

From: Sam Lindblad
To: RobertCalifGuy@[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Minutes
Date: Tue, 30 Nov 2004 22:41:34 -0800 (PST)

Friend Robert, Yes, I had a grand Thanksgiving and very fun trip to CA after Miami. But now it's quite chilly here. Please check over these minutes and give me your comments. I have not sent them to Peter yet. I have to locate his E-mail address. Oh dear!!!!

So I'll hear from you soon.

MINUTES OF 2004 ANNUAL NAMBLA MEETING

November 12, 13, & 14, 2004

Miami, Florida

Notes of Clarification: Names used are first names and state abbreviations.

Decisions and discussions are listed under the agenda item they pertain to, not necessarily in the order they happened during the meeting..

The annual NAMBLA meeting was convened by Peter NY in the Inn's Conference room attended by seventeen members of the organization all in good standing. The introductions were as follows:

Peter New York City, NY

Sam Albuquerque, NM

Tim Michigan, IL
David Chicago, IL
Mike Cleveland, OH
Dick Clemson, SC
John San Francisco, CA
Paul Orlando, FL
Todd Dallas, TX
Steve Pittsburgh, PA
David Miami, FL
Chris Chicago, IL
Floyd San Francisco, CA
James Miami, FL
Robert Los Angeles, CA

Sam Miami, FL

Bob Atlanta, GA

After introductions, Peter NY reminded participants of safety issues to avoid self incrimination or passing along false impressions only meant in jest.

After a lengthy discussion the following agenda as outlined behind Roman Numerals was adopted.

James FL was elected by the group to facilitate the running of the meeting. Sam NM was delegated to take minutes.

During the morning break Peter NY sold some books and magazines brought with him. He stated in previous years he had brought more, but weight, travel constraints, and energy level prevented him from the usual load.

A new volunteer to handle book sales is a priority.

I. Where We Are

-The purpose and policy statement of the organization was read and no changes were suggested. A copy of the constitution was not available, so it was not referred to during the meeting.

Membership Report: There are approximately 250 current members. It has been a steady decline over the past ten years. Writing to members when their membership has expired is a very time consuming job, but needs to be handled, and a volunteer found to do it. Two or three names are dropped per *Bulletin* mailing.

-Financial Report: The organization's funds are "poor, but stable". After conference expenses are paid there will be about \$4,500 in one account and an additional \$6,000-plus in another account. Having two accounts is for safety reasons, and the latter is used to fund other worthy causes like the ACLU.

Annual income and expenses usually run about \$15,000. Income is generated through: memberships, voluntary contributions, book sales, fake memberships sent in as practical jokes, endowments, and magazine sales.

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Selling past issues of the *Bulletin* can be a very viable income if the volunteers were available to coordinate the project.

-Legal Actions: There is no legal action pending against the organization. Members of the steering committee have been named in a suit funded by the Thomas Moore Foundation, because a former member of NAMBLA killed a child and a correlation between the two is trying to be drawn. The Massachusetts ACLU is seeking a summary judgement, and it appears like the law suit will "peter out," be dropped soon.

II. Current Leadership

The steering committee is composed of six BL's. They are as follows:

Peter NY presiding officer

Floyd CA *Bulletin* Editor

Joe P Legal Expert

David

Chris IL News clipper and researcher

Tim

Several very active members have moved on to new projects. They still remain financially supportive of the organization. The

organization has not had an archivist for several years. The archives through 1992 are stored in various places around the world. We are in need of filling this office. A book seller and shipper is also badly needed.

Apprentices are dreadfully needed. They learn first at a low level and gradually take on more responsibility.

A major theme of this agenda item was the burn-out of volunteers and the need for re-energizing the steering committee.

III. What is expected of volunteer leaders in this organization:

The question of legal risks and vulnerabilities to volunteer leaders was asked in many different phraseologies.

Peter NY responded with these guide lines to minimize personal risk:

- Don't break any laws.

- Work for personal financial independence.

- Value yourself. Don't apologize for who you are.

- Be assured that the membership rolls are never shared or sold.

- Use a pseudo name when you write for the *Bulletin* or at any other time you feel it would be wise.

- Read the pamphlet "What to Do If the FBI Comes to Your Door". This needs to be reprinted.

- Use PGP on your own personal computer to encrypt/scramble your E-mail. It is free software. Spy Sweeper must be used along with PGP or it is of no use.

- Consult an attorney with specific concerns. The steering committee has a short list of BL friendly attorneys.

Peter NY also stated, "Risk is somewhat inevitable, not only in working with NAMBLA, but in all we do. A community of supportive individuals is so important. We must put our selves at risk if we are to be supportive to each other and to new members. Each volunteer must do their own personal risk assessment."

It was agreed that infiltration of the steering committee and general membership can happen, but it is unlikely because of apprenticeships and the vigilance of the current leadership.

The steering committee is delegated to handle all communication and PR with the press.

IV. Current Activities of the Organization:

The steering committee is struggling to keep up with membership renewals, the *Bulletin*, the pen-pal program, Christmas card program, and responding to lonely members writing in with life-style concerns. Badly needed are an archivist, book seller, correspondence secretary, computer whiz, and membership secretary.

Dick SC and Tim II volunteered to work on the book sales committee. Sam NM volunteered to do some book reviews. Any one can do a review and submit it to the Editor under a pseudo name if he so chooses.

