

GALA 
PRIDE
& DIVERSITY CENTER

The Gala Pride and Diversity Center
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTES

Date: Tuesday June 15, 2021
Time: 6:02 pm to 8:06 pm
Location: Zoom

“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 Acknowledgment: 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. 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. Additionally we acknowledge our responsibility to protect the natural environment.

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: 6:02

Present: Doug J. Heumann (President), Sam Byrd (Vice President), Elissa Dehart (Treasurer), Arti Kothari (Secretary), Roxi Rini, Sol Smalls, Rusty Cook

Guests: Clint Weirick, Jorge Jimenez, Kristen Kent, Olivia Tolton

Absent: Katherine Soule

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

3. Speakers 6:09PM

None present

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1 Approval of April 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

April minutes will be sent via email for electronic vote.

4.2 Approval of April Financial Reports – Call – 6:11 pm

CALL reviewed April financial reports. Went over expenses, budget vs actual, and gave updates on tax delays.

The vote to approve the April Financial report:
HEUMANN makes a motion to approve.
DEHART seconds.
PASSED with 7 approvals, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions.

4.3 Approval of May Financial Reports – Call – 6:16 pm

CALL reviewed May financial report, further donations, with a substantial donation for the youth.

The vote to approve the May Financial Report:
DEHART makes a motion to approve.
VALDES seconds.
PASSED with 7 approvals, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions.

4.4 Executive Director Report – Call – 6:18 pm

CALL provided her written Report to the Board prior to the meeting. The Executive Director Report is made a part of these Minutes.

CALL addressed the vandalism of the Center and shared the outpouring of community support has been resounding.

Discussed attendance of the Sheriff's Unity Committee and concerns that the Sheriff's Office has not followed through on previous promises. Discussed Restorative Partners resignation from the committee. Opened discussion to the board of continued presence on this committee is the best use of our efforts. HEUMANN shared the committee is not focused on action. CALL shared that BIPOC folks on the committee will share input, with no action taken. DEHART shared hesitancy with stepping away from this conversation and connection, to which CALL stated a personal relationship has been developed through work with this committee and communication with the Sheriff's department will continue, outside of the Unity Committee.

Following up with quotes from QueerProfs, with updated financial situation, the GPDC is now able to move forward with working with QueerProfs to create a DEI statement. The Board will move forward with a vote when all members of the Board are present and are able to discuss.

CALL shared that Kristen Kent will be volunteering time with the GPDC for education and training.

4.5 Center Coordinator Report – Ruggles – 6:45 pm

RUGGLES provided their written report to the Board prior to the meeting. The Center Coordinator Report is made a part of these minutes.

RUGGLES shared that there has been an increasing number of requests for adult mentorship, for adults just beginning to come out. For requests outside of scope of GPDC, referrals are made to Jamie Woolf. Discussed plans for reopening the center, and reconfiguring guidelines as updates come from public health. RUGGLES also discussed vandalism to the center and shared more of the financial donations from fundraisers from various businesses throughout San Luis Obispo. There is sufficient funds to replace the sign that was stolen. There is now also sufficient funds to cover the installation of a camera security system, which is now in place, and funds to replace security lighting.

4.6 Unfinished Business – Heumann et al. – 6:59 pm

HEUMANN shared he is still on the Cuesta Board and will be giving a 30 minute presentation to the board to encourage a larger training. HEUMANN also attended the Social Justice Listening Session with Salud Carbajal, which went well and connected with Erica Stewart to discuss the police chief. HEUMANN met with GPDC Executive Director Call and Center Coordinator Ruggles to discuss hybrid meetings moving forward.

4.7 New Business – Heumann – 7:04 pm

The vote to approve Jorge Jimenez as a member of the Gala Pride and Diversity Center Board of Directors:

COOK makes a motion to approve Jimenez as a board member.

VALDES seconds.

PASSED with 7 approvals, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions.

Board discussed keeping masks on in the Center during group. Next board meeting will be on Zoom.

Board discussed center safety, and new measures that are in place, including updated lights and camera security system.

4.8 Government Reports – Weirick – 7:20

Clint Weirick shared updates and legislation from Senator Laird. Legislation is attached to these meeting minutes. WEIRICK shared that there will be allocation for LGBTQ+ teacher training.

5. GALA Committee Reports

5.1 Fundraising – Rini – 7:34 pm

Sidecar is hosting Thursday Pride night.

5.2 Governance – Heumann – 7:36 pm

Awaiting QueerProfs DEI statement.

