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

### **Board of Directors**

**Monday, January 25, 2010**

**Meeting # 4 (2009 - 2010)**

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

Regrets: none

Staff Present: Maura Lawless, Eric Berndt, Janet Rowe, and Helen Rykens

Visitor: Mark Luciani, 519 Volunteer

The meeting was opened by Derrick Navarro, the Vice Chair, at 6:40 PM

1) Welcome

2) Agenda approval:

Motion: To approve the Agenda. Moved by Pascal Dessureault and seconded by Lee Schofield – Carried.

3) Minutes of the last meeting

Motion: To approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2009 meeting as amended. Moved by Troy Jackson and seconded by Lyle Kersey – Carried.

4) Declaration of conflicts of interest: none.

5) Agency business – funding proposals:

AIDS Community Partnership and Investment Program This is a returning grant that supports HIV prevention work with Trans Sex Workers. We will ask for an increase this year to develop targeted HIV prevention resources for Trans Youth, Trans women and Trans sex workers. This will be more inclusive of people living with HIV/AIDS. Grant Request: Up to \$60,000

Motion: That we approve the application to the City of Toronto AIDS Community Partnership and Investment Program for up to \$60,000. Moved by Natasha Garda and seconded by Lee Schofield. Carried.

Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund A returning grant to support the activities of the Summer Camp program. Grant Amount: \$4,500

Motion: That we approve the \$4,500 request to the Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund. Moved by Pascal Dessureault and seconded by Rudy Ticzon. Carried.

Homeless Partnership Initiative (HPI) Small Capital We are applying for capital money to build the community kitchen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; install accessibility features such as: Braille signage, an audio visual system for the homeless drop in room, and button operators for meeting and counseling room doors.

Motion: That we approve the application to the City of Toronto Homeless Partnership Initiative Small Capital Program to support the Nourishing Communities and Ensuring Safe Accessibility for All project. Moved by Jodi Hoar, and seconded by Lyle Kersey. Carried.

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC)

This is the summer youth employment initiative to fund summer camp staffing.

Motion: That we approve the application to Human Resources and Skills Development Canada to support the Summer Day Camp program. Moved by Jessica Carfagnini and seconded by Troy Jackson. Carried.

6) Executive Director's Report – Maura reported.

a) United Way panel visit – January 13, 2010

The Board was represented by Natasha Garda, Pascal Dessureault and Lyle Kersey. Maura, Rinku Modi and Janet Rowe were present to respond to organizational questions. The meeting went very well. Our team was well prepared and the panel members appreciated this.

We demonstrated that we dealt with the 2007 Panel Report concerns. They have requested more information on our Pandemic Flu plan and will report back to us in April regarding our recent submission. Given their successful fundraising campaign, we are well positioned to have our grant funding rolled into our base allocation.

b) Bargaining update

Both the City and the Union have requested a conciliator. Bargaining will recommence in mid April

c) City of Toronto Budget

We submitted our budget in November and City of Toronto Finance staff are recommending a 2% increase in our core operating budget, which is very good news considering that the majority of City departments are facing a 5% funding decrease. Once our budget passes Council we will bring the adjusted budget to the Board for approval.

d) Construction:

The project has reached substantial completion. The final stage is the remaining mill work and installation of counters, fridges, dishwashers and a stove in the smaller rooms. We are in communication with Salah about the design of the lobby and possible furniture donations.

Motion: to thank the Mayor and the City of Toronto for their ongoing support and contribution towards the expansion project at The 519. This project was championed at the highest levels of the City, and funding was provided beyond the original contingency. The Board of Management considers this to be a great investment in the community and neighbourhood for years to come. Moved by Natasha Garda and seconded by Jessica Carfagnini. Carried.

The letter will be sent to the Mayor and to Councillor Rae, and it will recognize the work of the staff at Facilities and Real Estate.

e) All Candidates Debate

On January 20, 2010 The 519 and Xtra! co-hosted the very successful All Candidates Debate for the Provincial By-election. There were over 250 in attendance. We used a different format. Our expert panel of moderators was led by Canadian Writer, Broadcaster and Community Organizer Jane Farrow and included Jennifer Fodden (Executive Director, LGBT Youthline), Laurel Rothman (Director of Social Reform, Family Service Toronto), Kyle Scanlon (Trans Programs Coordinator, The 519), Marcus McCann (Managing Editor, Xtra!) and Lee-Ann Dolan (Director of Programs and Services, AIDS Committee of Toronto).

Questions were gathered on facebook and twitter, as well as in person ½ hour prior to the meeting. This ensured that candidates answered questions relevant to a prospective MPP, rather than questions more suitable for the federal or local level. In addition, there were questions from the floor.

We conducted an evaluation and the overwhelming response was positive. We will tighten the panelist's questions in future. There will be debates for the candidates for Mayor and the candidates for Councillor, Ward 27 later this year regarding the municipal election to be held on October 25.

