



## **MEETING MINUTES**

FEBRUARY 21, 2009

### **SHOW ME THE MONEY: TREASURERS REPORT**

Mary reported the chapter bank account currently stands at \$292.88. We still need more money to fund our upcoming March and any fundraising ideas are welcome.

### **TIME TO PUT THE FUN IN FUNDRAISING**

The prize pool is growing for the raffle. Jon has printed up raffle tickets and the price is \$1.00 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00. The top raffle prize a custom stained glass piece should garner lots of interest. The raffle winners will be announced sometime in early May.

The donation jar was passed around and people making a donation of a \$1.00 or more could have a really nice cannabis themed pin or button. Since AZ4NORML is now a 501(c)3 non-profit we'll have more opportunities to raise funds in the future.

### **OFFICER HITE MEMORIAL PAVER PROJECT**

The group revisited the decision at last month's meeting to have a paver donated to the Erik Hite Memorial Pavilion. A lively discussion on the merits of making a donation for an engraved paver with our chapter name ensued. A motion and vote was held to table for now the donation for the paver until the next leadership group has a meeting.

### **NEXT STOP THE PEACE FAIR**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> which is the annual Peace Fair to be held at Reid Park Band Shell. The hours for the Peace Fair are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with AZ4NORML's booth being staffed from 10 until 2 or 3. Mary and Jon are going to

get there early and set-up at a prime spot at the top of the hill. This is a wonderful venue to get the word out on AZ4NORML and provide information and make a little money to boot. Marijuana leis, bottled water and raffle tickets will be available for sale to raise money for our chapter. If you signed up to volunteer or just want to show support please come on by and make it a fun day.

### **ROCK AND ROLL LIVES (At Least On KMFA Day)**

Local radio station KMFA has invited AZ4NORML to set up a booth at KMFA Day which is set for Saturday, April 25 at the Pima County Fairgrounds. Last year Metallica was the centerpiece rock band brought in and this event brings huge crowds. The rock acts for this year have not been announced yet but stay tuned for further developments. Jon is going to do a Saturday morning show on KMFA so get ready for our chapter president to make a splash.

### **WORLDWIDE MARIJUANA MARCH**

Michelle gave a brief update on the planning for Tucson's participation in the Worldwide Marijuana March which is being held on April 20. Michelle prepared a handout which gave the basic facts and more information will be provided as it gets closer to the march. A press release has been prepared by Matt and all the major media outlets will be recipients of the press release. On Sunday, March 22 from 3-5 at the Himmel Branch Library a crafts session will be held for members to make signs, buttons and tie-dye socks.

### **MARIJUANA POLICY PROJECT (MPP) BALLOT INITIATIVE**

Andrew, our MPP representative from Phoenix, addressed the group and gave an overview on the upcoming petition drive to have medical marijuana available in Arizona. Currently 13 states have legalized in some manner medical marijuana and Arizona will be either the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> state. Lots of states are working on ballot initiatives and MPP is helping finance the petition drives and drafting the ballot. Nevada is looking at taxing and regulating marijuana in 2012. The ballot initiative for Arizona is in the first final draft now and in the next 2-3 weeks the initiative should be in its final draft form.

Polling data for Arizona indicates that our citizens are open to passing legislation for medical marijuana as long as the dispensaries are also the growers. Patients or caretakers of patients will not be allowed to grow their own cannabis unless they are 25 miles from a dispensary. Under the more than 25 miles from the dispensary rule, caretakers will be allowed to grow 12 plants per patient. The dispensaries are viewed more positively because it will be better for the patients and it will serve as a tax revenue by the government.

Andrew raised the idea of a \$25.00 surcharge per ounce of marijuana as an additional revenue source, but the members attending the meeting were not gung ho on this idea.

MPP will finance the petition drive and they hope to gather over a quarter million signatures. To get this initiative on the ballot over 153,000 valid signatures need to be collected. Anyone looking to make some extra money can gather signatures at \$1.00 each and Andrew will come down to our next meeting and give training to folks who want to work on the petition drive. Also MPP is working on expanding their email list and gathering email signatures will also pay \$1.00 each.

Lots of questions were generated including what are the medical requirements to be considered eligible for medical marijuana. The categories for being eligible are going to be very generic such as “chronic pain” or “clinical anxiety” and any certified physician under Arizona law can prescribe medical marijuana. This ballot initiative is a huge first step in the long and winding road to legalization of marijuana in Arizona.

### **MYSPACE IS THE PLACE TO KEEP CURRENT ON AZ4NORML**

Just have to give a shoutout to AZ4NORML member Jake who has put up a nifty MySpace page which features lots of kickass information about all things that are of interest to lovers of the herb. There are 430 Arizona folks that have signed up ranging in ages from 18-78.

### **ACLU IS STILL FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT**

Chad reported on an ACLU meeting he recently attended in Phoenix. There has been some troubling trends in Phoenix including racial profiling of drivers, and other efforts that the ACLU is trying to correct by having observers at marches to make sure the police do not cross the line. Tucson fortunately has not had these problems but it's important to remain vigilant.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED OR IT'S BROWNIE TIME**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:10 and a full agenda was covered in record time.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Mark Saturday, March 21 on your calendars for the next meeting of AZ4NORML.

### **FOLLOW THE LINKS**

Worldwide Marijuana March

[http://cannabis.wikia.com/wiki/Global\\_Marijuana\\_March\\_2009](http://cannabis.wikia.com/wiki/Global_Marijuana_March_2009)

Jake's MySpace Page <http://www.myspace.com/TucsonNorml>

Marijuana Policy Project <http://www.mpp.org>