

Halifax Pride 2016 Annual General Meeting

Summary

by Dan MacKay

Resolution	Source	Status
Amend the bylaws to allow an Executive Director	Pride	PASSED
Amend the bylaws to include "pansexual"	Pride	PASSED
Identify and disengage with "pinkwashing" and ban "Size Doesn't Matter" / Tel Aviv Tourism	Queer Arabs Halifax	DEFEATED
Welcome all community groups to Pride; allow protests & criticism	Kevin Kindred	PASSED
Implement guidelines & requirements for entry into the Pride community group events	NSRAP	DEFEATED
Prioritize outreach to marginalized groups	Atlantic Jewish Council	WITHDRAWN

Transcript

by Dan MacKay

The proposed (optional) membership fee of \$10 was waived; everyone who entered was offered a form saying that we were members of Halifax Pride, at the registration desk you traded the form for a voting card; the first hundred or so people got agenda & Bylaw packages while they lasted. Anyone who wanted to speak got a Speaker Card with a number (usually notated in the transcript as ==99==) in red on one side, and green on the other. I think there were a hundred Speaker Cards; they ran out.

The room was packed - standing room only - with over three hundred and thirty people. At a Pride AGM!

As much as I could, I've recorded where people were snapping their fingers, clapping, shouting and interrupting the speaker.

Chair: Willem Blois

Aaron Prosper: room smudging; introduction, explanation of smudging; Mi'kmag prayer, Treaty song Gunadeya.

==Willem==

Amazing to see so many people here. Last year we had thirty people; some AGMs have had six.

Short video: Recap of Halifax Pride 2016.

I'm excited to share the successes of this last Pride and what we have planned for coming up.

Agenda: approved.

Minutes: approved

Financial report: any discussion? No? We can discuss them later. Approved? Consensus.

We have six resolutions before the Board today; two Special resolutions and four Ordinary ones.

The Special Resolutions amend the Bylaws and require a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote.

About speaking: if you intend to speak for or against a resolution, please raise either the red or green side of your Speaker Card. But - we ran out [DM: I think they started with a hundred.] If you want to speak but don't have a card, just raise your hand.

[DM: the fact that there are over a hundred speakers is terrifying]

At the front of the room, Shay has a card with an orange side and a red side. Orange is your ten-second signal; red is, please finish.

===1st Special Resolution (of 2)===

Appointment of an Executive Director.

- Establish
- Responsibilities look fairly standard for an ED of a society.
- No mention of remuneration level

===Discussion===

====Mike Davies-Cole====

“two spirited” has been excluded - why, and could it be put back in, please? Has Two Spirit been slid in with transgendered? It's not. (snapping) Please replace LGBTQ and add “2”.

Willem: we can put that back in and move for it to be amended.

Morgan: It is mentioned in the Mission Statement, it is specifically mentioned and defined as LGBTQ+.

====Speaker 32, Raven====

Agree with you, Michael. If we're abbreviating it to that, if the T is there, the 2 should be there too. It's important that the visibility of 2-spirit people be included. (snapping)

Specifically section 3 - Employment Equity, should be as inclusive.

And, clarification of what the “Special Measures” are.

Willem: when you move changes, you have to have a specific request.

32: Anywhere it says LGBTQ+, it should say LGBTQ2+, and to add in the list of “full participation from” that 2-Spirit should be in that list too.

Vote to incorporate that amendment. Passed.

====Speaker 01, Kevin Kindred====

The community has asked Pride to do this for a number of years now. I encourage everyone to vote in favour of it.

====Speaker 68====

First section: I move that the first paragraph should specify that the ED shall be a member of the LGBT2 Community.

Discussion

Gary Brooks: is it legal in Canada to make such a restriction [that someone must be queer to be an employee]

Kevin Kindred: It is probably legal - but if it's not, it won't be incorporated.

(unnumbered) It looks like the ED can choose their employees and sets their own wages.