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V. Membership Recruitment:

Work is needed to re-energize the membership roll. Dick SC agreed to look in to magazines and publications that would advertise for the organization. It was stated that at times individual members have paid for an ad in various magazines like "Hand Jobs." It is important to code these types of ads so that we know where our new membership requests are coming from. This way we know what advertising venues are effective.

Chris agreed to continue writing articles that will entice new members.

The general membership is encouraged to seek out book stores that are willing to sell the *Bulletin*. These names would then be passed on to the steering committee.

It was noted that none of the internet/computer savvy members were present at the annual meeting. This type of volunteer can assist with the web page, and help in meeting today's techno generation.

All members are encouraged to add their names to the Christmas pen-pal list. The response to this program is tremendous. It was noted that sometimes an inmate tries to take advantage of a pen pal by making unreasonable request, but these can be ignored. The pen pal can write under a pseudo name using the NYC Address.

VI. The *Bulletin*

Floyd CA, the *Bulletin* editor, reported that approximately \$6,000 is spent per year on printing the magazine. He stated he was very pleased with the printer contracted for the job. All agreed that no changes should be made to the *Bulletin* at this time. The newsletter sent to prisoners continues to be printed without pictures and goes out under a separate name. It is important support given to men who are suffering because of society's paranoia.

All present agreed that the money spent on the *Bulletin* is well worth it. No changes were suggested. Floyd CA was commended for his hard work and tenacity.

VII. Pamphlets Offered by NAMBLA

Currently pamphlets on *Religion and Ways to Respond to Religious Zealots*, the *History of BL's*, and *Famous BL's* are either available or will be shortly. *If the FBI Comes to Your Door* should be reprinted. Other subjects for pamphlets that can be drafted by interested members are: coming out, responding to media, how to handle arrests, age of consent issues, treating kids as adults in the court system, and power differences. There are many other possibilities that should be tackled.

A discussion of age of consent laws followed. It was noted that if age of consent laws were abolished then the civil law might take over and be even more volatile and expensive for BL's. The analogy was given, "When someone says sex for children, the response is always, NO WAY. But when someone says baseball for all kids, everyone says, OH YES. But what kind of baseball is given to a four or five year old? What is given must be age appropriate, or it can prove to be very dangerous in both situations. It was agreed that both sides of this issue can be validated depending on the facts presented. A pamphlet should be written and okayed by the steering committee on this subject.

VIII. Ways to change Society's Perception of BL's

This agenda item was confronted throughout the three day meeting and under each agenda item. No other specific guidelines were given.

IX. State or Regional Meetings:

A long discussion surrounded a motion that was passed, but not unanimously, to begin working toward regional work groups. Discussion centered around:

-State chapters were disbanded some years ago after inappropriate behavior was instigated at one meeting.

-The only way to re-energize the organization is through regional work group efforts.

-How is anonymity protected?

-Where is the largest concentration of membership located? (Never answered.)

-Can't a rogue individual at one of these meetings bring down the whole organization.

-Getting together to see a movie or other recreational activities are outside of the organization. Work groups would be brought together only to complete an assigned task to further the goals of NAMBLA.

It was moved and passed that a three member committee from Florida meet within the next sixty days to begin writing the guidelines for a regional work group. James FL, Sam FL, and Dave FL agreed to get this task started.

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One steering committee member will oversee the process. David FL being from Florida, will not be the steering committee overseer.

When the committee completes its work the steering committee will make further recommendation, or ask the committee to proceed on with an actual work group project in the Florida area. The steering committee will establish the list of names that can be contacted for possible participation in this trial regional work group. The results of this meeting and the Do's and Don't of setting up the work groups will be reported at next year's annual meeting.

X. Tasks that can be done by the general membership to further the goals of NAMBLA:

-Find outlets for the *Bulletin*.

-Help to recruit new member.

-Write book, movie, or other appropriate reviews for the *Bulletin*.

-Make yourself known as an archivist, news clipper, attend International groups like IPCI in Europe and report to the steering committee.

-Write articles or create art work for the *Bulletin*.

-Volunteer for the pen pal and Christmas card programs.

-Volunteer your computer expertise.

-Volunteer to translate NAMBLA's materials into a foreign language.

-Create book marks that can be placed in library books of our genera.

-Be supportive to BL's upon release from prison.

XI. Steering Committee Election:

This is the slate of officers now serving and the approximate number of years they have served on the steering committee:

1. Peter NY (25)

2. Floyd CA (23)

3. Joe (10)

4. David (6)

5. Chris IL (2)

6. Tim (12)

New members of the steering committee were nominated as:

7. Sam NM

3. David FL

The slate was elected on one ballot. Then a discussion ensued as to the proper way to elect the steering committee. The process was not redone.

The steering committee meets as needed via telephone conference calls usually on a Sunday evening.

XII. Annual Meeting of 2005:

It was agreed that the 2005 Annual Meeting would be in San Diego and will be organized by Robert CA. If members have specific ideas about next year's planning, the ideas should be sent to the steering committee and then your ideas will be forwarded to the proper person.

It was strongly suggested that the owner or manager of any facility that hosts our meetings even under the name Wallace Hamilton Press, be advised of our NAMBLA affiliation. We don't want to be seen as sneaky, just cautious.

All agreed that meeting fellow BL's was a positive experience.

The annual meeting was adjourned at 2:15 Sunday afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam NM

Acting Secretary

RobertCalifGuy@ wrote:

Hi all,

Just wanted to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving. Don't eat too much and be safe. I want to see all of you next year in San Diego.

Robert

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
<http://mail.yahoo.com>