



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

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Leslie Johnson calls the Chico ACLU to order.

2. Roll call of board members present

All present except Rocio Guido, Michael Coyle, Tom Mathews and Emily Fisher.

3. Approval April 29<sup>th</sup> minutes

Richard Judkins moves to accept the minutes for the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 meeting Chico ACLU, seconded by several, and passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer Report

Bob Trausch states that Tom Nichols has decided to donate the \$300.00 derived from the auction of his motor scooter to the Chico ACLU.

5. Chapter Representative Report on S.F. Board meeting

Pat Donnelly discusses the field activists' and NC ACLU board meetings: discussing the PowerPoint presentation of the Military Commissions Act at Guantanamo Bay, torture, and the John Adams project between the ACLU and the National Lawyers' Guild. Also discussed was the ACLU's Indiana voter ID case, Berkeley chapter's name change, Chico ACLU's introduction and passage of the Chico ACLU bylaws.

6. Communication Plan Report

Leslie Johnson opens a general discussion on a communication plan, a portable contact list for board members. Bill Sheridan states that we need an email bulletin once per month, and a quarterly newsletter emailed out to the Chico ACLU membership. Using the Chico region member email list provided by the NC and National ACLU and the locally generated email list, Bill Sheridan suggests using his corporation as the mail house for these notifications to the membership. Bill Sheridan offers to sign a non-disclosure agreement and states he has talked to Shayna Gelender about this idea; that Shayna would release the e-list to him. Greg Burton states that he is not comfortable with any one person or privately held corporation, despite the connections to the Chico ACLU board, having access to the main Chico ACLU e-list. Greg Burton goes on to say that he is of the opinion that the ACLU holds this information securely due to privacy concerns. In answer to inquiries from Richard Judkins, Leslie Johnson, and Evanne O'Donnell Bill Sheridan states that he would be authorized to use NC ACLU's list and would take advantage of their non-profit mail pricing, that access to the Chico ACLU e-list would make member contact more efficient and cost effective. Bill Sheridan states he only wants reimbursement for his costs and would ensure that our e-list is secure. Evanne O'Donnell suggests sending out an email using the locally generated email list talking up the Chico ACLU committees. Richard Judkins supports using Bill Sheridan's mail house to distribute information to all Chico ACLU members. Greg Burton states he would like to wait on a decision on using the Chico region e-list until after the next NC ACLU meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>, so he can talk to Shayna Gelender about how the e-lists are handled, and the process by which Chico ACLU members are distributed information.

Bob Trausch moves to allow Bill Sheridan use our locally generated email list to let membership know what the next step is, what ACLU committees have been formed, Leslie Johnson responds that as Committee Chair, she has already been authorized to make such organizational actions. Bill Sheridan makes a motion by June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the Chico ACLU sends out an informational email to its primary target email list, and by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 begin sending out an Chico ACLU quarterly newsletter. Regardless of whether these mailings are done via the NC ACLU or Bill Sheridan's mail house, or by any other means. Motion seconded by Leslie Johnson and passed 9 to 1. Richard Judkins stated he is voting against the motion as he thinks we need more information about how the e-list issues brought up by members is going to be addressed.

7. Gay/Lesbian Committee & Pride Fest Discussion

Leslie Johnson reports that Emily Fisher is organizing Cultural Competency training group that will be at the Pride-Fest on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Park Tower Pavilion 2040 Park Avenue Chico.

8. Citizen Review Committee Report

Bob Trausch reviews the current legislation: SB-1017, which is bill meant to overturn the Copley Press Bill, which acts to close public records; and AB 377, an even more "draconian" public records law. Bob Trausch reports that he met with Tom Nichols and Andy Holcombe, who suggested we work with an attorney, Megan Thomas, who sits on the Human Resources Commission. Megan



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Thomas has done some parallel research on the same issues as Bob Trausch. Bob Trausch states that the Citizens Review Committee needs to have a diversified membership. Bill Sheridan suggests that the Chico ACLU have a member on this Human Resources Commission. Bob inquires whether a story by Tom Gascoyne and Chico Beat would be advisable. Members state concerns about the focus of such a story, with Bob Trausch stating that any story must not attack the police and be "neutral". Bob Trausch indicates that Tom Nichols suggests making the Human Resources Commission cover all City of Chico employees, not just the police. Member states concern about this dual role for the Citizen Review Commission. Next meeting of the Citizens Review Committee is Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m., Independent Living Services located 1061 East Avenue, Chico.

#### 9. Immigrant Rights Rally Observer Report

All agree that it was an extremely positive event, with positive feedback from the community and the Mayor. Imran Khan states that what the Chico ACLU did at the Immigrants Rights Rally (legal observers) was copied in Sacramento and may very well be copied elsewhere. Leslie Johnson states that if you want to keep your t-shirt, the cost will be \$15.00. Members discuss starting to target events for Chico ACLU participation, support, and potential membership enrollment and fund raising. That ACLU speakers, working through the Education Committee, could be provided to speak on legal rights, etc...to various groups and organizations.

Leslie Johnson and members talk about legal observer training either through the ACLU or the National Lawyers Guild, as the NLG has been engaged in this type of training for a long time.

#### 10. Evanne O'Donnell request for travel expense reimbursement

Evanne asks for reimbursement for her travel to the NC ACLU meeting to San Francisco (airfare, \$160.00). Greg Burton moves to have Evanne O'Donnell reimbursed for the amount requested, and, after general discussion on the reimbursement process and chapter frugality, the motion is seconded by many and passed unanimously.

Bill Sheridan makes motion that every board member, except the chapter representative, who should be regularly reimbursed for their expenses (gas, toll, parking), should have the opportunity to go to the NC ACLU meeting one time; and be reimbursed for that trip (gas, toll, parking). No second. Leslie Johnson asks if there is general agreement on the reimbursement policy motioned by Bill, with general consensus that there is agreement to this reimbursement policy.

#### 11. New Business

Leslie Johnson, Bill Sheridan, and Richard Judkins discuss keeping scrapbooks containing media (Rocio) and governmental (Richard) news and events stories.

Leslie Johnson moves the topic to committees and committee membership, including a Criminal/Restorative Justice, i.e. mediation between offenders and the victims, looking for root causes for injustice and crime, truth and reconciliation, etc...this committee will meet @ 11:30 a.m. on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Grilla Bites 196 Cohasset Road Chico.

Leslie Johnson speaks about a Youth Education Committee that can sponsor young people. Leslie Johnson mentions that there will be an ACLU youth program this August, and it could be an opportunity for the ACLU to sponsor someone in a civil liberty/racial equality program. Leslie Johnson and Amy Zempel discuss having a Youth Education & Rights Committee meeting Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m. 813 Nord Avenue Chico.

Imran Khan displays a newsletter put out by the California State Bar, targeting teenagers, a teen survival guide that focuses on cutting edge laws like the new cell phone law that makes it illegal to use cell phones in a car, if you are under 18. Imran Khan goes on to state this would be a good way for the ACLU to focus on Youth Education in the schools, with other similar publications targeting other groups, such as seniors and those who are incarcerated.

#### 12. Announcements and Community Events

Bob Trausch states that there is a benefit performance of Jesus Christ Super Star, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Chico Cabaret 2201 Pillsbury Road Suite C-1 Chico,. The performance benefits the Dorotea Pathways Foundation, a non-profit Belizean educational foundation.

Sor Lo announces May 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 all state agencies will protest budget cuts in Sacramento 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting of the Chico ACLU Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008 Chico Peace & Justice @ 7:00 p.m. 526 Broadway Chico.

#### 13. Adjourn – Informal Discussion