Board: “In particular the [Halifax Pride Board of] directors will appoint employees and set their wages.”

Any more discussion? No? Vote please. Majority. Passed.

====Speaker 72: John Hutton====

Point of privilege: Not everyone's comfortable speaking in front of crowds, so as a level of courtesy, please refrain from clapping and boo'ing.

====Cathy====

I have two questions: is it fiscally responsible? I know there's a need, but do we have the money or operational guidelines that can be reviewed?

Willem: Fiscally responsible: we did a lot of work in the collaboration with the Provincial Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage. We have secured funding for this position.

Cathy: is it more than a 1-year funding program? Yes. (applause and yay's)

Morgan: I undertook the task on operational guidelines; we did that this summer too. Certainly the policies once finished will be available to the public.

Call for vote. TOTAL consensus. No Nay votes.

===2nd Special Resolution (of 2): Add "Pansexual"===

Pansexual be added after "asexual" in the Mission Statement & Values.

====Kirk====

Would this policy be reflected elsewhere in the Bylaws? Yes.

Call for vote. Motion carried, again, consensus.

===1st Ordinary Resolution (of 4)===

Will identify and disengage with "pinkwashing" and ban Size Doesn't Matter / Tel Aviv Tourism===

This resolution was put forward by the Queer Arabs of Halifax group. Whereas Size Doesn't Matter actively engages in "Pinkwashing" (etc etc) That is - do not promote LGBT things from areas where international human law violations are occurring.

[DM We appear to be burning through reading all the resolutions. Unclear why]

Queer Arabs Halifax rep: Many members of our group feel that they are isolated or marginalized; we do not feel that Israel's policy of apartheid and oppression do not fit Pride's reason for being. We object to any group that uses "pinkwashing" - that is LGBTQ friendliness.

???: I am a 3rd generation Palestinian, I have heard drones over my head, threatening the lives of innocent people; there are queer people in Palestine and Gaza where oppression is persistent. We are opposing Pinkwashing: using our name to mask over these violations of humanitarian law; we're not targetting any specific groups. We need to call for social justice for all people, not just LGBT people.

Discussion

====Babi Zara====

I have been an ally to this community my entire life. I have walked the Parade with my infant daughter, long before she became a member of the community itself. I'm also a Jew. And, we, Jews and the LGBTQ community, share values. "Tecunalam" - and justice. We are not going to do that by excluding people. We do it by including people.

====12: ====

I'm also Jewish but I'm *for* this motion. I want to make it clear; this is not an attack on Judaism. It's targeting *advertising*, not the Jewish community. The advertising here is making Tel Aviv seem very friendly and that's not appropriate.

====3: Sky Smith====

I'm also a Jew, I'm also gay, thank you. We need to be sensitive to people who are affected by this; there are atrocities going on, but we need to be fair. I would like to amend the motion to read, "The Jewish Community Table" instead of "Size Doesn't Matter."

Robert's Rules say that an amendment can't change the *intent* of the main motion.

The wording in the motion specifically refers to "Size Doesn't Matter". So, no.

====10: Vemmy====

I've been a volunteer for ten years. It's great that so many of you came out of the closet. I'm neither Jewish nor Arab. I'm speaking to the Mission Statement of Halifax pride. It says, it's accessible to ALL, throughout HALIFAX and NOVA SCOTIA. Not the world. It's not World Pride. It's about NOVA SCOTIA, not the entire world.

====29: Larry Haiven==

I'm from Independent Jewish Voices. We're against the use of Pride for pinkwashing. You can read about us in a pamphlet I was handing out. We didn't want to get involved with this, but other outside organizations got involved, that there are more than one jewish organization

involved. I have some of the material from the Size Doesn't Matter booth; it's all about "This Is Israel."

====38: Gabriel Goodman====

President of Students for Palestine at Dalhousie. I support the QUeer Arabs of Halifax. THE focus must remain on them. A group of LGBTQ community of colour has come to Halifax Pride and felt unsafe. The presence of advertisements for Israel at Halifax Pride, State Sponsored propaganda does not constitute free speech.

