

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF MEN

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Minutes for the Twenty-Fourth Commission Meeting

February 24, 2006 1-4 PM

Legislative Office Building Room 206, Concord, NH

These minutes were taken by Scott Garman.

Members Present: Joe Mastromarino, Gus Lerandean, David Lauren, Marshall Hickok, Michael Geanoulis, Scott Garman.

Members Absent: Stephen Gorin.

Secretary's Report:

Scott Garman presented the January 2006 meeting minutes draft along with a one-page amendment submitted by Marshall Hickok. Marshall moved to amend the minutes by substitution, replacing the third and fourth paragraphs under the "First Biennial Report Feedback" section with his amended text. David Lauren seconded, and discussion followed.

Mike Geanoulis expressed concerns about amending the minutes with substitutions, and mentioned that when Ron Blankenstein was Secretary for the Commission, Mike was not allowed to make a requested substitution in the minutes. Mike feels that this set a precedent that should be followed.

Mike wanted it clear for the record that he felt the original meeting minutes accurately reflected the dialogue which occurred at the last meeting.

Mike also objected with the last paragraph of Marshall's substitution because it took issue with passion about child custody issues, visitation, and domestic violence, and implied that there is a larger mission of the Commission. Mike strongly disagrees with this.

Joe Mastromarino pointed out that the issue at hand is whether Marshall's amendment accurately reflects the content of the last meeting, and not whether his comments are agreeable, since they only represent Marshall's individual views.

Scott Garman assured Mike that his objections would be noted in this month's minutes.

The motion was then voted upon, which passed 5-1, with Mike Geanoulis opposed.

Gus Lerandean then motioned to approve the minutes as amended. David Lauren seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Newsweek Article: "The Trouble with Boys"

Marshall got in touch with the reprint department of Newsweek magazine. We have full permission to

link to the article, and Marshall was told that options are available to purchase the article for redistribution for a fee. Marshall did not have this cost available yet, but agreed to follow-up with them to find out, since web URLs have a tendency to change frequently.

Scott Garman agreed to post a link to the article in the Resources section of the CSM web site.

Treasurer Position:

Joe Mastromarino pointed out that David Lauren's appointment to the Commission replaced Larry Colby, who served as Treasurer. Joe asked David if he would be willing to serve as Treasurer for the CSM, and David agreed. David also noted that he was not going to be available during our March and April meetings.

Web Site Update:

Scott Garman asked David Lauren for his contact information and permission to post his e-mail address on the CSM web site. David agreed to have his e-mail address posted: dlau@adelphia.net.

Media Coverage:

Mike Geanoulis reports that he was interviewed twice in the last month about the Commission's report. One was a radio interview on station KAHL in San Antonio, Texas. The other was a television segment on MSNBC's *The Situation with Tucker Carlson*.

CSM Committees:

A discussion about dealing with media interview requests evolved into a discussion of setting up a possible media committee to delegate interview requests to.

Marshall expanded further on the Committees idea, stating that they would be a useful way of splitting up work and a way to hold public hearings where individuals such as marital masters, GALs, and school officials could be interviewed about areas where work could be done to raise awareness and help the status of men.

The following committees were proposed:

Public Initiatives: bringing in representatives from schools and the court system to hold public hearings and initiatives. Members: Marshall Hickok and Gus Lerandean.

The Economic Impact of Fatherless Homes: studying the link between fatherless children and the need for a variety of social services. Members: Michael Geanoulis.

The Status of Boys and Young Men in Education: researching and studying the educational status of males in school systems, from early childhood education through postsecondary education. Members: Scott Garman.

The Status of Men's Health: Joe Mastromarino and Stephen Gorin.

Joe Mastromarino will delegate media contact requests as he has been doing so far, but all members who speak with the media will be expected to make it clear that they cannot make statements on behalf of others within the Commission or for the Commission itself (unless clear consensus has already been reached on the issue).

David Lauren wished to find out more about the work of the Commission and its areas before becoming involved with a Committee, but plans to do so in the near future.

Gus Lerandau had to leave at this point due to a prior appointment.

David Lauren noted that he had spoken with one of his law students who works for the NH Department of Probation and Parole, who mentioned that there is a lack of educational opportunities for men in the prison system. David believes this may be a topic he would be interested in researching further.

Rep. David Bickford arrived at this point, and spoke at length with Marshall Hickok about possible training programs that could be targeted at marital masters and GALs.