

UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM

General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 18

Overview for General Meeting

- Group Discussion
 - Call to order, review, and approve the last meeting minutes
 - Non-profit update
 - Team Updates
 - Three-minute updates with additional time for Q&A
 - Please use “Raise your hand” function to ask questions
 - Refrain from discussing political agendas, issues, or opinions unless it is in direct alignment with our advocacy mission
- Other Business
- Roundtable

Group Discussion

1. Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM EST and review of last meeting – Group
The 9/3/2024 meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the [website](#).
2. Non-Profit Updates – Jenny L., President
Board members meet monthly and are working on current and previously tabled projects.
 - The first meeting about CiviCRM is scheduled for 9/25/2024 and a follow-up meeting will be determined to accommodate those who were not able to attend the first.
 - The next board meeting will be on Sunday, 9/29/2024.
3. Advocacy Participation (APT) Team – Jenny L. (for Kim H.)
Sharon M. and Kim H. continue to process new member requests.
4. State Coalitions Team (SCT) – Jenny L. (for Kim H.)
 - There are no updates.
 - The next team meeting is Monday, September 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.
5. Welcome Team – Ann & Shep S.
The team reached out to a contact that came through Shawn L.
6. Communication Team (CT) – Kathy DV.
 - The team is working on email and letter inquiries that come to UV4SOR from those who are incarcerated. The goal is to have a variety of templates to choose from depending on what is being requested.
 - Inserts in the letters and emails are being considered that would provide information such as contact information for like-minded advocacy groups, government offices, and books. As this develops the team will reach out to members for suggestions and ideas.

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7. Call to Action (CTA) – Shawn L.
CTAs are tabled until October 2024.
8. No More Silence Project – Betty B.
The introduction letter is finished, and Betty B. will ask the Communication Team to provide any suggestions to the list of recipients. Betty invited anyone to contact her with any additional names to receive the introduction letter.
9. Social Media Team (SM) – Rita B.
 - The team is encouraging productive advocacy posts and comments in the FB group that are helpful to members.
 - New members have been added on FB and political inflammatory posts are being monitored. The focus for posts is advocating and support for the advocacy work.
 - This year's Christmas Letters and Season Greetings campaign has begun and those who are interested in participating have until 10/3/2024 to contact Rita B. for details.
10. Fundraising Team – Rita B.
 - A new fundraiser will be with Tupperware. UV4SOR will earn 20% and it will run 6-8 weeks. This may change and is being worked on with Tupperware.
 - The consignment sale will end 9/19-20/2024 and Rita B. will pick up the check on 10/3/2024.
 - The Tru-Earth campaign has a 30% commission to UV4SOR. Rita will post details in the FB group. Gail L. asked if commission is made from subscriptions and Rita B. stated there is no commission on subscription orders.
 - Rita stated receiving requests for shirts and bracelets from members. Those in attendance expressed interest.
 - Questions were asked about pop tabs and how that is handled. It was suggested to speak with Kim H.
 - Donations can be made to UV4SOR through our [website](#).
11. PR/Marketing Team – Jenny L.
 - Amber Vlangas from Restorative Action Alliance will share her [Restorative Art Circle](#) at our next meeting on 10/1/2024.
 - [Dr. Tolliny Rankins](#) is confirmed for her guest speaking date of 10/29/2024.
 - Laurie Jo Reynolds from the [Chicago 400](#) group has agreed to speak at a meeting; Jenny is working with her to secure a date.
 - Possible future guest speakers can be referred by members through the [referral form on the website](#).
 - Jenny L. is working with Dr. Stephanie Jerstad to present at the Illinois Guardianship Association.
 - Ken asked if there was any further information on the play that was presented by previous guest speaker Kendra Phillips.

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Other Business

- Ann and Shep spoke about meeting a NC rep and US rep at a recent meet-n-greet who asked more about their son. They asked for feedback on when would be the best time to meet with either rep, before or after the election cycle? Ellen F. encouraged speaking with the reps sooner than later while they are receptive and could influence them long-term.
- Dwayne D. spoke on his experience focusing on registering voters.
- Dwayne D. shared educating his pastor and then his church on the harm of the registry and incarceration of sexual offenses. Group discussion included ways to create interest, dispelling myths, and various levels of harm for those who are on the registry and their families. Members discussed topics and various avenues to address and encourage church communities to see different points of view.

Roundtable

1. New Member Welcome and Introductions
2. Share Something Good

The next meeting date is Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. EST.

9:10 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.