

Equality Maricopa Officers' Meeting  
August 4, 2009  
Minutes

Attending: Lori Girshick – acting president and communications coordinator, Kenneth Creech – events coordinator, Dale Heuser – web master, Debi Moser – membership coordinator, Alberto Olivas – treasurer, Rory Gilbert and Jacque Starks

- I. PVCC announced that it will be hosting a LGBT film festival on January 30<sup>th</sup> called “Desperados.” Students are actively engaged in planning and running the event. Sponsorships are available for \$1,000. Proceeds will go to student scholarships. Rory will contact a colleague who has worked on film festivals in the past to see if he would be interested in assisting.
  
- II. LGBT Scholarships – discussion about different LGBT scholarships in the district.
  - a. Kenneth is serving on the foundation scholarship committee. This scholarship was established through the Chancellor’s Community Advisory Committee and given for the first time at the Equality Arizona dinner.
  - b. Alberto Olivas attended a meeting of the Phoenix Pride Scholarship program. This scholarship, through the Arizona Community Foundation, provides scholarships to ASU and MCCCCD students. Criteria include declaring one is LGBT, complying with general ACF standards for GPA, demonstrating need and being age 24 or less. It can be renewed for up to four years. Current committee members are all from ASU. They are hoping to get several MCCCCD people on the committee. Dale Heuser volunteered to serve. Rory Gilbert said she would serve if no other members step forward. Concerns were reiterated about the age limit which is not as applicable for community college students as it is for ASU. It is hoped that participation on the committee will allow an opportunity to discuss this.
  - c. Discussion of individual scholarships at each college – concerns regarding: reaching necessary funding levels before money can be distributed, competition for funds among colleges and limited impact. CGCC has a local scholarship that has not been awarded yet. PVCC plans to use the film festival to raise money for scholarships for their college.
  - d. Equality Maricopa scholarship has \$1,000 in the account with the foundation. Discussion about whether to continue to provide book scholarships at convocation through a drawing or change to a more formal process. It was agreed that for the time being the current method will continue – it does not require a lot of time or planning and draws students to attend the convocation.
  
- III. Membership – an e-mail will be sent out to the current distribution list inviting people to become paying members (\$10) of Equality Maricopa. A general e-mail inviting all Maricopans to become members will be sent out a week later.

- a. Bank account – Alberto researched opening a bank account for the dues money. He and Debi will be co-signers on a credit union account once they present documents proving they are officers.
  - b. Membership party – Dale offered to host a social at his home on September 12 from 2 – 6. Information will be included in the membership announcements.
- IV. Calendar of events – Dale requested assistance with identifying community events for the web calendar. It can also include Equality Maricopa meetings, GSA meetings, Safe Space trainings, etc. This led to a discussion about meetings.
- a. Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of the month from 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM starting September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rory will schedule the rooms at the district office.
  - b. The October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at CGCC because of a special event that will be occurring there that evening.
  - c. The retreat is tentatively scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 3:00 pm. The morning will focus on employee issues. Students will be invited to participate in the afternoon to discuss student clubs. Rory was asked to see if the retreat could be held at the District Office.
  - d. Community activities include:
    - i. AIDS Walk – October 4 – Kenneth will sign up Equality Maricopa as a team. All people sign up individually – minimum donation is \$25.
    - ii. Rainbow festival – October 3 and 4 – Equality Maricopa will purchase a table. GSA's will be invited to promote their clubs' activities. Cost for a table \$250.
- V. Officers and Meetings – Lori asked for feedback regarding the unfilled president's position. She is functioning as acting president until it is filled. It is hoped that after the membership event there will be more people interested in participating. In the meantime, officers will take turns running the meetings. Dale will run the September meeting. Kenneth will run the October meeting.
- VI. GSA's – Rory will update information about advisors of the GSA's – advisors as of 2008 -2009 school year except for SMCC and SCC.
- a. CGCC – Lori Girshick
  - b. EMCC – Sandy Zetlan
  - c. GCC – Chris Miller
  - d. MCC – Kenneth Creech -- Kenneth needs a co-advisor at MCC.
  - e. PC – Loman Clark and Kory Ambrosich
  - f. PVCC – Dale Heuser
  - g. SCC – Eric Haas, Thomas Williams, Tim Larey
  - h. SMCC – Steve Fountaine; Julie Holston