7) Human Resources Policy Committee: Lyle Reported

a) Departing staff members

- i) Eric Berndt, the Manager of Resource Development and Communications, will be leaving in February.

Maura thanked Eric for his contributions and accomplishments in his 20 months at The 519. He took on a new role within the agency, leading in the rebranding and creation of the new web site, developing a three year fundraising strategy and helping

make our Pride activities much better revenue generators. As well, he has built an up successful team in what will be a growing department.

Eric thanked Maura and the Board and stated that he had enjoyed working with everyone at The 519.

ii) Dick Moore is retiring after nine years of service.

Maura described Dick's accomplishments: Dick developed the Senior Pride Network and their annual conference "Opening the Closet on Aging". He has gone to Long term care facilities and trained staff and residents regarding acceptance of and respect for LGBT people within the population of long term care facilities. He has brought in arts programming for participants in the program at The 519. We wish him well in his retirement. There will be a retirement party from 2-5 PM on Wednesday, January 27 and all board members are invited.

b) Collective agreement Maura has updated the Board on this in her report

c) Draft City Policy on Anti Discrimination and Anti Harassment We sent our feedback and questions to the City and have not heard back from them to date. We hope to present the final draft to the Board at the February meeting.

d) Restructuring update

i) We have restructured the Counselling Program and the Anti Violence Program. We were unable to obtain ongoing funding for the Counselling Program Coordinator position, which has been a contract based on a grant from the Counselling Foundation. Audra Petrulelis has done a great job putting the program on a firm footing, recruiting more volunteer counsellors and addressing waiting list issues. In order to continue the program we will combine the Counselling and Anti Violence Programs under the leadership of the current Anti Violence Program Coordinator, Howard Shulman. We thank Audra for her work with us over the past 2 years.

ii) New permanent position in the Trans Programs are: Research, Education and Policy Coordinator. We will now have two full time staff working on Trans Programming.

iii) Trans services coordinator position has been filled by Michelle LeClaire, who has been one of our Trans Youth Toronto (TYT) Peer Workers.

iv) With Dick Moore's retirement we have the opportunity to review the program. We will hire a consultant to review the program model, write new funding applications and develop the program to ensure that it is meeting the needs of the older LGBTQ communities.

8) Building Committee: No Report

- 9) Finance Committee: Pascal reported  
a) There will be a 2009 year end report at the February Board meeting.

10) Strategic and Program Planning Committee: Derrick Reported:

Board retreat

We will have to postpone the retreat as we did not have time to plan it. We may have it in the spring. The next meeting for the committee will take place between March 2 and 8 due to committee member vacations.

- 11) Advocacy Committee: Discussion will take place in camera later in the meeting

12) Resource Development and Communications Committee:

Workshop with Suzanne Gibson:

The second workshop with Suzanne Gibson will take place on February 1 from 6-9 PM. Board members are expected to bring information on their contact lists to the meeting. Note that your contacts will not be used without your knowledge – this is the first step in “friendraising”.

13) Capital Campaign Report:

Maura and Natasha met with Salah recently. He is enthusiastic about staying on as a supporter of the 519. His interest is in décor, room naming and program funding. He wants to bring the major capital campaign donors on tours of the new facility and talk with them about becoming long term supporters.

We will hold a tour 1-2 weeks before the birthday party/opening reception to thank corporate donors.

Salah Bachir and Mathieu Chantelois will be involved in the Starry Night event as well.

- 14) Executive meeting update: Natasha reported  
The Executive Committee will report to each board meeting in future. We reviewed our workplan and outlined priorities at our most recent meeting.

a) Board recruitment

The nominations committee will review resumes and bring forward one candidate for the Board to consider.

b) Pride organizing

The 519 will appoint a Pride Chair to bring a higher profile to our pride activities and to oversee the key elements of The 519's Pride Week events.

c) Recognition of Councillor Kyle Rae's achievements

We will support the nomination of Kyle Rae for a Community One award.

15) Correspondence - none

16) Emerging Issues – none

17) Other business - none

18) In Camera Session

Motion: That the Board go to an in camera session to discuss a legal matter regarding an advocacy issue. Moved by Jodi Hoar and seconded by Troy Jackson. Carried.

The Board of Management went in camera according to the Public Meeting provisions described in section 190 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006. During the Jan 25th in-camera session the Board of Management voted unanimously that the Advocacy Committee continue its explorations around a timely legal issue.

Motion: That the in camera session be ended and that the meeting come out of camera. Moved by Kira Vallen and seconded by Lee Schofield. Carried.

19) Adjournment:

Motion: To adjourn. Moved by Natasha Garda and seconded by Lyle Kersey. Carried

Next Meeting is Monday, February 22, 2010 at 6:30 PM.