====20: Lewinsky..====

In this room we have indiginous people who have been here forever and we honour and respect them. The rest of us are immigrants, if not recent, our parents and grandparents. The definition of a Canadian is an immigrant with seniority. When we come here we leave our arguments behind. Queer Arabs of Halifax need to adopt that attitude as well.

====32: Raven====

If it's true that everyone should be leaving their business at home, we should not be spreading propaganda about business at home. Size DOesn't Matter should not be spreading propaganda about Israel; it's not Halifax, it's not Nova Scotia. Furthermore, it is important that everyone feel *safe*. I'll say the same thing if I see something about Canada 150.

====71: ====

Sorry for your suffering. I wish you don't have to suffer. I find ..> Tel Aviv is a city. They are the most sensitive people to the Palestinian problem in Israel. They fight for the right of Palestinians in Israel. What I don't understand is why they are being punished when they are the most on your side.

====37: ====

The statement on behalf of Jewish Youth for Equality. We feel that the Atlantic Jewish Council is out of touch, and that their motion misrepresents us. AJC does not represent us. The motion put forward by QAH does not seek to ban any Jewish organization from participating; it seeks to ban promotion of tourism and trade with Israel.

====74: Jim Spatz====

I grew up in Halifax, I lived here. I was born in Munich, Germany, the child of holocaust survivors. I have a profound understanding of discrimination and persecution on a personal level. The contrast between persecution and Canadian values is profound. We live in Canada and our values are foundational; among those are freedom of expression. If there is diversity in this room... TIME IS UP

====44: ====

Point of order: It's not clear to me how you as Halifax Pride is going to handle four conflicting resolutions. It puts us in an almost impossible decision. No one wants to support censorship; if there's one that says, "No censorship" and "No pinkwashing" what do you do?

Willem: Good point. We've been wrestling with this ourselves. We're going to ask the membership to help us with this; we don't have a plan for how to progress through this fluidly. If there's a motion on the floor to alter the way we're doing this - let's do it.

Mike Davies Cole: it is not clear where we are or how we're doing this.

Board: we have four overlapping / conflicting motions, but we can only vote on one at a time. Remember we did vote to approve the agenda.

Mike: so we could cancel each amendment out with the next amendment?

Board: Uh, yes, sorry.

44: we should not see the discussions in this room as the finish; we should see it as the beginning (snapping)

I'm speaking in favour of this resolution. It's not an issue of freedom of speech or religion. It's not an issue of censorship; that's taken by a state to suppress something it feels is immoral. This is a political stunt, and we should take a political side. We're saying, My rights as a lesbian are more important than your rights as a Palestinian.

====39====

I want to acknowledge that there's a lot of pain in the room from the Jewish community and QAH. I hope that people find someone to talk to about these issues and work them out. If you have an issue about the way the Jewish community is running their booth, reach out and express your concerns. This resolution doesn't do that and I encourage you to vote against it. (some snapping)

====70: Emily Davidson====

Co-Chair of NSRAP. I would like to submit the petition signed by 503 members of the community standing in solidarity with QAH against pinkwashing. These issues are about justice and solidarity and fighting back against groups are pitted against each other and letting the queer name be used to wash over other groups' immense struggles against harm.

====4: Naomi Rosenfelt====

President of AJC

Point of Order: the petition is not factual; it was not factual when it was created. The petition specified the wrong group. The petition maintained the Israeli Government was funding our booth which it absolutely wasn't, so it should not be allowed (much snapping.) This petition applies to the Resolution that pertains to it. The same point of order stands.

(reading text of petition)

The AJC, while it by no means speaks for all Jews, it does for the broadest slice. We're at pride to show our support and commitment to the LGBT community. We've been a long time partner with the LGBT community in Halifax and Atlantic Canada. 25% of the Jewish community in Halifax came from Israel in the last few years. This is not about what's going in the Middle East, it's what's going on here, and it's about freedom of expression.

