

Regina Public Interest Research Group

Board Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2010

1. Check In:

Present: Dagan, Jenn, Kaylene, Robbie, Alix, (Lisa Smith, Karen Mclver)

Regrets: Ali, Brennan, Ashley, Mike

Note :

This meeting does not have enough voting members to reach quorum, therefore the motions cannot be approved, but presentations and discussions will still be held.

2. Agenda Items:

2.1. Presentation - Lisa Smith:

Two years ago funding was sought from RPIRG to hold a 'queer' conference, however due to logistical problems the conference was not held. Instead, the funds went towards the development of a GLBT center downtown. The center will provide services similar GBLUR, but operate on a citywide scale.

Progress to date towards the creation of a center:

- They hired someone to develop a constitution and bylaws. This person has experience doing similar work for the GLBT community in Saskatoon.
- To date, they have about 29 members who have contributed approximately \$700 in membership fees.
- Going forward, they are looking to complete the incorporated process and find a suitable space to rent in downtown Regina.

Follow up:

- 1) Jenn will post the documents provided by Lisa on base-camp. (Please see the documents for more detail on the plans to create the center).
- 2) Archive this material; it is a good example of a project funded by RPIRG that has grown into its own institution.

2.2. Presentation - Karen Mclver:

Karen proposed that RPIRG sponsor an event that will take place in the larger context of an EECOM conference on environmental justice. The conference will attract about 350 people including activist, researchers, and students from across the country, and will take place at the University of Regina in September.

Karen came to the board with a number of ways that RPIRG could collaborate with EECOM on this project:

- 1) RPIRG could sponsor the keynote event. The keynote speaker is Annie Leonard author of "The story of Stuff" (<http://www.storyofstuff.com/>). If RPIRG were to sponsor this event, it would have the option of holding an exclusive 'lunch and learn' with Leonard to discuss activism and strategies to reduce consumption at the university.

- 2) RPIRG could play a role in the 'research symposium' component of the conference. This would give RPIRG a chance to develop the research part of its mandate. (Note: We did not discuss *how* RPIRG would support student research through this symposium).
- 3) Finally, Karen gave RPIRG the option to support/participate in a mini activist workshop for youth (18 and under) that will take place alongside the adult portion of the conference.

Questions:

Board/ Staff Q: What is the relationship between RPIRG's ability to promote an event as its own (i.e., an RPIRG event) and the cost of sponsoring it?

Karen's A- The conference will be supported by a series of partnerships, which means ECCOM is asking community organizations to sponsor different components of the conference. For instance, if RPIRG is able fund the full 15, 000\$ for the keynote event, then RPIRG has the right to advertise and organize its own event. However, if RPIRG puts a fraction of the 15,000\$ towards the event, then it will have to promote and organize it as a joint event with the other contributing organization(s).

Follow up:

- 1) Jenn will post all the documents provided by Karen on base camp.
- 2) Do we want to participate in the conference, if so to what extent?

2.3. Generating Momentum Update – Dagan Harding

Dagan gave an update on GM. (Please see the document he posted on base camp prior to the meeting).

2.4. Retreat

Charlotte suggested to staff that 'new' board members' attendance should be give priority.

Follow up:

- 1) Everyone should post his/her availability.