



## LGBTQ+ Advisory Board Monthly Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 05/25/2023

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Mayor's Office of Community Affairs Office – 51 E Galena Boulevard, Aurora, IL 60505

- Call to order
  - Meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by Adam Pauley, Chairperson.
- Roll call
  - Ivan Quinones, Sean Li, Adam Pauley, Briana Moss, Paulene Spika, Zachary Bishop, and Frederick Yanos were present. Brittney Borowicz Keller and Michael Vargas were absent.
  - Mike Nelson, the Board's staff liaison, was also in attendance.
- Others present/public comment
  - No one else was present.
- Approval of last month's meeting minutes
  - Briana Moss made a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes. Sean Li seconded the motion. The entire Board was in favor.
- Treasurer's report
  - Mike Nelson reported that the Board currently has an annual budget of \$10,000.
- 2023 Aurora Pride Parade
  - The Board reaffirmed its decision to participate in the 2023 Aurora Pride Parade by volunteering with Aurora Pride. Adam Pauley reviewed the three areas of the Parade that Board members could volunteer for – operations, security, and floats. Zachary Bishop will send out the volunteer sign-up link with the minutes.

- The Parade is on June 11. Step off is at 12pm but staging begins at 10am and volunteers are usually asked to arrive at 9am.
- Mike Nelson reminded the Board that the City of Aurora's Pride Flag Raising Ceremony is on the Friday before the Parade, June 9, at 11am. Several Board members are planning to attend.
- Board committee breakdown review & updates
  - Social Events Committee
    - Frederick Yanos presented his project proposal for the Pride Scavenger Hunt. The scavenger hunt would require participants to answer a series of clues and puzzles to find posters with QR codes at local businesses and places around the downtown area. The first 100 people to complete the scavenger hunt would win a Pride pin. The objective is to inform people about the history of the LGBTQ+ community, encourage camaraderie, and promote the downtown area.
    - Costs for the scavenger hunt would be \$20 for decorations for a booth and \$84.95 for prize pins. Mike Nelson said that the Board could borrow a table and chairs from the City for the booth. Briana Moss mentioned that other costs could include decorating the areas around the posters at scavenger hunt locations.
    - Frederick proposed the day of the Pride Parade, June 11, from 2-5pm as the date for the scavenger hunt. The Board decided that organizing the scavenger hunt in time for June 11 would be too difficult but thought that holding the scavenger hunt on October 6 as part of Downtown Aurora's First Friday event would be a better idea.

- Briana Moss made a motion to allow Frederick to move forward with planning the Pride Scavenger Hunt for an October date and spend a reasonable amount of money from the Board's budget to organize it. Sean Li seconded the motion. The entire Board was in favor.
- Community Outreach & Education Committee
  - Paulene Spika proposed that the Board create a pamphlet that would provide resources for transgender people who are seeking to legally change their name. Ivan Quinones suggested contacting organizations that assist people with this process to obtain the necessary information.
  - Adam Pauley shared an update from Brittney Borowicz Keller about the previously discussed self-defense workshops. She is still working on planning the events with the local martial arts schools she was in contact with.
  - Mike Nelson mentioned that P.O.W.E.R. Women's Group reached out to him about partnering on the workshops.
  - Briana Moss made a motion to allow Brittney to move forward with planning the self-defense workshops and spend a reasonable amount of money from the Board's budget to organize them. Ivan Quinones seconded the motion. The entire Board was in favor.
- Pride Month Committee
  - Ivan Quinones proposed that the Board hold a storytelling event about the history of the Stonewall Riots and other events in LGBTQ history in conjunction with Coming Out Day on October 11.
- Old business

- No old business was discussed.
- New business
  - The Board discussed its Facebook account and who should be responsible for creating, vetting, and publishing posts. Mike Nelson said that it is set up and can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/COALGBTQAdvisoryBoard>. For now, Mike is going to make the four officers admins for the account. The Board will discuss this topic further at future meetings.
  - The Board talked about creating business cards, name tags, and t-shirts.
  - Zachary Bishop passed around business cards for The Pride Squad, a LGBTQ+ social group in the western suburbs. The group could be a potential partner for social events.
  - Adam Pauley introduced the idea of the Board voting to excuse members' absences at meetings. He motioned to excuse the absences of Sean Li, Briana Moss, and Ivan Quinones from the April 27, 2023 meeting. Zachary Bishop seconded the motion. The entire Board was in favor.
  - Adam Pauley mentioned that the City will be requiring Board members to take the Illinois Municipal League's Civility Pledge in the future.
  - Sean Li asked Mike Nelson for more clarification on how members can purchase goods and services using the Board's budget.
- Upcoming LGBTQ+ holidays
  - June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month
  - June 5 - HIV Long-Term Survivors Awareness Day
  - June 12 - Pulse Night of Remembrance
  - June 17 - Anniversary of the first Aurora Pride Parade (2018)

- June 26 - Anniversary of the Obergefell v. Hodges decision (2015)
- June 27 - National HIV Testing Day
- June 28 - Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots (1969) and Christopher Street Liberation Day (1970)
- For the good of the board
  - Paulene Spika mentioned that Kane County property taxes are due at the end of the month.
- Next meeting
  - Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> | 6:00 PM | 51 E Galena Boulevard, Aurora, IL 60505
- Adjournment
  - Briana Moss motioned to adjourn. Ivan Quinones seconded the motion. The entire Board was in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.