====45: Chair of NSRAP====

I'm also with NSRAP; there were a lot of discussions about this table and these materials and we did our best to determine where they were coming from. It was registered as the Tel Aviv Tourism booth; as soon as we found out it was paid for by the AJC we reached out to them. We don't support the pinkwashing materials on display.

====47: Christopher====

I'm Israeli, I'm Canadian, I'm gay; my husband is Israeli, and Arab speaker. It's painful to be here. We participate in pride activities around the world; the purpose is to advance the issues that are common to the LGBT community. I was shocked to see the pamphlets that were handed out. Israel is an island in the middle east where someone from the LGBT community can be safe and protected. (much snapping)

====72====

In 2014, when the Gaza war was going on, I got a pamphlet from the AJC called "LGBT Rights in the middle east" which essentially said, "In Israel it's a big party, everywhere else Arabs want to kill you." I do not feel this is appropriate feedback; if you're going to be open to dialog you should not be divisive; you should act in solidarity. Please do better.

====76: Bisexual Jewish Mother====

There's a group which hasn't been mentioned, Queer Adolescents in Halifax, specifically Queer Jewish Adolescents. It's extraordinarily important that they feel safe, and anything that does that is a good thing. Our children must feel safe.

====52: John====

I feel that there's a lot at stake here, and as a queer Jew, I risk alienating me from communities I care about. I speak in support of the QAH resolution. Pinkwashing is about a deliberate marketing strategy from the state of Israel. It is about a mobilization - people used as a marketing strategy.

====36: Shimon Walt====

I live here, I know many of you, I taught some of you, I feel for all of you. I feel for my colleague who had bumps fall on his head. I'm a Canadian Israeli - born in Russia, raised in Poland, lived in Israel, was in the war, but had friends - Israelis, Jews and Arabs alike. I extend my hand to

everyone in this room. I don't want anyone to turn around and move away from me; that's how I'm feeling right now. TIME SORRY

====92====

First of all I'm supporting the QAH motion which is in line with the Queer community in Tel Aviv. In Halifax we've been subject to an incredible amount of hatred and bigotry and threats - even from the Jewish Defence League. If we're going to balance Freedom of Expression with a Freedom to be Safe, let's talk about ways to feel safe.

====1: Kevin Kindred====

I bristled at a previous member's statement where QAH was said to OUGHT to be feeling a certain way. Also AJC should not be told how they run their booth.

====31====

I'm speaking about the resolution of freedom of speech. Quick Note: Freedom of Speech in Canada is not absolute, and can be subject to reasonable limitations. We're asking to remove the content that pinkwashes the human rights violations.

====60: John Schulman====

Proud Jew, proud ally to my loved ones, somewhat questioning. I'm proud that Israel has a flourishing LGBT community. Israel & Palestine have work to do to improve security & peace and improve the lives of the lgbt community.

====33: Here as an Arab====

We've heard a lot of straight, white voices here tonight, and it's incredibly violent here tonight that Pride Halifax has asked us here where we listen to straight white voices. It's INCREDIBLY VIOLENT. You all said we had to come here and politely sit and endure your incredibly white Robert's Rules that are TOTALLY UNACCESSIBLE. (snapping & clapping.)

====60: Ariella====

Please bear with me. I'm apologetic that the JDL is making anyone feel uncomfortable. We shouldn't be tied together in one giant basket. No other pride has gone down this path. No other Pride has not gone down this path where groups will be excluded. The Jewish community has said that they're open to conversations - but Pride has said they want to censor us. The AJC is not for that.

====80: Ronna====

I have to say that both sides are emotional and are going through pain. I'm an immigrant. This is Canada. Being Canadians, we should learn to work with each other and come to a compromise. This is the only place in the world world where we feel safe. I'm a Muslim. You didn't prepare an area for prayers; These are things they don't believe in. I did not know there were so many Jewish gay people. TIME. SORRY.

