

**MINUTES**  
**Charlotte Coalition for a Moratorium Now**  
**March 09, 2004 Meeting**

- I. Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 23, 2003 at 7 pm  
Law Offices of Ferguson, Stein, et al.  
741 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 300  
Charlotte, NC
- II. Participants:
- Julie Fosbinder  
Faith Koppers  
Ellen Jaronczyk  
Reita Pendry  
Beth Wells  
Marilyn White  
Gray Newman  
Fred Nash  
Phyllis Johnson  
Linda Newcomb  
Susan Crawley  
Ann Hester  
Katie Hubicki  
Janette Blandford
- III. Good News
- A. 3 people on Death Row were given a new chance at sentencing: Maske, Matthew and Scanlon.
- B. Page's execution was delayed due to two stays. The first was based upon a cruel and unusual punishment argument regarding the necessity of cutting his veins to administer the lethal injection; this issue is currently on the Supreme Court's docket, so the NC Attorney General decided not to contest the stay. The second was based upon the fact that the state psychiatrist who testified wasn't fully informed of his Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and the defense counsel didn't present it as fully as they should have.
- C. NC Attorney General Cooper is now calling for all district attorneys in NC to have open-file discovery in murder trials. He credits the Gell case with his change of heart.
- D. The board has hired someone (Katie Hubicki) to help work on the various campaigns that are going to be happening throughout the next several months. Volunteers will still be needed, though!

#### IV. Regular News

- A. Website Update: The address is [ccmn2.tripod.com](http://ccmn2.tripod.com). Please check it often, because it will be kept up to date with the latest death penalty news and CCMN events. Email [hubickik@rice.edu](mailto:hubickik@rice.edu) if you have suggestions regarding the website.
- B. CCMN Board Meeting occurred on March 4, 2004. The treasurer's report was as follows: 2 contributions came in (one for \$1000 and one for \$5000). The current balance is \$6700, which is higher than any balance CCMN has ever had! There was a discussion with regards to hiring someone to help organize CCMN events, and it was agreed to hire Katie Hubicki. There was brainstorming done and all board members were asked to think of influential contacts around North Carolina, and to write them, asking them to support the moratorium. The board welcomed a new board member: Rev. Jay Leach, from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte.

#### V. Recent/Upcoming Events

- A. Henderson Hill will speak at St. Peter's Catholic Church on Wednesday, March 17, 2004.
- B. The Postcard Drive will be occurring at churches across Charlotte and Union County in the last two months of March. The seven churches scheduled are: St. Matthew's Catholic, St. Luke's Catholic, St. Gabriel's Catholic, Siegle Avenue Presbyterian, St. Peter's Catholic, St. Vincent Catholic and St. Stephen Methodist. (See more information below.)
- C. Friday, April 9, 2004: The Catholic Diocese is sponsoring an event on the death penalty at St. Peter Catholic (downtown).
- D. Saturday, May 1, 2004: Education Day at First UMC
- E. Legislative term begins Monday, May 10, 2004.
- F. Lobby Day: Tuesday, May 18, 2004.

#### VI. Strategic Planning and Ongoing Initiatives

- A. Postcard Drive: The postcards will be used to demonstrate the support of their constituency for the moratorium and to allow CCMN to set-up meetings with legislators (both committed and not). The drive will be specifically targeting Jim Gulley, Connie Wilson and Rhodes in Charlotte (all not committed) and Blackwood and Barbee in Union County.

1. There will be several stages in this process: a) CCMN will pass out cards; b) churches will coordinate signing; c) volunteers from CCMN will enter information into database; d) CCMN will coordinate visits to legislators
  2. Volunteers to help enter the data when it's returned to CCMN: Ellen Jaronczyk, Reita Pendry, Beth Wells, Gray Newman, Ann Hester and Katie Hubicki.
  3. There were several suggestions about the process.
    - i. Gray Newman suggested utilizing the Access database of voters from the Elections Board to obtain the districts.
    - ii. It was also suggested that there should be a space for the district to be written on people's postcards: either by them or us.
    - iii. In order to facilitate this process, it was suggested that a detailed map of the representatives' districts be present at the churches during the signings.
    - iv. It was strongly urged that the church names be left off the postcards and people at the churches fill them in by hand.
    - v. Fred Nash suggested having a brochure printed by the Catholic Church, giving its position on the death penalty, at the tables when people are signing.
  4. Several other churches were suggested as being included: First UMC (150 cards – Susan Crowley); St. John Newman (500 – Fred Nash); and Friends Meeting (75 – MarilynWhite). Two other churches mentioned were St. Michael's Catholic in Gastonia (~100) and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte (~200).
- B. May 1<sup>st</sup> Education Day at FUMC: There was a handout detailing all the information. Contact Susan Crowley if you'd like a copy. CCMN is asking for a \$5000 grant from a social justice organization within the Catholic Church to put on this event and Lobby Day.
1. Suggested Title: For Justice' Sake: Why We Need a Death Penalty Moratorium in North Carolina (later it was suggested to combine two titles and have Winning Convictions at Any Cost: Why We Need a Death Penalty Moratorium in North Carolina—Susan Crowley will take the suggestion back to her committee at FUMC.)
  2. Have booths set up: CCMN, death penalty, Mecklenburg Ministries, Lobby Day info, etc. Need them staffed. Volunteers were Julie Fosbinder, Katie Hubicki, Ellen Jaronczyk, Beth Wells, Gray Newman and Janette Blandford.
  3. Format:
    - 9:00-9:30: Coffee and Rolls
    - 9:30-9:40: Welcome and Prayer

-2 speakers, each giving 20 minutes to talk and 5 minutes for questions from audience

-10:30-10:45: Break; Snacks and Booths

-2 speakers, each giving 20 minutes to talk and 5 minutes for questions from audience

-11:35-11:50: Break

-11:50-12:30: Panel Discussion with 4 speakers, moderator and possibly additional people – questions from audience on index cards

4. Speakers suggested (and people to contact them): Roger Sarrow – manager at WFAE and member of FUMC as moderator; Darryl Hunt (Vicky Reddy); Joe Cheshire – Gell attorney (Henderson Hill); Martha Alexander-state legislator (Barney Offerman); Andy Baxter – Mecklenburg Ministries (Phyllis Johnson). If those don't work, other possibilities mentioned were Joe Nuff – writer at News and Observer who helped break Gell case (Ann Hester); Dan Clodfelter and possibly a victims' family member in support of moratorium (example of Tom Kelleher); Jim Cooney; Cindy Maxwell.
  5. Gray Newman will talk to Islamic Center about co-sponsoring Darryl Hunt and possibly having the Imam be a speaker.
  6. An honorarium was suggested for Darryl Hunt of \$300 plus travel expenses. Everybody present agreed upon the necessity of this suggestion.
  7. Susan Crawley said that her committee had discussed the issue and they wanted CCMN to deal with the program and procuring the speaker. Wants to have program set by 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting. Julie asked that every one report back by to Susan by Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> (email [scrawley32650@aol.com](mailto:scrawley32650@aol.com); phone number 704-895-9965).
- C. Lobby Day: The date is Tuesday, May 18, 2004. Julie asked everyone to commit to coming and to asking three to four of their friends to go. We want to fill up three to four buses this year—doubling last year's total.