Gender Equity Forum Legislative Action Meeting Notes

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Progressive Action for the Common Good

Notes from today are in blue.  Names are bolded for areas they are going to take the lead.  Please let me know if any corrections are needed.

Next meeting:  Wednesday, September 28th at 10:30am at the Coffee Hound on Devil's Glen Rd in Bettendorf.

Legislative Action Group – September 21, 2022 at 10am at Coffee Hound, Bettendorf

Attending:  Marie Gleason, Alta Price, Rosanne Krubsack, Ann McCluskey, Maggie Davis (staff)

Absent:  Susan Leuthauser, Kay Pence

Agenda:

* Introductions
  + Do you live in Iowa or Illinois?
    - All currently living in Iowa.  Maggie previously lived in Illinois.
  + What interested you to join this group?
  + What experience do you have?
  + What do you think you’re interested in working on from reviewing the agenda?

Voter Registration for Roe, Roe, Roe Your Vote event on October 8th

* + Scott County Democrats are sending a representative with applicable information and signage.
  + Who can assist?
    - 11:30am – 2:15pm
  + Maggie will assist.
  + Marie will connect Maggie with the Scott County Democrats representative.
  + Alta will staff a table for people to sign up to join the PACG Gender Equity Forum.
    - Marie will communicate to Tracy, Roe Your Vote Organizer.

* Compiling information for voting (key dates, candidate info) – Iowa & Illinois – Who can do this?
  + Maggie is going to work on this.
    - Ann suggested contacting Susan Meenan for what she has done previously so as not to reinvent the wheel.  (Iowa)
    - It was recommended for Maggie to contact Lori McClougin (please correct me on the name) for information for Illinois.
* Suggested information:
* Registering to vote
  + Dates
  + How to confirm is already registered
* Absentee/Early ballot request
  + Dates
  + How
* Return of early ballot
  + By when
  + How
* Day of voting
  + Hours
  + Where to find where you vote
* Where to call with questions or problems with voting
* Where to find information on candidates
  + How to find your sample ballot
  + Candidates’ social media and web pages
* Goals for lobbying & identifying who to talk to about abortion access in QC IL - Partnering with Services Action Group (Carolyn)
* Marie will start an outline of a potential plan and coordinate with Carolyn.
  + Goal:  To make sure officials and community stakeholders support
* Ideas:
  + Meet with Gregg Johnson & Tracy Nessler Jones for their recommendations on who to meet with
  + Reach out to QC IL Mayors
  + Timing – Should the conversations happen after the election?
* Decide on goals for meeting with State Legislators and US Congressional Reps/Senators
* What do we want to achieve?
  + Know what candidates’/elected officials’ position is
  + Form relationships with candidates/elected officials
  + Influence candidates/elected officials
* What positions are applicable to target?
  + State Legislature
* Who are in those positions / candidates for those positions?
  + Initial candidates to target:
    - Gary Mohr
    - Dr. Mary Kathleen Figaro
    - Scott Webster
    - Mike Vondran
  + Alta will lead for the initial set of candidates
  + Other candidates may be considered
* What is known about their position on abortion access?  TBD
* On a scale of 1-5, how likely are we to influence them?  TBD
* October Legislative Forums
  + How do we get details?  Maggie Tinsman?
    - I reached out to Melissa Gesing who used to handle a lot of the details on Maggie’s behalf but she’s no longer involved.
    - Maggie & Rosanne will coordinate to compile details.
  + Only 1 forum has been publicized – October 15th.  It just referenced “local candidates” but does not indicate what level or who.
  + Brainstorm potential questions – This will be key.
    - Marie will send out samples and ask for recommendations on a separate email.
  + Communicate to ALL Gender Equity Forum members
    - Event details
    - Sample questions
    - Plan – How to re-ask a question if it wasn’t answered

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