Point of privilege: I want to make it clear that not all of us are Canadians. I'm Mi'kmaw. Be aware that not all of us are Canadians.

Point of order: these are about procedure, not rebuttal.

====7: Sherry Castin====

I feel all the hurt and pain in the room. I'm Jewish; the first of our people were exiled in AD 822; all of our prayer services acknowledge our connection to Israel & Zion. To say that we can't mention Israel and the things we're proud of, is to deny a core of our identity. I was beyond disappointed to read Pride's resolution. TIME SORRY.

====75: Doug Rigby====

I'm with Kairos, a Christian organization. I'm proud of Pride to take on this topic, regardless of how difficult it is. It's a discussion that needs to be taken on in mosques, churches and synagogues and we haven't had an opportunity to talk about this. Thank you for having the courage to take this on. We need to do this to build a community. Pride is so good for taking up these issues.

====42: Cathy Walsh====

I've been involved in Halifax Pride for eight years. There are very very few people I recognize in this room. The board of directors fulfils their job to produce a pride festival that is fiscally responsible. They got Pride out of debt. They did that by making Pride accessible to us. LGBTQ includes allies.

POINT OF ORDER: is it usual to go back and forth between pro and con?

====36: Peggy Walt====

I have volunteered at the AJC's both twice. I've been asked, "What is Tel Aviv" . I've answered all kinds of questions. It was refreshing to talk to non Jews who didn't support Israel. Since I started supporting this anti-censorship event I've been the target of massive amounts of hatred and abuse.

====48====

I've been hesitating to speak because I'm not a person of colour and I didn't want to take up space. I don't think many people are here because they want to censor; I think people here mostly want to not hate. If there's been any dissent about the Tel Aviv Table, they've been shut down. This is why I'm here; this is why we're here.

====QAH guy====

This is not to highlight differences; this is about social justice - justice, equality and freedom, the LGBTQ community, our community, and refusing to have our LGBTQ struggles used to support

oppression of another people. That's what pinkwashing is. It's to mask that. We encourage other people in the LGBTQ community to come up to Pride, this year and forever, and bring up other kinds of pinkwashing, local pinkwashing. This is what it's about.

Chair: I appreciate that this was difficult, and that we had that debate.

Asking for the vote.

Point of order: if we vote for or against this resolution, what about the other three?

Chair: You vote on those too.

Motion is.... DEFEATED. (much applause)

Chair: No applause please.

CALL FOR COUNT.

Boardmembers disperse throughout the room to count

All in favour.

All against....

Abstaining....

... angry person shouting: STRAIGHT WHITE PRIDE WINS AGAIN!!

... another angry person responds: TOTALLY INAPPROPRIATE.

... another: CAN WE HAVE THE VOTE JUST BY THE LGBT COMMUNITY? People mutter NO.

Celphone rings... first angry person shouts: HEY STRAIGHT FOLKS - IT'S YOUR CONSCIENCE CALLING.

Chair: Majority rules in favour of defeat. There was a rude hand gesture used against someone. Please be civil.

Count: 106 for. 210 against. 5 abstentions.

LOTS of people leaving.

Chair: please leave in an orderly fashion.

Chair: Is there a point of order?

Chair talks about three more resolutions.

Mike Davies-Cole: all the resolutions are important. Please don't imply that that was the important one and we'll breeze through the rest.

===2nd Ordinary Resolution (of 4)===

- Pride create a committee tasked with exploring, understanding and educating about minorities
- Maintain a policy of welcoming all individuals as long as they support Pride's values.
- Halifax Pride will NOT interfere with protests.

Debate

====Mike Davies=Cole====

I would urge the community to strike down everything that's been done here and to encourage the community to have a place for the jewish and arab communities to come together as there are many other voices here tonight . Also, we have to be careful about what we mean by freedom of expression. As long as someone's not doing hate speech. Freedom of speech works where someone wants to have a voice in some place where they don't always belong.

