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## **The 519 Church St. Community Centre**

### **Board of Directors**

**Monday, May 31, 2010**

**Meeting # 8 (2009 - 2010)**

Board Members Present: Natasha Garda, Jessica Carfagnini, Jodi Hoar, Troy Jackson, Lyle Kersey, Derrick Navarro, Lee Schofield, Rudy Ticzon and Kira Vallen.

Regrets: Pascal Dessureault, Shaleena Theophilus

Staff Present: Maura Lawless, Matthew Cutler, Janet Rowe and Helen Rykens

Visitors: none

The meeting was opened by Natasha Garda, Chair, at 6:35 PM

1) Welcome

2) Agenda approval

Motion: To approve the Agenda. Moved by Lee Schofield and seconded by Jessica Carfagnini – Carried.

3) Visitors – none

4) Minutes of the last meeting

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the April 26, 2010 meeting as amended. Moved by Rudy Ticzon and seconded by Derrick Navarro – Carried.

5) Declaration of conflicts of interest: none.

6) Agency business – funding proposals: none

a) Mosaic Project Update – Janet Reported:

The Mosaic Project is a huge success. Over 400 individuals were involved in focus groups regarding the design and in building the mosaic. The building went quickly because of a high rate of community involvement. The 519 Community Mosaic will be launched on June 28 from 6-9 PM.

7) Executive Director's Report – Maura reported on two major events in May.

a) Public Service Event – Anti Homophobia Day – May 13, 2010

Over 250 people attended. The event focused on affinity groups for LGBT people working in public service in Toronto and Ontario. Joe Pennachetti, the City Manager spoke at the event. He was so impressed that he has directed his staff to look at how the City promotes affinity groups. In addition, we received very positive feedback from the broader public service.

b) Open House – May 19, 2010

Over 1500 people came through the building on May 19. Honorary Patron Salah Bachir was the Master of Ceremonies, while Mayor David Miller and Councillor Kyle Rae both spoke. George MacIntyre's painting exhibit on the main floor generated enthusiasm. This event was a huge success and everyone worked hard to have the building looking its best. Thanks very much to Matt and his team for organizing this, and to BMO and Salah Bachir for contributing to the event.

Rudy Ticzon congratulated the staff and volunteers for a job well done, with agreement from the entire Board.

8) Chair and Executive Committee Report: Natasha reported

a) Board vacancy

Troy Jackson has resigned from the Board, due to his music video and career taking much of his time.

Motion: to accept Troy Jackson's resignation from the Board, effective today. Moved by Jody Hoar and seconded by Derrick Navarro. Carried.

Motion: to appoint Rudy Ticzon to Troy Jackson's vacant position, as Rudy's position's term ends September 2010. This will extend Rudy's term to the normal 2 year term, expiring in September 2011. Moved by Lyle Kersey and seconded by Kira Vallen. Carried.

Motion: to appoint David White, who visited the April 2010 Board Meeting and who has demonstrated a keen interest in The 519, to Rudy Ticzon's previous position. Moved by Derrick Navarro and seconded by Kira Vallen. Carried.

b) Board members as participants in 519 programs

- 519 Programs are those run by staff of The 519 and supported by fundraising efforts approved by the Board of Directors. Programs run by volunteers in the community (defined as community programs) are not included in this item.
- The Board is developing a protocol for Board Members who wish to participate in directly operated 519 programs. Board Members are in a leadership role in the agency, but do not have jurisdiction over day to day activities and may find

themselves in a conflict of interest if they attend programs funded by the Board. The protocol should be ready for the June 2010 meeting.

Motion: Until the protocol (regarding Board Members attending 519 programs) is in place, Board Members will refrain from participating in programs directly operated by 519 staff. Moved by Jody Hoar, seconded by Lee Schofield. Carried.

c) Relations between Pride Toronto and the City of Toronto

The advocacy committee will be meeting on June 7 and will discuss controversy arising from the City of Toronto's interpretation of their anti discrimination policy as it applies to events like the Pride Parade, and Pride Toronto's response to the City's interpretation. After discussion, the Board advises the Advocacy Committee to consider the following principles in their discussion:

- Stay at a high level and avoid particular details - this is about the implications of threatening the funding of LGBT organizations
- The 519's focus is on advancing equality for the queer community
- Our role is upholding the law and freedom of expression
- Avoid criticizing organizations directly in the final statement, stick to principles involved.