5.3 Outreach – Byrd – 7:39 pm

No updates.

5.4 Education – Ruggles – 7:39

The Content Subcommittee has reviewed SA/IPV slides and will be going over LGBTQ+ history next week. After that, all content will have been reviewed and updated.

5.5 Pride – Call – 7:41 pm

In person events were highly attended, from all over the county. Website was a success. Discussed the need for streamlined event management for future events.

5.6 Senior Advocacy – Cook – 7:51 pm

Did not meet last month because of Pride. They are looking to get speakers for a history project. Consensus is to continue meeting on Zoom, and will potentially look into hybrid meeting options.

5.7 Tranz Central Coast – Cook – 7:54 pm

The movie was a great success and is circulating now. Trans teen peer support group and parent support group will be meeting at the center starting July 13. Peer facilitators are going through training before they start.

6. GALA Group Reports – 7:56

6.1 SLO Lez B Friends

Staying virtual.

6.2 Q youth - Kothari

Group is continuing to meet. Potentially planning a clothing exchange, and will loop in Tranz Central Coast.

6.3 FED Eating Disorder Group - Dehart

DEHART: Found a therapist and will have the first therapist led group this week. Will remain virtual.

6.4 Art Curator – Schmidt

Art in the dark is now art and about on Saturday nights. Center is need of paint.

7. Next Meeting:

Date: July 20, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Zoom meeting

8. Adjournment:

MOTION TO ADJOURN: DEHART
SECOND: RINI

PASSED with 7 approvals, 0 oppositions, and 0 abstentions.

ADJOURNED AT PM 8:06 PM

Senator Laird Legislation:

- The Senator's legislation:
 - SB 258: HIV and Aging Act – will be heard in the Assembly Long-Term Care and Aging committee on Jun 29th. The bill will likely be on consent, and there is no expected opposition.
 - SB 272: Gender Inclusivity -The bill passed from the Senate Natural Resources committee, and on the Senate floor, to be recommended on the proposed consent calendar in Assembly Judiciary. It will be heard on the 22nd at 9:00 am.
- State Budget Proposal to the Governor:
 - 1. LGBTQ+ Teacher Training – This EQCA's request from last year. Allocations of these funds will promote the creation of an online training on school sites, community resources for the support of LGBTQ+ pupils, and strategies to increase support for LGBTQ+ pupils and thereby improve overall school climate. The request was \$3M total (one-time funding) and Sub 1 approved the full amount. See Subcommittee No. 1 K-12 agenda (items 63 and 107.)
 - 2. LGBTQ Pilot Centers - Establishing a pilot grant program to award grants over five years to provide services and support to LGBTQ students, including LGBTQ Centers, safe zones, mental health services, Gay Straight Alliance Clubs, and Workshops/speakers. This request was for \$10 million (one-time funding) and Sub 1 approved the full amount. See Subcommittee No. 1 Higher Education agenda (California Community Colleges, item 39.)
 - 3. State Library: LGBTQ Archives Preservation – State funding for the preservation and public accessibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer historical archives across the state of California. In 2019 \$500,000 (one-time) was allocated in General Fund dollars to the State Library to distribute. This current request was \$750,000 (one-time funding) and full budget committee approved the full amount. See June 2 2021 Full Budget Hearing Agenda (Higher Education, issue 23, item 6120.)
 - 4. National LGBTQ Center for the Arts – Provide resources for an extensive installation of HVAC and air circulation and filtration systems. Without this HVAC system the Center will not be able to open in accordance with CDC guidelines. The request was \$1.7 million in (one-time funding) and the full budget committee approved the request. See June 2 2021 Full Budget Hearing Agenda (State Administration and General Government, issue 26, item 8260.context.)
 - 5. Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund – The allocated \$15 million funds will be distributed as grants to organizations that serve transgender, gender non-conforming, and intersex (TGI) people and healthcare providers that have established partnerships with TGI-serving organizations. This request is made in partnership with The TransLatin@ coalition, and Sub 3 approved the full amount. See June 2 2021 Full Budget Hearing Agenda (Sub 3, issue 33, item 4265.
 - 6. Ending the Epidemics – In order to address HIV, HCV, and STDs in California, strategic health and social service investments are required to move the state closer to ending these epidemics. This request is \$14M total (\$13M ongoing and \$1M one-time general fund) and Sub 3 approved the full amount. See June 2 2021 Full Budget Hearing Agenda (Sub 3, issue 33, item 4265.)