====06====

I've known Kevin Kindred for a long time. We don't see eye-to-eye on many things. But, he is the voice of reason and a very intelligent man. I encourage you to listen carefully to him because it makes a lot of sense

(lots of discussion about whether the meeting should be adjourned and picked up at another meeting.)

Chair; I'm ruling the motion to adjourn out of order. We *will* elect a new Board tonight.

Much quibbling about points of order, adjournment... agendas... tabling...

Motion to table the remaining 3 ordinary resolutions to a Special General Meeting.

Curtis: we all came here to discuss this. I will not support tabling the motions.

???: the debate that has taken place thus far. To separate that doesn't make sense.

Raven: Can we table the resolution completely to have a wider community discussion? I was told that we would need 14 - 15 days notice to table these discussions to another meeting.

???: I support tabling this discussion because we are outnumbered by straight cisgendered people.

???: I took a vacation day; I drove from New Glasgow to here for this meeting. I'm afraid that if it's re-tabled I won't be able to attend.

???: Yes, some of us took the day off. Some of us spent the day working with queer youth. While YOU may have taken your day off, others may have worked all day. Let's take a break; let's get some sleep; the conversation's not over; Pride's not over. It's messed up. That invitation to the floor for our community to figure this out, that's not our way. There are people in this community who are professionals at figuring this out. Find another way.

????: I'm not part of the LGBT2 community. I've come here as a request to open and as a favour to a friend. Whether we table this or not, whether you're straight or not, there's a lot of talk about pinkwashing countries; I'd like to point out that you're living in one. I'm the only one in this room - and the other indigenous people - we are the only people here who require a card to assert their rights. My Indian card is .. xxxxxx . My reservation has a number, not a name. I would like people, whether they go home or not, to think about that. There are people in this room who do not have the rights that were promised in 1752. I can't go hunt, I can't fish unless I have this card. I live my whole life on the reservation. My grandmother had to hide from the Indian agent so she would not be sent to the residential school. We live in a pinkwashed country.

CHair: we've worked hard to create a message from Pride that regardless of the outcome, no matter what, the conversation will go on. If you came here for a showdown - there won't be one. The conversations will go on. This is NOT where things end tonight. If you think Pride brought you here to decide whether to go one way or another - we didn't. We brought you here to start the conversation.

====60====

We should finish the discussion on the floor. I put forward the 4th motion. If NSRAP withdraws their motion, I will withdraw mine and we can all go home.

====44====

I have deep troubling concerns. I welcomed that this is an open meeting. You're inserting the politics of electing boards of Halifax Pride. I don't want *this* audience electing the Board of Halifax Pride. No disrespect (shout: EXCUSE ME YOU ARE DISRESPECTING!!) intended, but had the only agenda item been election of the board, how many of you would have been here? SHOUTED DOWN.

VOTE (to table the rest of the motions)

DEFEATED. The remaining motions will NOT be tabled tonight.

====Linda Yates===

Minister of the second church to enter the Pride Parade. At the time there was some discussion of whether the church should be involved - given the church's horrific history with the community. The Church *was* allowed. Everything was opened up; barriers were broken down and changes happened as a result. CHanges happened. That's what Pride is best at.

====92: =====

The motion that got defeated was about setting limits. The people of colour who left did so in protest. People who don't get to speak are the ones in protest. Online there are lots of hateful comments ... how can we accept this from the Zionist community... MEMBERS SHOUTING: "SHAME, SHAME"

====Ramona=====

I'm the individual who interfered with the protests in earlier years. There were complaints about shouting. I responded to the complaints; I apologize for not investigating. When I got there I did not stop the protest. I asked them to move away from the booth. I'm in favour, but the part where it says that Pride will not interfere, means that Pride can't make people feel safe.