9) Human Resources Policy Committee: The committee did not meet. Maura provided updates

a) Bargaining Update:

Local 2998 and 2998-12 have completed negotiations. A memorandum of understanding regarding the joint collective agreement will go to the June 2010 City Council meeting. There will be some cost increases that we had not expected, so there will be a budget update.

b) Security Services:

A number of individuals had been engaging in illegal and /or disrespectful activity on a regular basis within and around the building over the last month (especially with the warm weather).

The 519 retained Uitas Security firm (we used them for 2009 Pride) on a short term basis to complete building tours, communicate directly with people to reinforce community standards and to generally improve the safety of the building / community. The security personnel were able to bring about a change in behavior within an hour.

We cannot afford to hire security personnel on an ongoing basis but we are assessing how we might be able to bring them in periodically and expect all staff to be involved in the process of communicating community standards.

10) Finance Committee: Maura reported

Maura reviewed the monthly financial update. There were no questions.

11) Strategic and Program Planning Committee: Derrick Reported:

- a) The next meeting will take place on June 3 at 6:30 PM
- b) The Board social after the April meeting was a success. It was a great chance to get to know each other.
- c) Café update: Eric Wood has been hired as the Manager of Food Services and Community Partnerships. We should have some operations in place by Pride.

12) Advocacy Committee: Maura reported

- a) The board was presented with two Organizational Position Briefs and one Organizational Statement - attached.

Motion: To approve The 519's Organizational Position Brief on Sex Work. Moved by Kira Vallen and seconded by Derrick Navarro. Carried.

Motion: to approve The 519's Organizational Position Brief on Sex Reassignment Surgery and Access to Health Care, as amended. Moved by Lyle Kersey and seconded by Jessica Carfagnini. Carried.

Motion: to approve the Organizational Statements on Sex Work, Sex Reassignment Surgery and Health Care, and Trans Access Issues, with an amendment to the statement on Trans Access Issues. Moved by Derrick Navarro and seconded by Rudy Ticzon. Carried.

13) Resource Development and Communications Committee: Natasha reported:

a) 519 Pride events:

- Wednesday, June 30 from 7-11 PM – Trans Theatre Under the Stars
- Thursday, July 1 from 5 – 11 PM – Starry Night
- Friday, July 2 from 1-11 PM – multicultural Toronto event (new)
- Saturday, July 3 from 1-11 PM – Green Space on Church – Open Air Affair
- Sunday, July 4 from 1-11 PM – Green Space on Church – Tree House Party

Board Members are expected to volunteer, particularly in the finance area. Scott Clarke will be in touch with Board Members to arrange shifts.

For Starry Night, please forward your invitation list to Matt Cutler as soon as possible. It's important for 519 supporters to attend Starry Night and to have VIP passes for the rest of the weekend.

Parade involvement: The 519 will not enter the Dyke March or Pride Parade this year, as these activities take a tremendous amount of resources. The 519 will be open to the public on Pride Weekend (main floor for the general public). We do have a huge presence at Pride without being in the march or parade, and we will focus our resources on the events we do best.

b) Staff update:

Richard Rhyme has been hired as the Donor and Community Relations Specialist in Matt's department.

14) Correspondence - none

15) Emerging Issues – none

16) Other business –

a) Committee minutes

Jody reported that she has not received minutes from committees to date. She has distributed a template and encourages Board members to ensure committee minutes are submitted for distribution to the rest of the Board.

b) Pride and Remembrance Run

Lee reported that he will organize a 519 team to participate in the Run. It's 5 kilometers and a great fundraising event to support organizations in the community. Helen will put Lee in touch with a staff member who has been organizing a small 519 team over the past few years.

Note that The 519 supports the Run by hosting the space. In return, the Pride and Remembrance Run makes a donation the AIDS Memorial, a project managed by The 519.

17) Adjournment:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting. Moved by Kira Vallen and seconded by Derrick Navarro. Carried.

Next Meeting is Monday, June 21, 2010 at 6:30 PM.