



**The Gala Pride and Diversity Center  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTES**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 20, 2021  
**Time:** 6:03 pm to 8:19 pm  
**Location:** Zoom

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***“The Gala Pride and Diversity Center (The Pride Center) supports and empowers people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions to strengthen and unite our Central Coast Community”***

***“El Centro de Orgullo y Diversidad (Gala) apoya y empodera a la gente de todas las orientaciones sexuales, identidades de género, y expresiones de género, para fortalecer y unir nuestra comunidad de la Costa Central”***

*Provisional land acknowledgement: “The Gala Pride and Diversity Center is located on the land of the yak tityu tityu yak tihini Northern Chumash tribe of San Luis Obispo County and region. We are aware that this land was taken from indigenous peoples violently, unceded, without agreement, consideration or compensation. Additionally we acknowledge our responsibility to protect the natural environment. We are committed to including local indigenous history in our training and we set the intention of relationship with and support of local indigenous peoples.”*

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**1. Call to Order:**

President Doug J. Heumann called the meeting to order at **6:03 PM. Quorum was present.**  
President Doug J. Heumann - Reading of the Mission Statement  
Executive Director Michelle Call – Reading of Mission Statement in Spanish

**2. Roll Call: 6:05 pm**

**Present:** Doug J. Heumann (President), Sam Byrd (Vice President), Arti Kothari (Secretary), Katherine Soule (Treasurer), Elissa DeHart

**Guests:** Rita Casaverde, Lynn Schmidt, Oliva Tolton, Clint Weirick

**Absent:** Sol Valdes, Roxi Rini

**Staff:** Michelle Call (Executive Director), Serrina Ruggles (Center Coordinator)

**3.0 Speakers – 6:08 PM**

Olivia Tolton is present and is up for consideration by the Nominations Committee to be a board member. Tolton shared about her work with Stand Strong in Development and Communications.

Clint Weirick will share updates from LGBTQ Legislative Caucus.

**4.0 Action/Information/Discussion**

**4.1 Approval of March 2021 Board Meeting Minutes – 6:10 pm**

The vote to approve the March 2021 Board Meeting Minutes:  
BYRD makes a motion to approve the minutes.  
COOK Seconds.

PASSED with 5 approvals, 0 oppositions, and 1 abstentions (SOULE).

#### **4.2 Approval of March 2021 Financial Reports – CALL and SOULE – 6:14 pm**

SOULE reviewed the statement of Financial Position, including general checking, assets, and liabilities. Actuals were less than budgeted for the month of March. Reviewed revenue sources including rent, Stoke the World Donations, training, and one time subscription donations. Expenditures were reviewed and were higher than budgeted, but still overall net revenue gain.

CALL clarified that revenue is evening out and is happy with how revenue is going.

The vote to approve the March 2021 Financials:  
DEHART makes a motion to approve the March 2021 financials.  
BYRD Seconds.  
PASSED with 6 approvals, 0 opposition 0 abstentions.

HEUMANN asked a question regarding the statement of activity, whether a general fund donation was a specific donation for Pride.

CALL clarified that donations for Pride, as per bookkeeper's recommendation, are classed to Pride and then will be handled at the end of Pride when incomings and outgoings are finished.

#### **4.3 Executive Director Report – Call – 6:22 pm**

CALL provided her written Report to the Board prior to the meeting and copies were available at the meeting to any interested persons. The Executive Director Report is made a part of these Minutes.

Update on subscription giving. Call encourages board members to reach out to parents and community members, and that small donations can help greatly. Subscription donations have become a significant part of income. Currently between 55-60 people who are giving on a regular basis.

The provisional land acknowledgement will be reviewed and used. The main deliverable that the Chumash people are asking for information about indigenous and colonial history in all future trainings. The content of indigenous and colonial history has been reviewed and updated. Call also shared how monetary donations were not seen as necessary and is not something the Chumash people are looking for. However, any intention set for monetary donation would be welcome. This will be revisited in the 2022 budget.

Pride updates were given, specifically sharing the Monday May 17 event of "Meet the Board" lounge via Zoom.

A donation of \$25,000 was received from the Kinz-Garzanit Trust with no restrictions or directions on spending. Would like to find something meaningful with this donation, like expanding into north county. The board will set dedicated meeting time to discuss how to best proceed.

HEUMANN also clarified that more donations will be coming, and will update the board as more information is available.

CALL opened discussion of opening the center again. The youth group would like to meet outdoors beginning in May. The use of the bathroom would be open, with the agreement that volunteers would sanitize surfaces. Masks would be worn indoors. The May in-person art show and outdoor art painting that would be by appointment only. Atheists United has also requested to start meeting again. Either in June or orange tier would like to open for indoor meetings up to a certain amount and socially distanced.

RUGGLES stated that masking should be encouraged regardless of vaccination.

DEHART would like to see 75% community vaccination rate before moving to indoor programming.

The board discussed county guidelines regarding gatherings and creating a policy with the Governance Committee that takes county guidelines into consideration. Discussed timeline to get a policy created as soon as possible, as Q Youth wants to begin meeting in May. DeHart, Soule and Ruggles will meet to create a policy and send to the board for review.

**4.4 Treasurer Updates – SOULE – 6:41 pm**

After discussion with CALL, HEUMANN, and SOULE, SOULE will be stepping down from Treasurer to focus on Q Youth, and DEHART will step into the role as treasurer.

The vote to nominate Elissa DeHart as Treasurer for the remainder of the 2021 year:

HEUMANN makes a motion to nominate Elissa DeHart to be treasurer.

BYRD seconds.

PASSED with 5 approvals, 0 oppositions, and 1 abstention (DEHART).