====31: QAH =====

Amendment to Point 1: "... and affirms international humanitarian law." (applause)

???: Most of what Pride does, does not affirm international law.

???: The amendment goes against what the original resolution intended.

???: No it doesn't.

???: The Canadian Charter of freedoms. One of our freedoms is the right to expression.

???: There are elements of regular law, and charter law that do not speak to international humanitarian law. So we have to add it (some snapping)

Kevin Kindred: I'm cautious that the reference to International Humanitarian Law was in the previous resolution and that bringing it into this one is not helpful.

???: Did we just decide that Pride rejects International Humanitarian Law? No.

CALL FOR VOTE for the amendment.

Amendment defeated.

CALL FOR VOTE on the resolution itself.

Resolution is carried.

[That is the end of Ordinary Resolution 2]

===3rd Ordinary Resolution (of 4)===

===Motion from the floor===

Next resolution from NSRAP is in direct contradiction to the one we just voted on, and the one after that also. I propose that we disregard the NSRAP motion and the one that follows too.

(much quibbling about whether we can or can't remove items from the agenda.)

????: We want our queer community to be prioritized; we want to hear from our black and indigenous and people of colour community in Nova Scotia.

Another motion: that the three NSRAP items be separated into three individual resolutions.
CALL FOR COUNT: DEFEATED. NSRAP Resolution will *not* be split up.

Kevin Kindred: the substance of this resolution is important

====60====

Amendment to get rid of the first two paragraphs of the preamble be removed.

Point of order: the motion isn't about the preamble.

60: it's blatantly untrue.

====44====

Speaking in favour; I agree with Kevin; there are some important parts of this resolution. If it doesn't pass, I don't know where Pride is anymore.

====71====

It's asking for guidelines, and those could go anywhere; they might be fine, they might be not. What are the guidelines going to be?

====70====

The spirit of this motion is about moving forward together and creating guidelines that would make Pride more ... that would help Pride reflect its values to members of the queer and trans communities. It's been discussed in a meeting between NSRAP and Halifax Pride; it's something that Pride is behind. The guidelines would be about encouraging businesses that are there to celebrate pride with us to have application forms and welcome trans people. TIME.

====36: Shimon Walt====

I would like to vote for the motion - but the preamble is a problem, and I'll vote against it because of that. The motion is good, but the reasons for the motion are incorrect.

====38 Gabriel Goodman Students For Palestine====

I'm here to represent QAH: I recognize the disenfranchisement of the Jewish community. It deserves our support. The Netanyahu government is NOT Israel. This does not include support for the Palestine people. CHAIR INTERRUPTS. We are splitting what would ordinarily be allies. TIME. It's time to fight. TIME.

====74 Ross====

I'm a gay male, I've been a part of the community and it's an important part of my life; it's sad to see it swayed in so many ways today. I respect the tenets of humanitarian law. I'll be voting against this and others; this is not the right place to do this; we need to move on to a community building dialog, not to cut things into right and wrong.

====41 Lynn Murphy====

I'm a member of the Elderberries and was formerly, twice, the chair of the Pride Committee, years ago. I would like to support the motion; I know that some people are worried about the guidelines which might amount to censorship, but they say that all participants have demonstrated a commitment to LGBTQ rights; it's not an example of censorship, it's an example of how participants can support Pride.

====14====

What each of the numbered portions are, I support. But, the Whereas clauses have already been voted down and taint the resolution. Each of the things are tied to things which have already been voted down.

====101 Jo====

The spirit of these resolutions is where we need to go. People have been disappointed already here tonight; the resolutions are not binding and the spirit stands for what we the Board would like to see moving forward, and I support them.

====6====

I call for something that supports everyone, not just Arabs, and Jews, and Pride and NSRAP. I have a serious problem with the preamble; it colours what you read. The preamble is incorrect and cannot be included.

====???

I'm from Zimbabwe, a country that has no LGBT rights; this is my first Pride meeting
SHOUTING: SORRY!!

