

Minutes for WV Civics Coalition Meeting – Zoom – 5/17/23

I. Introduction of Coalition Work Generally

(Ace Parsi)

- A main focus of the coalition at this stage is to recruit members and allies to your coalition.
- CivXNow Coalition Development Toolkit)
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1U4RtISSv1d6VQjvnMjXcOO-oonADcKwX/edit#heading=h.j0ub9wac0o02>

II. WV Coalition Work Specifically

(Rebecca Tinder)

- Goals:
 1. Civic education
 2. Civic engagement
 3. Civil public discourse
- Other thoughts on coalition work:
 - What policy changes need to be made to make an impact and to improve civics education and engagement?
 - The coalition membership should be inclusive – different political persuasions, geographic areas, perspectives, etc.
 - Find likeminded people wanting to improve civics in WV.
 - Create a needs assessment.
 - Recruit members and allies.
 - Consider a listening tour.
 - Host a leadership institute.
 - Create a website to promote the coalition, its goals, and serve as a clearinghouse for civics information. This included improving communication so various groups aren't stepping on each other's toes with scheduling and sharing information and resources that may apply to various groups who may overlap in their missions and projects.

III. Roll Call (those in attendance)

Lisa Boudreau, Kay Goodwin, Ashley Horst, Dustin Lambert, Ace Parsi, Rory Perry, John Quesenberry, Ray Smock, Rebecca Tinder, Tom Tinder, Rich Zukowski

IV. Grant Received

- Policy changes is a main focus of the grant and organization – resources to change policies to promote civics education, engagement, and civil public discourse
- Approximately \$8,600

V. Report From Fiscal Agent – Byrd Center

(Ray Smock)

- Byrd Center Foundation will be the official accounting agency
- Money can be drawn down on that with a simple voucher (reimbursed expense or ahead of the event for which it's needed) with the consent of the group (officers)
- They will do the record keeping

VI. Election of Officers

- President – Rebecca Tinder (WV Bar – Charleston, WV)
- Vice President – Betsy Osborne (West Virginia University)
(Betsy is managing the teacher prep program around civics at WVU now.)
- Treasurer – Ray Smock (Robert C. Byrd Center – Shepherd University)
- Secretary – John Quesenberry (Woodrow Wilson High School)

VII. Naming of Additional Stakeholders

- Possible contacts to invite to join the coalition:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gX2gbonHy8YrBgTAe4h7MLjf7t-caoWH0SyhcRVYxko/edit#gid=0>
- *Members are encouraged to continue adding to the list of prospective members and to invite others to attend upcoming meetings.*

VIII. Creation of Needs Assessment

- Ace Parsi will spearhead developing the needs assessment using examples from other coalition states.
- He would like others from the committee to contribute to its development. Tom Tinder will be helping Ace.

IX. Website Creation

- The website currently has the one-pager posted.
- <https://www.byrdcenter.org/wv-civics-coalition.html>
- Rebecca will ask Betsy to help with this goal.
- We would like to especially reach out to younger people to help with this.
- Suggestion was made to collect information about officers to post on the website.

Rebecca Tinder provided a link to a survey for coalition members to fill out after the meeting.

<https://www.jotform.com/231365969727067>

X. Next Meeting

- 3rd Tuesday of each month from 4:00 – 5:00 will be standing meeting date.
- Next meeting will be June 20, 2023.

Goals for next meeting:

- Have the beginnings of a needs assessment.
- Have a beginning outline of a website.
- Have more people on the list to invite to join the coalition.
(*Ann Barth was suggested as another person to be on the list.*)

Respectfully submitted

John Quesenberry

John Quesenberry – Secretary

5/17/23