

Minutes of the Founding Meeting of Prime Timers St. Louis

May 12, 2007 - 1PM – Home of Ted Berni

Individuals in Attendance:

Michael Stone, Charles Koehler, Ron Crader, Dennis Hostetler, Jim Ford, Ted Berni, Charles Colburn, Bob Lang, Bob Lewis and Mike Sargent.

Mike Stone's presentation:

Mike Stone, the Vice President of Chapters for Prime Timers Worldwide, presided over our first meeting. He had invited each of us to the meeting in order to help us create a local St. Louis area chapter of Prime Timers. Mike first went over the highlights of Woody Baldwin's manual for chapter presidents. Then he offered insights from his experience setting up and then expanding the Sarasota chapter. Finally, he chaired our discussions that lead to the following decisions, assignment of responsibilities, and the agenda items for our next meeting.

Decisions Made at this meeting:

1. **Name of our organization:**
Prime Timers St. Louis.
2. **Next widely publicized meeting:**
June 3rd, 5 PM at 4206 Preston Drive, St. Louis, MO 63129
3. **Interim Board Members:**
Charles Koehler, Ron Crader, Dennis Hostetler, Jim Ford, Ted Berni, Charles Colburn, Robert Lang, Bob Lewis and Mike Sargent.
4. **Interim officers of the organization:**
 - President – Charles Koehler, Jr.
 - Vice President – Ron Crader
 - Secretary – Dennis Hostetler
 - Treasury – Jim Ford
5. **Dues:** \$10 per individual
(If an individual wants meeting notices, correspondence and the newsletter sent via the postal service instead of e-mail, membership will be \$ 25 per member. The higher fee is necessary to cover the added expense of paper, printing, handling and mailing). \$ 1 of the dues for each member goes to the treasury of the national organization.
6. **Guest Fee:** \$3 per event
A membership roster will be continuously updated and used at meetings whenever there are costs for food, entertainment or space. The purpose of the guest fee is to encourage individuals to join the organization and pay their annual dues.

Assignment of Responsibilities

1. **Jim Ford and Mike Sargent:** host the next meeting in their home – June 3rd, Sunday at 5 PM.

2. **Charles and Dennis:** prepare news release and flyer publicizing the June 3rd meeting. Distribute the news release to the Vital Voice, online gay websites, gay newsletters and other gay organizations and their leaders. Distribute the flyers to gay friendly coffee shops, bookstores and other related commercial establishments.
1. **Jim Ford:** distribute the flyers to gay bars.
2. **Board Members:** invite their friends to next meeting. Get the word out.
3. **Dennis Hostetler:** e-mail invitations to potential Prime Timers members from personal database of friends over 40.
4. **Jim Ford:** create database of members, spreadsheet for tracking revenues and expenditures, and open Primetimer's checking account. Get a domain name and create an interim website for free using Microsoft Live Office.
5. **Jim Ford:** will receive all applications, enter data in the member data base and make a follow-up calls to welcome new members. His address and phone number will be used for the main contact and correspondence purposes.
6. **Mike Sargent and Jim Ford:** make flyers advertising Prime Timers and membership application form for the Pride Festival – June 23rd and 24th and check with Macy's to see if we can have flyers at their booth. Flyer should contain publicity for the next two Primetimer events (to be decided at the June 3rd meeting).

Agenda items for our next meeting

1. Welcoming
 - Name tags upon entry. A person assigned to write clearly each person's name, address, telephone number and e-mail.
 - Everyone briefly tell the group something about themselves.
2. Announcements - National Conference – October 12 – 14 in Reno, Nevada.
3. Discussion topics
 - Next membership meeting – its place and time
 - Place, time and frequency of meetings
 - How to keep the organization interesting for both singles and couples.
 - Everyone break into a small discussion group
 - To brainstorm on comprehensive recruitment strategies (10 minutes).
 - To select what might be the most popular programs and activities of interest to the members (10 minutes).
4. Tasks to assign
 - Review initial chapter website being designed by Jim Ford.
 - Update membership application form to include topics and activities of interest to local members.
 - Creation of local constitution and bylaws.
 - Choose the two most popular events and decide upon dates to be publicized on our Pridefest flyer.