

american **CAMP** association™
Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Committee Name: Public Policy Committee
2. Committee Chair: Sharon Kosch
3. Meeting Dates: January 10, 2005
4. Meeting Location: Via Teleconference
5. Role Call:

Committee Members Present: Sharon Kosch, Chair; Scott Brody, Don Cheley, Vance Gilmore, Chuck McGrady, Darrow Milgrim, Jane Sanborn, and Steve Sudduth

Committee Members Absent: Marla Coleman

Staff Present: Peg Smith, Rachel Williams and Susan E. Yoder

6. Discussion and Actions:

A. Welcome and Introductions: Kosch called the meeting to order at 11:03 am.

B. Public Lands Position Statement: The committee reviewed the draft public lands position statement. Smith reported that it had not yet been sent to the Board – but will be shortly. Sanborn then reported on the regulatory environment concerning public lands issues. The committee had considerable discussion about whether the statement should be edited to include the issue of citizen participation in the development/change of regulations concerning public lands. The group also discussed the need to prioritize among the various issues interrelated in public lands – such as: access, cost, environmental stewardship, and citizen participation in the process. **It was the consensus of the group to edit the Public Lands Draft Position Statement to include the issue of citizen participation.** Kosch and Sanborn agreed to work on redrafting the public lands position statement. The committee further discussed the need to prioritize the various public lands issues. **The committee agreed to send Kosch their prioritized list of public lands issues by the end of the week.** In addition, McGrady agreed to try to network with others outside ACA to make sure we are aware of pending regulatory issues. Sanborn agreed to contact Diane Hitchings to discover what is the latest news with regulatory issues.

C. Criminal Background Checks: The committee reviewed the criminal background checks position statement and list of critical issues distributed by Kosch. Significant discussion centered upon the need to bring delegates (and others) up-to-speed on just what the issue is about. Kosch stressed the need to

collaborate with the National Standards Commission and the Insurance Committee to ensure that we move forward together – instead of working at cross-purposes. Smith shared that some investigation had been done in the past concerning collaborating with Choice Point. **Smith agreed to provide the committee with information regarding Choice Point.**

Considerable discussion followed concerning next steps regarding the criminal background check issue. **The committee agreed to email Kosch their ideas about the criminal background check statement and the critical issues list.** Discussion followed about the involvement of the National Standards Commission and the Insurance Committee. **Kosch agreed to contact the National Standards Commission and the Insurance Committee to ask them to discuss some key questions about the criminal background checks issue.**

Kosch noted that all Public Policy Committee members are encouraged to attend the February Delegates meetings even if they are not delegates – to participate in the criminal background checks discussion. **Smith agreed to gather information from Cathy Scheder and Steve Holloway concerning their work in pursuing partnerships around criminal background checks – she will share this information with the committee.**

D. Wage Issues: The committee discussed the requests of members to provide even more detailed information about minimum wage laws in each state. It was recognized that we currently provide the links to the information – but that some users do not know then the key questions to ask and issues related to wage laws. **Brody agreed to consider a better way to collect and disseminate camp-specific wage information for each state. Milgrim, Sanborn, Brody, and Sudduth agreed to assist in developing key wage questions for the briefing session in Orlando.**

E. Federal Election: Kosch reported that we will continue to assess the environment as it changes because of the results of the national election.

F. International Agencies Meeting: Cheley and Kosch reported on the November 2004 meeting of the international placement agencies. They reported that the best practices are being updated and may be published in *Campline*. Kosch shared the concerns about Visas and noted that we continue to try to develop a contact at Rep. Hostetler's office. **Smith and Williams will take an aggressive approach to contacting and partnering with the staff person in Hostetler's office who is working on the immigration issue.** Kosch further noted that there will be sessions at the Orlando national conference about international staff and issues related.

G. Public Policy Sessions in Orlando and at Regional Meetings: Kosch reminded the committee of the two public policy sessions being offered in Orlando. She said she needed more volunteers – and if interested to contact her.

Kosch reported that they are working on two sessions for CampWest 2005. Brody reported on the opportunities at Tri State 2005. Yoder reported on a planned

session for Mid States 2005. **Sudduth will report to the committee about sessions for New England 2005.**

Gilmore reported that school-calendar dates are becoming a hot issue in Texas. He will keep the committee informed.

H. **Public Policy Issues Groups:** The committee reviewed the draft issues group overview. **Sanborn, Milgrim, Brody, and Sudduth agreed to review the draft issues group overview and to provide feedback to Kosch.**

I. **Liaison Job Description and Competencies:** Kosch referred to the draft liaison description and competencies that had been developed. She asked for assistance in moving the draft forward. **Sudduth agreed to assist Kosch in the development of the Liaison job description and competencies.** Kosch said that the terms would be looked at again in April 2005.

J. **Other Issues:** Kosch said that the other issues we will discuss in the future are: Cap Wiz, State Cap Wiz, and the Public Policy Web Page.

K. **Adjourn:** Kosch adjourned the meeting at 12:35 pm.

7. Summary of Items Requiring Action By Staff:

- A. **Yoder** will create and distribute meeting minutes.
- B. **Smith** agreed to provide the committee with information regarding Choice Point.
- C. **Smith** agreed to gather information from Cathy Scheder and Steve Holloway concerning their work in pursuing partnerships around criminal background checks – she will share this information with the committee.
- D. **Smith** and **Williams** will take an aggressive approach to contacting and partnering with the staff person in Hostetler's office who is working on the immigration issue.

8. Summary of Assignments to Committee Members:

- A. **Kosch** and **Sanborn** agreed to work on redrafting the public lands position statement.
- B. **The committee** agreed to send Kosch their prioritized list of public lands issues by the end of the week.
- C. **McGrady** agreed to try to network with others outside ACA to make sure we are aware of pending regulatory issues.
- D. **Sanborn** agreed to contact Diane Hitchings to discover what is the latest news with regulatory issues.
- E. **The committee** agreed to email Kosch their ideas about the criminal background check statement and the critical issues list
- F. **Kosch** agreed to contact the National Standards Commission and the Insurance Committee to ask them to discuss some key questions about the criminal background checks issue.
- G. **Brody** agreed to consider a better way to collect and disseminate camp-specific wage information for each state.

- H. **Milgrim, Sanborn, Brody, and Sudduth** agreed to assist in developing key wage questions for the briefing session in Orlando.
- I. **All committee** members will contact Kosch if they are interested in helping with the public policy sessions in Orlando.
- J. **Sudduth** will report to the committee about sessions for New England 2005.
- K. **Gilmore** will keep the committee apprised of the school calendar issue in Texas.
- L. **Sanborn, Milgrim, Brody, and Sudduth** agreed to review the draft issues group overview and to provide feedback to Kosch.
- M. **Sudduth** agreed to assist **Kosch** in the development of the Liaison job description and competencies.

9. Summary of Motions:

- A. It was the consensus of the group to edit the Public Lands Draft Position Statement to include the issue of citizen participation.

10. Next Meeting:

To be determined

11. Minutes Submitted by:

Susan E. Yoder
January 10, 2005