

GAYLA Town Hall Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 19, 2019 Ferry Beach Chapel

Meeting called to order by GAYLA coordinator Malcolm Kroh at 15:32, in attendance with coordinators Brad Cohen and Tom Gregg, and 52 brothers in attendance from the GAYLA conference, sharing the following.

1. Town Hall Agenda: Items listed on poster board.
2. Director Cathy Stackpole from Ferry Beach Park Association (FBPA) was present and given the floor: Thanks for the Roland Theatre additions, looking to do lighting, sound and floor; thanks to Eugene Grindle and Bill Mitchell on projects; Ron Willett and Doug Atkins for being on the FBPA Board; dream project of replacing Gardiner building and include Art Room, spaces for massages, yoga, dance and storage; dream project of a cache of chairs to enjoy year round at FBPA; Evaluations forthcoming via email; Question/Answer period-none; thank you GAYLA.
3. Treasurer Report: Doug Atkins presented GAYLA 41 Report including Operating Fund with start of \$3,476.92 and ending \$4,171.03; Helping Hands start of \$10,165.45 and ending \$12,454.02; hand out provided of full report.
4. 2018 GAYLA Town Hall Meeting Minutes from 2018: correction of Brother names; David Durkit completed with Joe DeBenedictis of two copies each of old and new Song Books in Braille and the Covenant; David Smith discussed he started the first Remembrance Circle and heard some things different followed by other discussion of what minister of week needed but also a "Living Tradition" with responsibility of the current Coordinators, Malcolm will work with David Smith for upcoming year. Motion for approval of the minutes with noted corrections by Rick Lewellyn, seconded by Doug Atkins, approved.
5. Elders Report:
 - a. Elder Troy Liston shared that the Elders started six years ago of Long Term Planning and Health of the Community, met monthly with Zoom meetings, had Liaisons to Coordinators, Treasure and FBPA, assisted in pairing of roommates as needed.
 - b. Two proposals to present today, 1-three year term for coordinators presented by Elder Chris DiGeorgio: changes over the years with current trend of 70-90 guys, challenge of a two year term, suggestion of a three year term with alternating start so 1st year Coordinator would be Learning the role, 2nd year Coordinator is Leading with Vision, with 3rd year Coordinator of Mentoring with a solid base, will create support, continuity and more candidates, no shame to step away. Question of four year term with two per year? And answered that FPBA provides funds and numbers have changed over the years-our current proposal is for three coordinators alternating incoming years with one per year. Also that Tom Gregg is stepping away at end of this GAYLA 41, which Malcolm

and Brad have offered to extend one more year each allowing today to vote in a new coordinator to begin a three year term. Concerns addressed of Elders do support the Coordinators as needed. Bob Walker motioned for approval of the Proposed Three Year Term, seconded by Tom Malone, motion approved.

- c. Elder Bill Mitchell presented 2nd proposal of GAYLA Secretary/Techno Queen: cyclical of skills of each coordinator and this would provide consistency for high quality communications with goal to maintain communications, a two year term appointed by the Coordinators. Questions and answers of compensation, Friv's gets ½ comp, Treasure gets ½ comp, Elders no comp, Coordinators get full comp and this position would get ½ comp. The GAYLA Treasure D. Atkins explained that a full comp is lodging, food and conference-all part of the GAYLA package from FBPA. Past coordinator concerned of compensation is ½ compared to putting in 1-5 hours minimally per week. Chris DiGeorgio motioned for approval of proposal Secretary/Techno Queen, Tom Muise seconded, motion passed.
6. Elder Bill Mitchell also shared that an outreach Public Relations of "What is GAYLA?" is near ready for viewing on FBPA and You Tube which can be shared at Dog Pony Shows, churches and group presentations.
7. Archive Report: Ted Kerecz reported out that photos for archive are scanned before giving to the University of Southern Maine (USM) with access of students in study and our Brothers, don't throw any materials away but throw our way first, continued dialog with Susie there at USM. Tom Muise and Brian Dustin have also been in touch regarding Saco Maine.
8. Election of New Coordinator: approved for Brad and Malcolm to do additional year of their term. Robert "Babs" Gambino did a speech of his interest in GAYLA. No further nominees from the floor. David Durkit moved to accept Babs as the new coordinator with a voice vote, seconded by Bill Mitchell, motion passed.
9. Reunion: Philip Roberts presented that he declined Boston Reunion due to family health and a few conferee Brothers have said, "Not this year". Gay Spirit Vision Is also Martin Luther King weekend and we have joined them one previous year. David Smith expressed that he would like to be part of a workgroup to work on Reunion somewhere besides FBPA and there doesn't have to be a Brother in that city to have it there, asked for help of members: Rick Lewellyn, Bob Walker and Ted Kerecz.
10. New Business: New Public Relations and Outreach again mentioned that Public Relations clip is on FBPA website and You Tube; newbies come to GAYLA because of a Brother or a friend, and we Brothers need to go to newbies rather than them coming to us. GO-GAYLA was at the Cleveland Pride June 1st and will be next at Akron Pride in August 24th. A general request for a clap of appreciation for all past Leadership of GAYLA, completed. Bill Mitchell presented that he and Ron Willett would be presenting the Fall Harvest on September 14th at their home in Lowell Massachusetts.
11. Tom Malone moved for adjournment, seconded by Joe Ercolino, meeting adjourned.