

MINUTES OF GAYWEST COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017

In Attendance:

Colin O'Brien (Chair)

Jim Phimister (Treasurer/Membership Secretary)

Michael Reid (Events Co-ordinator)

1. Apologies for Absence:

1.1 John Martin was unable to attend.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

2.1 These were agreed as accurate.

3. Chair's Report:

3.1 It was confirmed that we have a stand at the Celebrating Age UK Festival on 23 September in Bristol.

3.2 Our recent 'Dress to Impress' event at Weston-Super-Mare went well, but numbers were very low which was disappointing. Grateful thanks to Nigel and his friends for all their hard work.

3.3 A brief discussion followed on how best to promote our own membership and to encourage members to use the website more effectively, as the membership is paying for the website in membership fees.

3.4 Improvements have been made to the website: magazines can be downloaded from May 2015. The Gallery (photos) has been updated. We are still waiting for the facility to pay direct online.

3.5 There is the possibility that the committee may have to raise the membership fees early next year, but this is to be confirmed at a later date.

3.6 Sally emailed to ask if the GayWest logo could be displayed at the Bath Pride and this was agreed.

4. Treasurer's Report:

- 4.1 There is a current balance of £4,983.14, with all income and expenditure now entered and up-to-date.
- 4.2 The Nationwide Deposit Account stands at £2,199.71, and a small amount will be added to this each month when appropriate to ensure the current account is not over the limit for insurance purposes.

5. Outreach Officer's Report: nothing to report.**6. Events Co-ordinator's Report:**

- 6.1 We looked at various Bristol Packet Boat trips that are available, and the committee have chosen to go on the Avon Gorge Cruise on Thursday 17 August, departing from Bristol Harbourside at 12.30pm and returning at 4.00pm. Michael to add details on the website, and also details regarding Weymouth below.
- 6.2 Further details were discussed regarding the train timetable for the day trip to Weymouth. Colin will display the timetable at the Café so that members wishing to come can catch the same train.

7. Membership Secretary's Report:

- 7.1 The membership currently stands at 81.
- 7.2 **Journal Editor's Report:** nothing to report on this occasion, but there has been good feedback on the last issue.

8. Rainbow Café Report:

- 8.1 It is proposed to hold a cream tea in June or July to coincide with Wimbledon and tennis week.
- 8.2 Robert Howes has kindly offered to unlock the Café on those dates that Colin and Jim will be at the Prides, and also for when they are on holiday in September. Roy Towler has volunteered to be the Café host on those occasions.

- 8.3 A brief discussion followed about tea/coffee mugs. At present we are using the old ones in store, but mugs will be replaced when we see a suitable special price offer.
- 8.4 We also need to replace the plastic menu holders that we use to display events.
- 8.5 With regards to ads. And leaflets, the committee is considering if it wouldn't be better to focus on displaying GayWest events and news rather than advertising outside groups that do not actively support us. At present we are displaying a lot of leaflets.

9. AOB:

- 9.1 Details for the forthcoming Quiz evening at Leyhill Prison were confirmed.
- 9.2 The benefits of GayWest Membership were reviewed, for which members get access to the private members' section of the website, the gallery and the journal. They can use our book library. They get a copy of the current journal published every second month. They can use a Loyalty Card. Members get free condoms and general information regarding LGBT issues, health advice and contacts.

10. Date of Next Meeting: will be held on Tuesday 6 June at 2.00pm at Keynsham.

(Michael Reid/Minutes – 11 May 2017)