

**Meeting Notes for the Seattle Atheists Board Meeting
November 13th, 2005**

Summary of action items follows meeting notes

Time and Date: Thursday, November 13th, 2005 at 10:00 AM

Location: Private residence of Randy Rumley.

Board members present to form a quorum at the beginning of the meeting:

MD - Marcus Dunavan – President

WB – Shelly Hoyt – Vice President

MS - Megan Spielbusch – Secretary

JS – Jerry Schiffelbein – Treasurer

JL – Jen Lees – Member at large

KH - Kyle Hepworth – Member at large

RR – Randy Rumley – Member at large

WB – Wendy Britton – Alternate member at large

SL – Shane Lees – Alternate member at large

9 people total were present.

The meeting was called to order by MD.

MD gave the revised articles of incorporation to KH to take to Olympia.

MD collected personal information from the executive board for the business license application.

An “icebreaker” was proposed by MD. A discussion and a vote was held to decide whether or not to participate. After much deliberation, curiosity overcame initial resistance and the “icebreaker” was approved and allowed to proceed.

Annual Goals

We reviewed the goals brainstormed in the last meeting and identified specific items to incorporate into our official goals for the coming year. The following goals were identified, in each category:

Speaking Out

- Create a “Press Kit” for the media, to establish the group as a media contact for atheists in the area.
- Develop a list of free or cheap advertising
- Create literature and find venues for distribution, including business cards and brochures.
- Prepare a ready-made booth and banner
- Create a list of booth use opportunities, along with details (e.g. festival schedules, cost, etc.)
- Develop an organized system for volunteering.

Connections

- Support those “coming out” or new to atheism. Suggestions include: a webpage with info specifically for “newbies” with a personal contact, and designating “greeters” at events.
- Determine which national group(s) to affiliate with.
- Support and share contacts with the “Intergroup”, an informal collection of local non-theistic groups.
- Send a member to a national conference.
- Recognize a “group or person of the year” for their efforts and accomplishments.
- Write “letters of recognition” throughout the year to people or groups that we support.
- Participate in the summer picnic.

Advocacy

- Explore youth outreach opportunities
- Identify and implement a youth outreach program
- Support and find appropriate uses for the Legal Fund
- Organize letter-writing campaigns

Activism

- Participate in 3 public activism-related activities
- Appoint a volunteer/outreach coordinator.
- Raise at least \$600 for the Speakers Fund
- Host at least 2 speakers.
- Fast-track board approval of outreach activities and official statements.

Resources

- Become a legal 501(c)3 non-profit
- Establish a budget for the year
- Double the Building Fund to \$600.
- Increase membership from 40 to 75 members
- Sign up at least one lifetime member
- Grow the library by 50%
- Hold bimonthly board meetings at a consistent time.
- Develop grant-writing capabilities, such as a training class for a member
- Set up Paypal on the website for online donations
- Look into website ads for businesses
- Distribute and collect an interest survey to members
- Set up a business calendar for official meetings and deadlines
- Hold a board member retreat
- Continue selling T-shirts

A vote was taken to approve the goals as written. The goals were approved 9-0.

The board then went through the goals and identified ones that could be completed before the end of the calendar year (approximately 1.5 months). The following goals were identified, along with the member responsible and any other notes:

- Develop a list of free or cheap advertising – **MS**
- Create literature and find venues for distribution, including business cards and brochures. – **KH to design business cards and send to board for feedback. RR to get them printed (about 1,000).**
- Prepare a ready-made booth and banner – **KH to design banner. MD to create tub for materials.**
- Create a list of booth use opportunities, along with details (e.g. festival schedules, cost, etc.) – **SH to create list**
- Support those “coming out” or new to atheism. Suggestions include: a webpage with info specifically for “newbies” with a personal contact, and designating “greeters” at events. – **SL, KH, and WB volunteered to be greeters at events. MS to create a webpage for newbies, with WB’s personal contact info.**
- Support and share contacts with the “Intergroup”, an informal collection of local non-theistic groups. – **SH to obtain contact list from the Intergroup, and email to MS. MS to post list on “members only” webpage.**
- Explore youth outreach opportunities – **JL to do**
- Fast-track board approval of outreach activities and official statements. – **board will do at this meeting**
- Establish a budget for the year – **JL, MD, and MS will meet to draft budget**

Other tasks discussed at the meeting:

- Need to back up Yahoo member email list. – **MS will do this**
- Desire expressed to make calendar more accessible – **KH to do this**
- Should try to identify “exclusive” benefits for members, as additional incentives to join. – Consider adding/modifying website to reflect this.
- **MD to send last year’s goal list to MS.**
- **MS to distribute this year’s goal list to board for final review, and post it on “members only” webpage.**

Next board meeting to be held on Thursday, December 15th at Romio’s Pizza. A vote was taken and approved 9-0. [Revision 11/15 – the 15th is a Seattle Meetup. New time proposed: Tuesday, 13th, same venue]. **JS to make reservation.**

A discussion was held about “fast-tracking” things like outreach activities and official statements. There is a need to create a policy to get official approval for things without needing to wait until the next board meeting.

MD made a proposal that in order to “fast-track” an item, you need to get approval from:

1. The President (or VP if not available), and
2. Another executive board member

The President can make official statements without needing to get approval from another board member. All others must obtain approval as outlined above for all statements

representing Seattle Atheists. Otherwise, the statements must be conveyed as personal opinion only. This applies to all members of Seattle Atheists

A vote was taken on the proposed “fast-track” policy, and the policy was approved 9-0.

Meeting was adjourned.

Summary of Action Items:

See notes in minutes