

MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2016

In Attendance:

Colin O'Brien (Chair)	Jim Phimister (Finance/Membership Sec.)
John Martin (Outreach Officer/IT)	Michael Reid (Events Co-ordinator/Minutes)

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 None.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

2.1 These were agreed as accurate apart from the items below.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 There continues to be a care issue when a wheelchair user visits the Rainbow Café, as happened again on Saturday 12 November. The carer should be encouraged to stay with the visitor in need of care at all times, and not just leave the visitor alone at the Café with untrained GayWest supporters to help out as happened on Saturday.
- 3.2 The Committee has been advised by Curo that the GayWest grant application has been forwarded to another desk and therefore the matter is pending.
- 3.3 It was noted that Ben Smith's recent fundraising project, in which he raised over £250,000, has been recognised by his local council at Portishead and they have presented Ben with an award.
- 3.4 Colin and Jim were unable to attend the Brigstowe 21st Anniversary as planned, but John Martin did go and the event went well. John was able to take leaflets.
- 3.5 A proposed A5 flyer entitled 'A Rough Guide to the Running Costs of GayWest' has so far not been displayed at the Café in printed form, but has been included in the forthcoming magazine.
- 3.6 It was confirmed that publicity leaflets have been delivered to the Bath University Library to be forwarded to their LGBT group.

4. Chair's Report

- 4.1 Colin and Jim and several other GayWest supporters visited the Bar Cameo on Saturday 12 November, where they met a trans member who suggested the idea for a Trans-Sport's group.
- 4.2 The committee were advised that forthcoming plans to hold the 'Dressed-2-Impress' event at Weston-super-Mare next April, have been amended. The local council wanted to charge £1000 for the use of the Tropicana venue. It

is now proposed that we use the Bar Cameo. It will be a smaller event but the idea is still on-going. It is possible that the Winter Gardens might be available as a possible venue, but this would depend on who became the new owners of the Winter Gardens.

- 4.3 It was confirmed that there would be a GayWest History talk at Leyhill on Sunday 20 November, with James Whatmore and John Martin attending.
- 4.4 An email has been received from Rebecca Head, Advocate, regarding an asylum appeal from Jan Furhat. GayWest could only confirm that he was a member.
- 4.5 Quotations have been received from Newicon regarding proposed changes to the website. The committee agreed that for a fee of £75 the word 'Members' be changed to 'Supporters'.
- 4.6 Now that we have only four committee members, it was agreed that we meet once every two months.
- 4.7 It was further agreed by the committee that we produce a bi-monthly 16-page magazine entitled the 'GayWest Journal'.
- 4.8 A brief discussion followed to confirm the multiple roles that each committee member would be undertaking.

5. Financial Summary Report

- 5.1 We have twenty-four bookings for the Christmas Dinner so far with further bookings expected; there has been one bank transfer this month to pay for Christmas gifts to include diaries and three boxes of chocolates.
- 5.2 There is a balance of over £5000.00 now which includes the Christmas dinner payments and no necessary adjustments recorded.
- 5.3 Our deposit account at the Building Society still stands unchanged at £2,140.88.
- 5.4 The Rainbow Café Log Sheet has been redesigned to include membership renewals as well as clearer 'Café Money' details.
- 5.5 When Jim and Colin move to their new address, bank account details will be updated, with the existing names of Brian Milligan and Antony Russell removed.

6. Outreach Officer's Report

- 6.1 John confirmed he will be attending the Leyhill visit on Sunday 20 November.
- 6.2 On Thursday 1 December there will be an AIDS Vigil in Bristol, comprising of two separate events, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Further details to be confirmed.

7. Event Co-ordinator's Report

- 7.1 We have a Christmas visit to Tyntesfield organised for Tuesday 29 November. As previously stated the details of the Christmas dinner are underway with bookings coming in.
- 7.2 In the New Year, we need to think of ideas for 2017. It has been suggested that we consider tenpin bowling in Bristol; a scrabble evening; the summer picnic at Keynsham Park near the bandstand to hear music; and a visit to St. Fagins, Cardiff.

8. Supporters/Membership Report

- 8.1 We have 86 supporters.
- 8.2 Jim was able to make contact with the new member who sent in his subscription but no other details, and this has now been sorted.

9. Magazine Editor's Report

- 9.1 This month's edition of the magazine is in progress, and the new bi-monthly editions will start in January: January/February, March/April etc.

10. Rainbow Café Report

- 10.1 It was confirmed that coffee supplies are fine at present, and a further supply of pepsis bought.
- 10.2 We may need to buy another coffee machine in the New Year, as one of the existing ones tends to leak despite having been descaled recently.
- 10.3 The committee agreed that for the Christmas raffle, we increase the price to £1.50 a strip, but for other raffles in the year to keep the price as it is now at £1.00.
- 10.4 A brief discussion followed on how to promote the book library, with some books already on display along with the magazines. We also need to promote the website and its use.

11 AOB

- 11.1 The recent Halloween Raffle raised £20, with thanks to Paul Hunter.
- 11.2 A general discussion followed to confirm the finer details for the Christmas Dinner.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be provisionally held at 2.00pm on Tuesday 17 January at Colin and Jim's new address in Keynsham.

(Michael Reid/ 17 November 2016)