

Minutes for LGBTQ Advisory Board Mtg. 12/29/2021, 6:30 pm (virtual)

Attendees: Christopher Mitchell (leadership team), Steve Bass (County), Copernicus Crane (County) Joann Prinzivalli, Jim Stenerson, Fiona Degnan, Rachel Simon, Rachel Barry (County), James Young, Nicholas Calabro, Jade Watts (guest), Robyn Schlesinger (leadership team, recorder).

Robyn Schlesinger (filling in for **Chris Oldi**) called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm and asked the Board to make brief introductions for our guest, **Jade Watts**, who is considering joining the Board.

Robyn asked for a motion to approve the November meeting minutes, made by **Jim Stenerson**, seconded by **Joann Prinzivalli**, approved unanimously.

Pamphlet Language/Copy: **Robyn** noted that she had revised the copy for our Board pamphlet, which will be used as a handout when we table at events. It had been shared with the Board subcommittee members (**Sammy, Jim, Chris, Robyn, James**) that volunteered at the last meeting and any comments were incorporated. At this point, it is ready to be reviewed by this full Board and the County Communications department. A copy is being sent with the minutes to this meeting. Please send any additional comments to **Robyn**.

Steve Bass reminded the Board that we will not be using names (hence, no pronouns) in this communications piece so that it does not need to be updated as frequently. It is expected that a QR code will be included that will direct people to the website (which will include names, pronouns, etc.), and an email address for the Board will be listed.

Rachel Simon reiterated her preference that the piece be short, since few pieces like this are read for more than the first few sentences.

LGBTQ Housing Project: **Steve** has updated **Chris** on progress of the project. **Chris** will be passing along the information to the Board via Slack. There has been a delay in the planned press conference due to Covid and February is a more likely timeframe.

Use of Slack: Numerous Board members have noted that Slack is not being utilized as envisioned and questioned whether its continued use was worthwhile. Several Board members commented that they are either not using it and/or have forgotten about it. Others noted that some channels (like the LGBTQ+ Housing Project channel) have not been updated or actively utilized.

Christopher Mitchell suggested that email be used for announcements, but Slack be used for projects, like a workspace. **Joann** added that it is a good repository for things like history. **Jade** noted that they use it with the organizations with which they work and it is good for project-based communications, smaller in scale than e-mails. **James Young** stated that we need a

commitment to use Slack. **Robyn** suggested that we need another refresher in an upcoming meeting.

2022 Goals: The Board made several suggestions for 2022 including

- 1) Pride parade leading to Westchester Pride celebration in White Plains (use part of Bronx River Pkwy);
- 2) Transgender Day of Visibility (build on what was done in 2021);
- 3) Social Media presence (effective, safe method of promotion);
- 4) Speaker's Bureau (utilizing members of this Board);
- 5) Town Halls (**Joann** and **Jim S.** described format of previous Town Hall events prior to 2015);
- 6) County events (build on Playland event, 6/21);
- 7) City spaces (e.g. mural at Playland event, 6/21);
- 8) Partnerships: **James** described various initiatives with Queery (decals), The LOFT and the Human Right Commission (accountability measures for local businesses).

Discussion of these initiatives would be ideal for Slack, so please try to use the channel to be created for this purpose to further ideas and planning.

Upcoming meeting: Monday, January 31, 2022. Copper will send out link to this meeting.

Motion to adjourn: Joann Prinzivalli, seconded by Jim Stenerson. Robyn Schlesinger ended the meeting at 7:36 pm.