



LGBTQIA+ TASKFORCE

APRIL 26, 2021

ATTENDEES

Cami Richardson, Co-Chair

Alison Belnap

Fr. Bob Bussen

Karen Hammerman

Linda Jager

Sam Mekrut

Joseph Urankar

Leah Langan, Co-Chair

Austin Brown

Jace Deininger

Tim Henney

Lakshan Lingam

Nicole Robinson

Lynn Ware-Peek

I. **Welcome | Park City Municipal Update – Leah Langan**

Leah Langan welcomed everyone in attendance and updated the group on the following City activities:

- Updated Pride flags that include the Transgender Community colors will be flown from 5 flagpoles across the City on June 1 through the month.
- Rainbow “Love Where You Live” banners will be hung June 1 as well.
- Drafting a resolution to present to Council at the end of May declaring June as Official Pride Month in Park City.
- Looking into cross-department collaboration for Pride Month, including partnering with Library programs, visibility on busses, at the MARC, etc.
- Confirmed that no special event permits are required for a small event such as a Pride Picnic.
- Council will hold a retreat on May 20-21 to discuss various City business including Social Equity; LGBTQIA+ items in specific are pending. Staff will receive additional info as we get closer to the date and will share with the group.
- This month’s virtual Coffee with Council will be held May 4th at 9am and will feature members of this taskforce on the panel.

II. Wasatch Back LGBTQIA+ Coalition – Nicole Robinson | Alison Belnap

Alison Belnap and Nicole Robinson joined the meeting to discuss their experience building community in Heber Valley. In 2019, Alison worked with Mayor Potter to hang Pride banners in the city but received pushback. This response galvanized the community, allies, and parents. The banners were hung again in 2020 but the city passed an ordinance soon after, changing banner protocols including how banners are approved. This change was a direct response to the Pride banners and resulted in controversy which again, brought the community together. The Wasatch Back LGBTQIA+ Coalition Facebook page was then created to organize and activate the group. Conversations are currently taking place with their city council and the County council to ensure the banners are hung in 2021. Other areas of focus for the group includes creating ways to reach out to young people in need of support and increasing visibility through Project Rainbow, Trans Day of Visibility, etc. Alison also mentioned the desire to identify the group's mission and welcomes cross-community collaboration.

III. Sundance Institute – Austin Brown

Austin Brown thanked the group for having him and stated that Sundance has a rich history of showcasing LGBTQ+ films and artists throughout their programming. Conversations have been occurring internally regarding how intentional community building can take place via virtual and in-person events in Park City. Past events include community screenings and virtual screenings with filmmaker Q&A's.

Lynn Ware-Peek inquired if the Park City Film Series was planning any programming during Pride month. Austin responded he is not aware of any specific programming but is in talks with both the Park City Film Series as well as the Utah Film Center on future collaborations. Joseph Urankar asked what the lead time would be for event collaboration. Austin answered 4-6 weeks' notice would be preferable. Austin is looking forward to being part of the taskforce as a community partner.

IV. Action Item Update

Parade Committee: Cami Richardson shared that the Council will decide on May 13th if Fourth of July events will take place. Cami spoke with Karen Hammerman and decided that planning should be paused until the decision is confirmed. The Salt Lake Pride Parade will be a Rainbow March this year—members of the Park City community can participate.

Community Survey: Cami spoke with members of the taskforce and felt that instead of jumping into a questionnaire perhaps the group could set the target on actionable items such as parade participation and Pride visibility.

V. Open Discussion – 3rd Party Facilitator | Sam Mekrut, Mountain Mediation

Sam Mekrut of Mountain Mediation joined the call to share information regarding how a 3rd party facilitator can assist a newly formed group identify their mission. Sam shared various modalities and strategic planning processes that would assist the taskforce in determining its focus.

Through the discussion the following questions arose:

- What are the needs and organizing strategy?
- Environmental survey – what resources already exist that we can partner with.
- Since the group was formed by PCMC, are we able to serve outside city limits or are we inheriting the constituency?
- Group structure-could be PCMC supported but community led with lots of regional participation from various groups with specific committees.

Tim Henney stated the City's role is currently undefined which is a great opportunity because the taskforce can come to the City and say, 'this is what we want' vs. 'what can you offer us.' Fr. Bob Bussen remarked that it would be important to thank the Council for taking on the initiative and to shift the conversation to taking care of the LGBTQ+ residents.

The group voiced the desire to schedule an in-person meeting prior to the next monthly meeting to do a deep-dive into the above questions as well as parade and retreat participation and future events. Leah will schedule.

VI. Adjourn

