



BOD Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2014; 3:00-5:00
Joanne's House

In attendance: Joanne, Stewart, Dan, Diane, Teresa

1. Treasurer's Report.

Diane reported that we collected \$13 at our last meeting and that we had \$139 in printing costs in April. Our current balance is \$377.57.

2. Discussion & Adoption of Our Guidelines on Collaboration with Other Groups.

Joanne circulated the latest version of our collaboration guidelines. We discussed some possibilities of collaboration with other groups (including the redistricting effort that Roger Borgelt spoke about). Envisioning a scenario in which we have only a few days to make a decision about an endorsement, co-sponsorship, or similar, we developed the following plan:

- Joanne will send an email to the board asking for approval or disapproval within a certain length of time (minimum 2 days, if possible), after which if a board member hasn't responded, he or she is presumed to approve.
- A simple majority will be needed to approve the collaborative effort.
- If any board member has an objection, he or she should write an email to the board explaining the reasons.
- If there is time, the board should email or have a conference call to try to come to consensus on the issue. If not, Joanne should make an executive decision in the best interests of the group.
- Our collaboration guidelines include a list of "fast-track" groups that we consider natural allies. For these groups the process is no different, but we hope their status will make the decision easier, as they enjoy a presumption of goodness.
- The Texas Fair Courts group will be added to the fast-track list.
- We will add this process statement to our guidelines and post them online, but for board use only.
- With these two changes, we agree with the collaboration guidelines.
- Whenever we enter into a collaborative effort, we should write a blog post about it so our membership is informed.

The above was passed by a vote of 5-0.

- Joanne also agreed to collect board policy documents in an online location by September.

3. Discussion of Questions Relating to the Website.

We'd like to have more bloggers on our website, so we decided to invite our members to contribute. We will put a solicitation in one of our upcoming emails, and may also send individual invitations to members.

Dan will act as moderator for new bloggers. If they seem to have a decent idea, they'll be given Contributor access to our site and allowed to write the blog. With this access level, they cannot publish it on their own. Dan will moderate and publish the blog once ready. When they've written 3 good blog posts (or 2 *really* good ones, if the board agrees), we'll give them Author-level access so they can publish.

We agreed that Dan should be promoted to Administrator level, and Tanya Tussing's special access should be revoked (she resigned from the board a long time ago).

The above was passed 5-0.

We also discussed possible policies regarding widgets like the MayOne widget. We aired concerns about cluttering the site and being seen as less independent or less nonpartisan if we add a lot of widgets or links to other groups on our site. In the end we didn't come up with a policy. We did seem to agree that we should keep our links and text focused on issues, not groups.

We considered adding a page of resources or groups who agree with us on issues. But we also considered sticking with the blog format for this type of content.

4. Decision on the Topic of Our June 14 Meeting.

We decided to talk about disclosure requirements and interim "charge" activity especially of the select judicial committee at the Texas Legislature. The Lege discussion will be led by Stewart, who will get help ahead of the meeting from other board members as soon as he lets us know what to do.

Later, Dan reminded the board that MayOne Deputy CTO Brian Boyko lives near Austin, and Joanne volunteered to email him to see if he'd like to speak at the June meeting.

Joanne and Stewart will decide on the meeting topic after determining if Boyko is available to discuss the MayOne SuperPAC.

5. Discussion of Dan's Voting Systems Policy Paper.

The board gave several suggestions to Dan regarding his draft policy paper on voting systems, most of which he took to heart. He will develop the paper, incorporating the feedback, in the coming weeks.

We decided that in lieu of an official executive summary, a handout (1 double-sided page) may be developed later to serve as "marketing material" for the paper.

6. Discussion of Board Member Recruitment.

We tossed around a few names as possible future board members, including Roger Borgelt and others but we decided to wait. Joanne asked that we all be on the lookout for new board members.