

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

Maine Women's Publications - All

Publications

1-15-1975

NOW - Maine Newsletter (Jan-Feb 1975)

National Organization for Women - Maine Chapter Staff

National Organization for Women - Maine Chapter

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all



Part of the [Women's History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Staff, National Organization for Women - Maine Chapter, "NOW - Maine Newsletter (Jan-Feb 1975)" (1975). *Maine Women's Publications - All*. 526.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/maine_women_pubs_all/526

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Women's Publications - All by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

The state board of NOW in Maine met Saturday, Jan. 11. A major portion of our discussion centered around problems which have been occurring on the national level in NOW. There apparently has been a great deal of conflict, culminating in the walkout of 13 board and executive committee members from the Dec. 8-9 national board meeting. This was caused, in part, by alleged violations of Roberts Rules with regard to a conflict between the national president, Karen DeCrow and the executive director, Jane Plitt. The walkout was followed by several national board policy decisions which will result in a severe cutback of membership services in NOW.

Whatever the underlying reasons are for this hostility, we at the state board meeting reacted thusly:

"We move to go on record as shocked and indignant with the irresponsibility of the national board's actions taken on Dec. 7-8 in New Orleans. We will not recognize any board actions taken on those dates.

We insist on:

1. full disclosure of the events leading up to:
 - a. Karen DeCrow's request to the Personnel and Procedures Committee concerning Jane Plitt.
 - b. Jane Plitt's appearance at the Dec. 7-8 board meeting with her lawyer.
2. complete minutes of the Dec. 7-8 board meeting.
3. an impartial ruling of the legality of the board's actions on Dec. 7 and 8.
4. a full scale audit of National NOW.

The state board of NOW in Maine requests that you hold off paying your renewal dues to national until after a Feb. 8-9 regional meeting. (Note: there is a grace period until 3/31 to pay your dues). We also recommend that the membership endorse our wish to go along with any reasonable region-wide action which might seek to alleviate the present crisis.

The state NOW Conference will be May 17-18 in Bangor. SAVE THE DATES. Conference committee is formed - if you wish to help contact Jane Holmes, RFD, Winterport, 04496 or Natalie Smith, P.O. Box 1166, Bangor, 04401.

Chapter presidents will receive a periodic legislative update from Sue Chandler, our legislative coordinator. We will be particularly watching bills in the areas of rape, AFDC, abortion, child care, ERA, human rights commission, Gay Rights, and the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. Please do all the at-home and State House lobbying you can on bills of feminist concern. For info or to help, contact Sue Chandler, 54 Central St. Hallowell.

Feminist key chains now available. Send \$1 plus .20 postage to Lois Reckitt, 38 Myrtle Ave., So. Portland, 04106.

Newest Maine NOW chapter, LEWISTON-AUBURN NOW, sets tentative convening date of Jan. 30. Contact Sage Givens, Rm. 202 Page Hall, Bates College, Lewiston, 04240 for details. WELCOME SISTERS.