vote of 6-2 and a digital design committee by a vote of 8-0. Since this meeting some staff members have formed an informal high school policy committee.

Mandell's "Seven Steps"

Keith Mandell sent an email to the list, outlining seven things that he felt must happen to ensure NYRA's success. The points brought up in the email were discussed at the meeting. Everyone felt that most of the ideas were good ones, but that some would require a lot of time and money. The board was particularly enthusiastic about the idea of posting ads online.

Strategic Plan

Alex Koroknay-Palicz prepared a strategic plan for the organization to present to foundations. After incorporating suggestions offered by Mandell and Davidson, he sent the proposed plan to the list. No extensive discussion took place, as some people had not read it yet.

Resolutions:

Proposed 05-06 Resolution 11 (failed)

The board did not resolve to adopt the following additions to the bylaws, as suggested by the bylaws committee:

1. The Board may chose to appoint alternate directors who will exercise a proxy vote in board meetings where one or more directors are absent. Alternate board members serve for one year, or until the next annual election, whichever comes first, and must be approved by an affirmative vote of 2/3rds of the Board. Alternate Directors must be members of the organization.
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4. If an alternate director neglects his/her duties, the board may remove the alternate director by an affirmative 2/3 vote.

Votes For

Pamela Tatz	Vice President
Keith Mandell	Director

Votes Against

Jay Leff	Director
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Abstaining

Robert Reynolds	President
Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Chris Howell	Director

05-06 Resolution 11

The board resolves to form a chapters committee.

Votes For

Robert Reynolds	President
Pamela Tatz	Vice President

Katrina Moncure	Treasurer
Scott Davidson	Secretary
Chris Howell	Director
Keith Mandell	Director

Votes Against

Alex Koroknay-Palicz	Executive Director
Jay Leff	Director

Abstaining

None

05-06 Resolution 12

The board resolves to form a digital design committee.

Votes For

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

Votes Against

None

Abstaining

None