**4.5 Unfinished Business – HEUMANN et al. – 6:51 pm**

**PACT update:** HEUMANN spoke with Christine Dietrick, Deanna Cantrell, and Brian Amoroso. The city stated Bend the Arc was removed from PACT for a multitude of reasons. Bend the Arc will speak to the new police chief.

Reminder was given for board members to complete their Livescan.

**Monthly sponsorship:** Request for current board members to call former members. RUGGLES will send out a call sheet again. Tolton suggested putting ads in Ok Revista magazine.

**Update regarding San Luis Obispo Coastal Unified School District:** HEUMANN will be giving sexual and gender harassment training this week to the SLCUSD Board of Trustees

**Update on meeting with Dan Dow:**

The board discussed at length whether to move forward with meeting in person with Dan Dow in July 2021, one year after the initial request to meet. SOULE abstained from conversation. Other board members shared concerns and hesitations, and what potential outcomes of the meeting would be. Discussed potential neutral meeting places, and whether board members were comfortable with an indoors versus outdoors meeting. The meeting would be facilitated and mediated by Restorative Partners. Will table the discussion, as regardless the meeting will not happen in May. HEUMANN will follow up with the board via email.

**4.6 New Business – HEUMANN – 7:20 pm**

**LGBTQ Legislative Caucus:** HEUMANN will send out an email update regarding the legislation that John Laird is supporting. WEIRICK shared updates on the legislative caucus and shared advocate portal.

**DEI Statement:** CALL shared that QueerProfs helps organizations develop a DEI statement, and three different quotes for different levels of services were shared with the board. CALL suggests the need for a community survey. The board discussed the different proposals and the option of inviting QueerProfs to the next board meeting. SOULE stated the need to clarify research questions before proceeding. Board will meet next Tuesday to see how to proceed and discuss how this service will inform our DEI policy.

**Policy Additions:** The board reviewed three policies, the youth policy, the youth facilitator policy, and the nondiscrimination policy that were included via email and in the board packet. No comments were made on any of the policies.

The vote to approve the three policies, Youth Director Policy, Youth Groups Facilitator Policy, and Nondiscrimination Policy:

HEUMANN motions to accept and approve all three policies.

DEHART Seconds.

PASSED with 6 approvals, 0 oppositions, and 0 abstentions.

**5. GALA Committee Reports:**

**5.1 Fundraising/ Events – Heumann – 7:41 pm**

No updates. Rini absent

**5.2 Governance – Schmidt – 7:41 pm**

No updates.

**5.3 Nominations – Schmidt – 7:42 pm**

The nominations committee would like to nominate Olivia Tolton and Jorge Jiminez to be part of the board of directors. SCHMIDT shared their endorsement of both of these candidates. Resumes of potentials will be shared with the current board members.

**5.4 Outreach – Byrd – 7:44 pm**

Updates given in Pride

**5.5 Pride – Byrd – 7:46 pm**

Have a generous amount in sponsorships for Pride. The website is coming together. Byrd reviewed in depth each event on the Pride calendar. Encouraged submissions for Pride's Got Talent and Pet Photo Contest.

The vote to cancel the May 2021 board meeting due to it falling during Pride week:

DEHART makes a motion to cancel the May 2021 board meeting.

BYRD seconds.

PASSED with 6 approvals, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions.

**5.6 Education – Call – 8:10 pm**

Meeting upcoming to discuss summer volunteer hours and the four community trainings from Community Foundation Grant. Kristen Kent will be volunteering 10-20 hours per week.

**5.7 Senior Advocacy – Cook – 8:10 pm**

Four people last month. Continually gaining interest and more people are joining.

**5.8 Tranz Central Coast – Call – 8:11 pm**

Jamie Woolf shared this update prior to the board meeting, "We did not meet this month because no significant action was required of the Steering Committee, but we've been busy. Transgender Day of Visibility, on March 31, was a success. Good turnout for our online event and interesting conversation. We've had the first look at the two short "SLO Trans Lives" videos being developed by Puppet Productions in Los Angeles. They're going to be good. They feature snippets from interviews with 17 people in our community, both trans/nonbinary people and allies. The premiere will be May 20 during Trans Night at SLO Pride. We've had the TCC brochure translated into Spanish: We'll wait to publish until we know what our post-pandemic schedule is going to look like. We helped one trans kid who was having problems getting his school and teachers to use his name and pronouns. Doug Heumann helped make that happen. We're currently helping an 18-year-old trans guy with his name and gender change. Our Tuesday night trans support group is going well. We held a group for trans teens last week and got only one teen."

**6. GALA Group Reports – 8:12**

**6.1 SLO Lez B Friends**

No updates

**6.2 Q Youth – Soule**

Still on hiatus for the month of April. Hoping for in person soon, pending new policies. Queer crowd has offered to help do a fundraiser utilizing youth art on tote bags. Movie night is on Thursday.

**6.3 FED Eating Disorder Group – Dehart**

Four regular members and the group is going well.

**6.4 Art Curator – Schmidt**

The new sign will be up this week. Painting event in May in the parking lot on Saturdays. Encourage all community members to participate. Art drop for the art show will be next Monday. Accepting physical and digital art.

**6.5 Center Coordinator Report / News and Reviews – Ruggles**

Updates on lights were given, and quotes varied widely. A repair person has been selected to look at damaged windows in the upstairs office and library. Source of water leak is found and controlled, and

damage is being evaluated. News and Reviews Pride edition will be sent early, with request for all articles to be turned in by April 26.

**7. Next Meeting:**

**Date:** June 15, 2021  
**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

**8. Adjournment:**

MOTION TO ADJOURN: DEHART  
SECOND: HEUMANN

PASSED with 6 approvals, 0 oppositions, and 0 abstentions.

**ADJOURNED AT 8:19 PM**