

## **GLASS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2016**

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:47pm. All members of the Steering Committee were present at the call to order.
2. The Agenda, April Meeting Minutes and the Treasurer's Report were approved by a unanimous voice vote.
3. Social Events
  - a. April Happy Hour Recap
    - i. Russell Page thought the service at Romeo & Juliet was poor. He noted that customers had to wait a long time for someone to come take his order.
    - ii. Generally, there was a good turn out and there were a lot of new faces, including more Republican staff.
  - b. May Happy Hour
    - i. Andrew Fuentes suggested we partner with other organizations for the May happy hour.
    - ii. Adam Henderson suggested we focus on non-LGBT staff associations since we partner with them for the June happy hour for Pride.
    - iii. Mr. Page said he would reach out to his contact on the CHSA board and would find a contact with CAPASA. Mr. Fuentes said he would reach out to SBLSC. Ms. Gutierrez said she would reach out to WCSA and Tri-Caucus. The Board suggested hosting the May happy hour during the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - c. Nats Night out
    - i. Mr. Henderson mentioned that, last year, GLASS advertised the event in the Pride events email blast and included a link to receive ticket discounts.
  - d. Q Street Ladies Happy Hour

- i. Caitlin Hart stated that there wasn't a large turnout of Senate staff, but that the turnout was high in general. She also mentioned that it was a great networking opportunity.

- e. Targeted Outreach

- i. Board agreed to use funds on targeted outreach events

#### 4. Pride

- i. Mr. Page suggested the board invite other staff associations to participate in Pride events, including marching with GLASS in the DC Pride Parade.
- ii. Pride 5K – Mr. Fuentes is setting up the team and link tonight. Four people are needed for a team. Four board members as well as one GLASS member have already agreed to run with the team.
- iii. Shirts – Mario Semiglia mentioned that the Board needs to order more shirts for Pride.
- iv. Pride Planning Meeting: Friday after work on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### 5. Goals & Accomplishments

- a. Membership Benefits

- i. Ms. Gutierrez asked what benefits dues-paying members receive. She suggested we promote the benefits of becoming dues-paying members by increasing member-specific events. She provided the example of SBLSC hosting a Soul Cycle event for dues-paying members only.
  - ii. Mr. Henderson mentioned that Daniel Franzese may be in DC during Pride and that GLASS could potentially promote a members-only lunch with him.

- b. Yearly Member Survey

- i. Mr. Henderson said he, Joseph Lindblad, and Ms. Gutierrez met to draft this year's survey. He said it is similar to previous years and that they can send around the draft next week.

## 6. LGBT Awareness Events

- a. Andrew Shine suggested we host an event focusing on issues facing the transgender community, possibly a panel discussion for one of the speaker series events.
- b. Mr. Fuentes suggested GLASS release a statement in support of the transgender community. Mr. Henderson worried that a statement could be too political.
- c. Mr. Page suggested we share news articles and other publications that increase awareness on LGBT issues once a week through GLASS social media accounts.
- d. Ms. Gutierrez said she will reach out to the Diversity Initiative to ask how we can collaborate on future projects.

## 7. Speaker Series Update & Planning

- a. Eric Fanning
  - i. Mr. Shine said the high turnout of Defense Fellows may indicate that publicizing the event through Popvox and National Journal helped reach a broader audience.
  - ii. Mr. Fuentes said the publicity around Eric Fanning's nomination was also a likely factor in the high turnout.
  - iii. Ms. Hart mentioned that the layout of the space was awkward. Mr. Page suggested that we provide more guidance on seating if we are in a similar space in the future.
  - iv. Press at future speaker series events – ask speaker if they are okay with press being present and, if so, denote presence of press on event information. Mr. Henderson suggested that, if press is present, we tell them to focus on the speaker, and not the audience.
- b. Senator Blumenthal – TBD
  - i. Mr. Fuentes denoted that he had reached out to the scheduler and was awaiting further reply.

- c. Senator Schatz
    - i. Mr. Page said he could touch base with Senator Schatz's staff.
  - d. Brain Simms
    - i. Mr. Henderson will reach out to Brain Simms's Chief of Staff.
  - e. Todd Larson
    - i. Kelli Fallon will reach out to Alec in Markey's office to get connected to Todd Larson at USAID.
  - f. Other suggestions – Mr. Henderson said he would touch base with Raffi. Mr. Shine said he would reach out to Mara Krisling, executive director for the National Center for Trans Equality, as a potential speaker. Mr. Page suggested Zach Wahls as a future speaker.
8. Website & Social Media, Communications
- a. GLASS Picture
    - i. 1pm on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> in the Russell Rotunda.
  - b. Social Media
    - i. Mr. Semiglia activated the GLASS LinkedIn profile today.
    - ii. Mr. Fuentes is looking into deactivating the old GLASS LinkedIn account.
9. Action Items Running List
- a. Ms. Fallon will update the Action Items Running List.
10. Next Meeting
- a. The June 2016 Steering Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 7, 2016 at a to-be-determined location.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.