I do vote to go forward with this motion because it comes down to who has the loudest voice, so you must have vetting of what happens.

====86====

I am a previous member of the NSRAP board. I know how much care and thought and love goes into every discussion. Regardless of the preamble, we've needed guidelines for a long

time. They require community involvement; that's YOU; that's all the people here. Please, support the motion. We've all heard the preambles.

====36: Shimon Walt====

I have to speak against the motion. It is a thinly veiled reference to Israel in the first sentence. "That alienate and perpetuate harm" -- is it OK to do that towards the Jewish community? This motion is dealing with exactly the same thing as the QAH Motion, just in nicer language.

=====???

Are members of the AJC trying to call attention away from the pinkwashing? I see that conversations about pinkwashing always go the same way. I urge those who are not members of our community, please refrain from voting and allow us to

CALL FOR VOTE (on Ordinary Resolution 3, NSRAP)

Gary Brooks: at the beginning of the meeting, the entire document was read. Is the motion to accept the whole document? Or just to accept the three resolutions at the end?

CALL FOR VOTE
MOTION IS DEFEATED.

Chair: We do not mean this to mean we won't develop guidelines. We will continue working toward guidelines.

===4th Ordinary Resolution (of 4)===

- Will prioritize outreach to minority and marginalized groups by establishing a committee tasked with exploring, understanding, and educating members about minority segments of the LGBTQ+ community.
- Will welcome all individuals as long as they support Pride's values.

Member from AJC: We will not be putting forward our resolution. We are withdrawing it.

RESOLUTIONS ARE DONE

Board of Directors Elections

We have five spots. Call for nominations for the Board of Directors.

Seven people available; six to be elected.

Now voting.

???: Are there any people of colour as candidates? No! We need diversity in the community! I spent three years on the pride board; this is NOT representative of our community; it is NOT GOOD.

???: Why not say that from the people nominated, you pick only nine out of 12 leaving the spaces open for people of colour?

Open Mic While Votes Are Counted

??? As a white gentile who until recently identified as straight, this meeting has really broken my heart; as a white non-jew, it is my queer jewish friends and compatriots who have made me who I am and allowed me to stand before you. The discussion on the issues here -- we have been asked to show up here and take sides; calling our friends on social media; calling on our friends to make armies. I'm standing here as a nonbinary person; asking to pick a side, growing up, I can't; to me there are more than two sides. There are ways this discussion could have gone better.

John R Syliboy: I don't have a pronoun; we don't use them in my language. The Wabanaki Two Spirit Alliance has been looking at what's going on in our territory. We are all treaty people. We have a responsibility to respond to needs in our community. The next stage we need to go to here is reconciliation; we need to assume a responsibility to continue a dialog. We were going to hold off on making an official statement but... the board, you did a great job, but the discussion is continuing. The W2SA would like to see the parties coming together and discussing, in our territory, and we would like to facilitate that in a way that is open to peacemaking. We will forward this offer to the Pride Committee, and send out the invitation, and look forward to coming together to build our relationships, not divide them.

Richard Crooks: I would like to thank the board for an incredible job you have done and do. I've never been part of Pride meetings; I've stayed out of politics and the crap involved (voice breaking) it's been hard for me to see this division. I hope we can mend fences because being divided like this is not going to help anyone. It's just going to make us look bad. "

Shimon Walt: You guys have been put in a very hard situation, and I thank you. I will pledge to you that I will come to your AGMs as a friend, and I will support you. I'm a straight man, a musician and artist. I'm surrounded by gay friends; I can also pledge to you that if you have

some events and need some music - call me. That will be my contribution. Let's forget about everything else except that we are friends, we're all people, and we live in a free country.

Results of the elections

110 votes cast, 4 spoiled. We have only elected four:

- Paul Forrest
- Ellen Davis
- Skye Smith
- Karina Furlan

Motion: destroy the ballots: passed.

Motion: adjourn.

Six thousand words. Dan out!