



Chico ACLU
04.03.08 Minutes
P.O. Box 5089
Chico, CA 95927-5089

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Leslie Johnson opens the Chico ACLU BOD meeting for Bill Sheridan (temporarily delayed).

2. Roll call of board members present

Roll call: all are present except for Michael Coyle, Amy Zempel, & Imran Khan.

3. Approval April 17th minutes

Greg Burton makes a general comment about how the Chico ACLU should use non-inflammatory language in its advocacy, avoiding metaphors that could be misconstrued, that the Chico ACLU is a peaceful, legal advocacy organization. Greg Burton also clarifies his opinion that the exigent matter policy: that it should contain provision for a designated staff attorney to write legal reviews for exigent matters.

Peter Ratner makes a motion to accept the April 17th Chico ACLU minutes, seconded by Richard Judkins, and passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer Report (presented by Bill in absence of Amy)

Bill Sheridan states that we received \$1910.00 in new membership at the Kick-off Event, with an additional \$40.00 for renewals that will be sent to the NC ACLU, but that the \$1910.00 will be returned to the Chico ACLU. Bill goes on to say that Pat Donnelly would be willing to exchange the amount of money he had spent on hard liquor (\$251.00) for the amount of money owed for his tables (\$160.00), a net gain of \$91.00 for the ACLU. Bill Sheridan mentions that some of the red tickets representing alcohol purchases were lost at the Disorderly Event, but he indicates that it is estimated that the Chico ACLU made about \$1000.00 in liquor sales at the event. Greg Burton states he got a P.O. box for the Chico ACLU: P.O. Box 5089 Chico, CA 95927-5089. It is agreed that the second key will go to Leslie Johnson.

Richard Judkins makes a motion to accept the Treasurers Report, seconded by Greg Burton, and passed unanimously.

Bob Trausch brings up the situation with Tom Nichol's motor scooter. That Nichols assumed he was going to get a tax write-off for the donation to the Chico ACLU.

After discussion and an initial motion, it was moved by Leslie Johnson that Nichols be given the option of either donating directly to the NC ACLU to take advantage of its 501C-3 status (for the deduction) or donating to Chico ACLU for no deduction (501C-4). Motion seconded by Evanne O'Donnell and passed unanimously.

5. Evanne to present suggestions to exigent matter policy

Evanne states that a policy is needed for exigent events that need immediate attention by the Chico ACLU Board of Directors (BOD), but taking into consideration proper and due notification of Chico ACLU BOD members.

After discussion about potential time-frames for notification and whether the Chico ACLU BOD can modify its by-laws (it can temporarily, subject to approval by the general membership at the annual meeting) Evanne reads the proposed amendment to Section 3.3 Article 3, Board of Directors: A special Chico ACLU BOD meeting can be called by either the Chair, Co-Chair, or any 5 members of the Chico ACLU Board of Directors provided that notice by email and telephone of such meeting is giving at least one week in advance to all members of the Chico ACLU Board of Directors. Motion to accept made by Greg Burton, seconded by several, and passed unanimously.

6. Discuss the issue regarding the failure to approve by-laws at Kickoff

Leslie Johnson states that we failed to have the membership approve the Chico ACLU by-laws at the Kick-off Event. Bill Sheridan states that the NC ACLU Board of Directors can approve the Chico Chapter at the May 8th NC ACLU Board meeting in San Francisco.



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Discussion moves on the attending the NC ACLU Board meeting on Thursday May 8th 2008 at 39 Drum Street in San Francisco and travel expenses involved going to San Francisco and, perhaps, spending the night after the NC ACLU BOD meeting is over at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Bill Sheridan makes a motion that the Chico ACLU pays unreimbursed travel expense (fuel, toll, parking) for those attending the NC ACLU Board meeting in San Francisco, seconded by Richard Judkins, and passed unanimously.

7. Discussion of Greg Burrtion's progress toward promoting a citizen's review board for the Chico Police and discuss his meeting with the Mayor

Greg Burton discusses his conversation with Andy Holcombe, Mayor of Chico about Holcombe remarks that appeared to favor the formation of a Chico PD Civilian Review Board. Bob Trausch and members discuss presenting Chico City Council with working models, like Berkeley's, whether there is a committee for the Chico PD Civilian Review Board, how to get members involved in this committee. Discussion trends towards getting accurate email lists for membership, problems with obtaining/sharing email lists from NC ACLU and National ACLU, Bill Sheridan discusses establishing a Chico ACLU Newsletter, Richard Judkins thinks the Chico ACLU should have regular meetings to keep members involved, Leslie Johnson discusses having monthly topics highlighting ACLU activities.

Bob Trausch will be the Chair of the Police Oversight Committee and the Police Oversight Committee will meet Wednesday May 7th @6:30 p.m. 813 Nord Avenue. Committee members will be notified.

8. Discussion the Thursday Immigrant rights rally

Rocio Guido talks about Chico ACLU involvement at both the Immigrants' Rights Fund Raiser, May 1st 2008, and the Immigrants' Rights Rally, May 10th. That both immigrants' rights events could be used to promote the ACLU and serve to protect immigrants' rights. Members discuss organizing tables at both events. The Immigrants' Rights Fund Raiser will be at the Chico Women's Club at 592 3rd Street starting at 5:00 p.m.; and the Immigrants' Rights Rally will start at Chico City Hall at 10:00 a.m., with the rally marching to Martin Luther King Park, 1900 Dr. Martin Luther King Parkway for the rally at 12:30 to 5:00 p.m. Bill Sheridan and others discuss the huge need for providing ACLU Rights Observers, people wearing t-shirts to the May 10th rally, and provide trained on how to be a rights observers. Legal Observer Training date @ Sunday May 4th at 1:00 p.m.

9. Review of Committees and committee membership

Leslie Johnson and members talk about outreach, getting and updating committee membership, jump-starting committee activities, email lists, forming any new committees. Discussion involving Pride-Fest, the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender event of June 7th 2008 at the Park Tower Pavilion. Emily Fisher discusses her conversation with Scott Gruendl about issues the ACLU could get involved in: domestic partnership issues, cultural competency training, mental health, and access to health care. Emily suggests the ACLU have a table at the Pride-Fest. Members state that the Gay Rights Committee needs to have LGBT members.

Leslie Johnson makes a motion to have an ACLU table at the Pride-Fest on Saturday June 7th 2008 at the Park Tower Pavilion 2040 Park Avenue Chico, seconded by many, passed unanimously.

10. New Business

Bill Sheridan talks about the need for committee chairperson workshops; organizing this training with the ACLU. Leslie talks about forming a policy for referring people who contact the Chico ACLU about their legal problems.

11. Announcements and Community events

Sor Lo announces May 15th 2008 all state agencies (disability) will protest budget cuts in Sacramento.

12. Adjourn – Informal Discussion

Next Chico ACLU meeting will be on Monday May 12th @6:30 p.m. 813 Nord Avenue.