Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter

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guelph gay equality

APRIL 1982

NEW CONSTITUTION - NEW EXECUTIVE FOR GUELPH GAY EQUALITY

As most of you are now aware, GUELPH GAY EQUALITY now has a brand new Constitution. Last month we sent you a copy of the document and it was passed by a unanimous vote by members present at two consecutive meetings, March 16 & 23, 1982. There were two minor changes from the original sent to you, as outlined below:

ARTICLE VII:

- (e) Nominees must be members in good standing of Guelph Gay Equality prior to the election.
- (j) In the case of a vacancy on the Executive Committee during the electoral term, the other members of the Executive Committee shall appoint a member to complete the term of the vacant position.

As of our election night meeting, April 6, 1982 we had received 6 nominations for the 6 positions on our Executive Committee. All 6 nominees were elected by acclamation. During an Executive meeting held on April 9, 1982, it was mutually decided by the Committee what position each Director would be overseeing. The results of the election and the Executive meeting and the terms of office are as follows:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FINANCIAL DIRECTOR EDUCATION DIRECTOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR DANCE DIRECTOR PUBLICITY DIRECTOR James Dougan - 2 YRS
Malcolm Jones - 1 YR.
André Méthot - 2 YRS.
Vince Charbonneau - 1 YR.
Pat Ladouceur - 1 YR.
David Granger - 2 YRS.

Our next general business meeting will be held in Room 335 of the University Centre on June 3, 1982 at 8:00 PM (Pub Crawl to follow that meeting).

GUELPH GAY EQUALITY - QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT January - March 1982

REVENUE		
Cash Balance Forward Social Events Memberships & Donation	S	\$ 750.15 2487.37 219.09
	TOTAL	\$3456.61
EXPENSES		
Newsletter Gay Line Office Supplies Loan Payments (U of G) Meetings Expense Social Events Publicity		57.30 140.45 53.44 227.12 77.57 2174.00 84.25
	TOTAL	\$2814.13
SUMMARY		
TOTAL REVENUE EXPENSES CASH ON HAND		3456.61 2814.13 \$ 642.48

GAY VICTORY AT KITCHENER COUNCIL

On Monday, April 5th, Kitchener City Council voted 9 to 3 in favour of permitting the Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective to rent the Victoria Park Pavillion for a dance to be held on Friday June 4

The story began when Joe Szalai, a member of the collective, booked the hall a couple of weeks earlier. On April 5, the City Clerk called Szalai to inform him that the hall could not be rented to gay groups, because of past "problems" with another gay group at the Bridgeport Community Centre. The clerk was unaware that the "problems" at Bridgeport were perpetuated by baseball-bat swinging homophobic youths. Szalai then contacted the K-W Record which ran a news story also on April 5. That same evening collective members Szalai and Gregg Meadows went before City Council to demand an explanation. Meadows addressed the council, explained the events, then demanded either a reversal or the resignation of the city bureaucrats responsible.

Mayor Morley Rosenberg then admitted to council that he had personally intervened to stop the dance, using the Bridgeport events as justification. Council members took issue with the Mayor and after some debate voted 9-3 in favour of the collective.

Before leaving council, Szalai demanded that the city pass a by-law prohibiting the City from discrimination against minorities, including gays. While some councillors said that such a by-law was not a municipal concern, the city lawyer, Jim Wallace, was instructed to draw up a legal report on the matter. Gay activists have successfully lobbied for such by-laws in Ottawa, Toronto, Windsor, and Thunder Bay. In Quebec, this type of discrimination is illegal throughout the province, thanks to 1977 legislation which protects sexual minorities.

The Kitchener success clearly demonstrates the effectiveness of upfront confrontation in cases of blatant discrimination. The Gay Media Collective is holding the June 4 dance at the Victoria Park Pavillion to raise funds for a soon-to-be published regional gay men's magazine, entitled Gay, eh?

COMING EVENTS

- Tue.Apr.20 Guest Speaker: Joe Szalai
 Discussion of Gay Media Collective
 vs. Kitchener City Council
 Room 311 Arts Bldg. U of G 8 PM
- Tue.Apr.27 Collection of Audio Tapes
 Some very interesting audio tapes
 on loan from Gay Media Collective
 Room 311 Arts Bldg. U of G 8 PM
- Fri.Apr.30 Dance at School house 611 Silvercreek Pkwy, Guelph 9 PM
- Tue.May 4 Video Movie Night
 "YANKEE DOODLE DANDY" starring
 James Cagney (A Musical Comedy based on the life of George M. Cohen)
 Room 311 Arts Bldg. U of G 8 PM
- Tue.May 25 Womens' Night with guest speaker: Chris Bearchell Room 311 Arts Bldg. U of G 8 PM
- Thur.June 3 G.G.E. General Meeting

 Room 335 Univ. Centre 8 PM

 Pub Crawl to follow meeting
- Fri. June 4 Kitchener Dance Victoria Park Pavillion, Kitchener, Ont. 9 PM.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP & SAVE: Your \$10.00

membership gives you newsletters and dance discounts for 12 months. Check expiry date on address label. Send \$\$ to address below. (see $P\cdot 2$)