

Unison Scotland LGBT Committee Meeting

Saturday 30th January 2010
UNISON Glasgow City Branch, 18 Albion Street, Glasgow



MINUTES

1. Sederunt/Apologies

MJT (Chair), AC (Chair), RM (by phone) (Minutes), ED, DC, LSh

Apologies were received from AD, LM, IA, JM, LSi, NB

ACTION

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 17th October 2009 were AGREED as an accurate record (AC moved and DC seconded)

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Committee Seats

It was NOTED that two nominations – RM and NB – were received for unfilled seats on this Committee. As there was no clash of seat applied for, both candidates were duly elected unopposed. Welcome had been extended to them both and the Committee was very pleased that RM could join us given the short notice given of confirmation of seats.

This leaves 4 seat unfilled (1 general, 1 black, 1 bisexual and 1 disabled). It was AGREED that this would be raised at Scottish Council the following week and that the Black and Disabled Regional SOGs would be approached regarding communicating with their LGBT members.

MJT

5. Officers/Reps Reports

- Co-conveners – a written report was NOTED.
- Secretary/Finance – the secretary/treasurer was not present.
- National Reps – the focus of the National meeting was the Action on Resolutions, which is to be discussed as part of the agenda.
- Scottish Council – none of the designated committee members had been able to attend Scottish Council in December. A verbal report of key matters to be raised at the February Scottish Council was NOTED.
- Scottish Committee – the designated committee member was not present.
- L&O Committee – No report received.
- Women's Committee – there had not been a meeting since our last committee meeting.
- International report – neither of the designated committee members had been able to attend because the last meeting clashed with AGM.
- Labour Link – No report received.

6. National LGBT Conference

6.1. Feedback form

The feedback form was collectively completed. MJT to type up and forward to National.

MJT

6.2. Record of Conference Decisions (2008)/Action Plan

The Actions on Resolutions document received from National was considered Motion by Motion and tagged with the names of those committee members who would be responsible for delivering on behalf of Scotland. It was not practical to try to undertake work on every Motion, but the majority were covered. MJT to update the Action on Resolutions document to include names and circulate to Committee.

MJT

7. Pride Planning

It was AGREED that the Committee should endeavour to have a stall at all main 'political' Prides in Scotland this year (i.e. those that are not purely commercial, party events). The following committee members AGREED to lead on organising the following events (should they be taking place):

- Pride Glasgow – LSh
- Dumfries & Galloway – MJT
- Borders – MJT
- Aberdeen – LSi (suggested in absence)
- Highland – LM (suggested in absence)
- Black Pride – MJT. Black Pride is a national event held in London, which may help recruit more black members in Scotland. MJT to investigate options, including the possibility of holding a pre-Black Pride event in Scotland (possibly directly after our April meeting), and funding.
- branded goods for the stall – MJT to organise
- pull-up banner for use behind stall – MJT to get quotes

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MJT

8. Celtic Connections

AC outlined the good progress made to date on the theme and logistics of Celtic Connections. The following points were AGREED:

- The event will take place the weekend of 26-28th March, from Fri evening to Sun lunchtime dependent upon the arrival times of delegates from Northern Ireland and Wales.
- The purpose of the event is to produce campaign materials for the three organising and recruitment campaigns developed at Celtic Connections 2009.
- In order to contain costs, the event would be held in Edinburgh. This would enable B&B for Fri night and a 24-hr conference rate, from lunchtime Sat to lunchtime Sun, to be booked at the Jury's Inn. AC to book.
- Fri evening would be an orientation session and casual social, dependent upon the arrival times of delegates from Northern Ireland and Wales. AC to organise.
- Sat morning would be based at the Scottish Parliament and entail the shoot for poster images. A photographer brief and quotes are required. AC to co-ordinate.
- More models are likely to be needed. 'Recruitment' would need to take place beforehand. AC to co-ordinate.
- Dettie or Winston from National LGBT Committee Black Caucus would be invited to join us for the weekend. They would run a session on black recruitment and would add a much needed black face to our poster images. AC to invite.

AC

AC

AC/MJT

AC

AC

9. IDAHO Preparations

It was suggested that the Committee purchase a large number of rainbow flags and distribute one to each Branch with a covering letter asking them to display it for IDAHO. We could then write to all Branches at future dates suggesting they use their flag to help advertise our AGM and for other events such as LGBT History Month. MJT to investigate costs.

MJT

10. Branch SOG Feedback (standing item)

The Committee was told that two of Scotland's first time delegates to National LGBT Conference in 2009 were so enthused by the experience that they are trying to set up their own SOGs. It was AGREED to give advice where needed.

DC

11. Recruitment (standing item)

Future actions for this item are covered by discussions under Action on Resolutions and Pride Planning.

It was NOTED that Glasgow! 2009 was very successful at recruiting signatories to the Million Voices campaign.

12. Anti-BNP (standing item)

Future actions for this item are covered by discussions under Action on Resolutions. It was NOTED that Unison was represented at the rally against the National Defence League in Glasgow in November. The Scottish Secretary spoke and LGBT members attended with banners.

13. Correspondence

- It was NOTED that the STUC is holding an LGBT conference, 10:00-15:30 on Fri 26th February in Glasgow. Some committee members have registered; others are encouraged to do so if they wish.

14. AOCB

It was NOTED with sadness that AD intends to step down from the Committee because the Fife Men Project has lost its funding and is to fold. As this was to be the venue for our next Committee meeting, an alternative venue needs to be found. MJT to investigate and to find out timescale of AD's departure.

M.IT

15. Date of Next Meeting

10:00-14:00

Sat 17th April

venue tbc

Committee members are asked to note the start time of the meeting!