

## **GLASS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2016**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm. Eight members of the newly elected Steering Committee were present at the call to order. Andrew Fuentes joined the meeting at 6:38pm. Outgoing member Justin Laufer was also present.
2. The Agenda, February Meeting Minutes and the Treasurer's Report were approved by a unanimous voice vote.
3. Speaker Series Update & Planning
  - a. Senator Heinrich – Wednesday, March 16, 1:00-2:00pm (Dirksen G-50)
    - i. Russell Page and Mario Semiglia assured the Steering Committee that the Senator would be on time. They also mentioned that the RSVP list “looked good” and that that they had reached out to the New Mexico House delegation to boost awareness and attendance.
  - b. Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation
    - i. Adam Henderson noted that a group of advocates from the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation would be interested in speaking to GLASS and Senate staff.
    - ii. Although the event was in the preliminary planning stages, a tentative time frame was set for May 2016.
  - c. Senator Blumenthal – TBD
    - i. Mr. Fuentes denoted that he had reached out to the scheduler and was awaiting further reply.
  - d. Future Speakers
    - i. Potential candidates to speak that were discussed included Senators McCaskill, Schatz, Collins, Coons, and Manchin.
    - ii. Mr. Miller was previously working with Senator Boxer to speak and Andrew Shine agreed to follow up as liaison.
4. Social Events

- a. February Happy Hour Recap
    - i. Mr. Fuentes proclaimed that the crowd was diverse, including military LAs, allies, and House staff members.
  - b. March Happy Hour
    - i. Amy Gutierrez posed the question to the Board, ‘What is a good turnout for a happy hour?’ The Board replied that the answer depended on a number of factors, but the typical turnout is usually around 20-25 people.
    - ii. Mr. Laufer proposed that the March happy hour take place the week of March 21-25, 2016.
    - iii. Locations that were discussed included Big Board and Driftwood.
    - iv. The Board also agreed that next week would work best for a Q Street Board happy hour. They also agreed that they would like to do a happy hour with LGBT CSA.
  - c. Pride Parade
    - i. Mr. Laufer encouraged the Steering Committee to think about ideas related to the Pride Weekend in June.
    - ii. Kelli Fallon mentioned the idea of participating in the Pride 5K race.
5. Mentorship and Connections Programs
- a. Joseph Lindblad stated that he was happy to match mentors and mentees as soon as possible. He said that he was waiting until the new Board was elected to make any moves. He said he would send out the update to the intern coordinator listserv among other outlets.
  - b. Caitlin Hart wondered if the people knew with whom they were being matched. Mr. Lindblad clarified that there is a level of confidentiality attached to the program.

- c. Ms. Gutierrez asked what criteria were used to match the mentors and mentees. Mr. Lindblad answered that it was mostly based on common interests and professional backgrounds, such as Capitol Hill experience or policy work.
    - i. Ms. Gutierrez suggested that the group reach out the SBLSC or CHC, since those groups would have a lot of queer people of color to be matched up. Mr. Lindblad said that our group has a number of connections with those organizations and would be happy to look at the best ways to improve the application process.
6. Mission Statement and Steering Committee Standing Orders
- a. The Board agreed to look at when and how the Steering Committee is run through the official documents.
  - b. Mr. Shine agreed to send the digital copies of the documents to new Board for further review.
7. Elect Co-Chairs
- a. Members of the Board took time to nominate their colleagues to be the new Co-Chairs for the coming year. The nomination process played out as such:
    - i. Mario Semiglia nominated Adam Henderson.
    - ii. Russell Page nominated Mario Semiglia.
    - iii. Andrew Shine nominated Joseph Lindblad.
    - iv. Andrew Fuentes nominated Andrew Shine.
    - v. Kelli Fallon nominated Andrew Fuentes.
  - b. Mr. Laufer then gave instructions to the nine members of the Board: they each received two votes and Mr. Laufer would count them confidentially.
  - c. The nominees then expressed their desire to address the Board as to why they should be elected co-Chair. The five nominees proceeded to do as such.
  - d. After counting the first round of ballots, Mr. Laufer announced that Mr. Shine had received the most votes, but there was a tie for second place. Thus, a second

round of balloting occurred, where the nine members could vote for any of the remaining four candidates once.

- e. After counting the second round of ballots, Mr. Laufer announced that Mr. Fuentes received the majority of second round votes.
  - f. As such, Mr. Shine and Mr. Fuentes were named the new co-Chairs of the 2016 GLASS Steering Committee.
8. Website & Social Media, Communications
- a. Mr. Fuentes agreed that he would take care of all the proper coordination for communications in the time being.
9. Next Meeting
- a. The April 2016 Steering Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 5, 2016 at a to-be-determined location.
    - i. In the interim, Mr. Laufer suggested that the new Steering Committee sign up for all the appropriate LGBT listservs and coordinate with the appropriate LGBT staff associations across the federal government.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.