

Special Meeting of the APMP Board of Directors

Date:	March 9, 2022		
Purpose:	Discussion and Vote on LGBTQIA+ Request to Move BPC Dallas		
Notice:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice provided on March 1, 2022 • Materials provided on March 5, 2022 • Notice provided via email for emergency meeting. 		
Invitees			
P	Steven Coles - Chair	P	Alison Coon – Vice Chair
P	Krystn Macomber – Past Chair	P	Helene Courard - Treasurer
	Kedren Dillard – Affinity Resources Leader		Anatalia Macik
P	Bette Sturino	P	Kumiko Shikimachi
P	Leigh Ann Newman	P	David Gray
P	Stacey Lee	P	Erin Green
P	Daniel Walker	P	Rick Harris – CEO (Ex Officio)
P	Andrew Goldman (Invitee)	P	Peter Frank (Invitee)
Agenda			
<p>Special Meeting of the Board of Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order • No Reading of Minutes (Special Meeting) • Discussion of the LGBTQIA+ Request • Motion to Relocate BPC Dallas • Adjournment 			
Notes			
<p>Meeting was Called to Order at 9:03am EDT</p> <p>There was no reading of the minutes as it was a Special Meeting. Reading of both Special Meeting minutes and General Meeting minutes will be done at the next General Meeting of the Board.</p> <p>Review of Materials and Process – Coles/Harris</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our approach is to take a responsible, authentic approach to this, as we have since we received the letter. We met with the co-chairs yesterday • Important to remember that, as we grow, this type of request will occur more frequently. We have had two requests to move in the past three conferences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2018 – Requested to move from San Diego because it was a sanctuary city for immigrants, the Board voted that it didn’t want to take positions that might pit members against each other 			

- 2020 – Requested to move away from Nashville because of TN laws against transgender bathrooms. It became moot because of the pandemic
- **The reasons suggested in the letters and discussions:**
 - Safety – concerns about physical danger traveling to, from and within TX given the sentiment. Physical danger was not related to the hotel or the event, but everything outside of it.
 - Empathy and Compassion – feeling that TX has taken away “our event.” In a show of solidarity with the LGBTIAQ+ portion of the community, relocating the event was requested.
- **Discussion showed the business side and was met with practical understanding**
 - It would be a cancelation and not a relocation (it’s far too late to relocate). Events are planned several years ahead of time in order to get the locations
 - The economic effect would be crippling (approximately \$1.4M for lost revenue less refundable expenses as most expenses are already 100% owed and refund requests). That is more than 40% of APMP’s revenues.

Board Discussion/Comments

- Consensus was sympathy but agreement that the business costs were too great. While the concerns are extremely important, the Board has a fiduciary duty to the organization and its mission, and canceling would threaten APMP’s survival (which appears to be in line with the practical understanding of the LGBTQIA+ Affinity Group Chairs)
- The Board showed concern for setting precedents with future events (particularly as members fall on all sides of many issues). There aren’t any major cities we can choose that won’t have any issues.
- The Board wanted to support the community, and above all, to ensure the safety and comfort of all APMP members and participants at the event.
- The Board discussed multiple ways for APMP to give back and show solidarity without canceling the conference. The following were mentioned: rides to/from the airport; an approved list of LGBTQIA+ friendly restaurants; collection for donations from members to an LGBTQIA+ organization; statement of support; a forum including local community leaders;
- The Board expressed some concern about having APMP take official action to make a donation or official position rather than encouraging individual action from Board members and APMP members, as APMP is not an advocacy group.

Motion (brought by the LGBTQIA+ request via Steven Coles): Due to recent actions of Governor Greg Abbott against transgender rights in Texas, that the APMP Board of Directors relocate the 2022 Bid and Proposal Conference away from Dallas, TX.

- **Steven Coles motion**
- **Allison Coon Second**
- **0 in favor**
- **10 opposed**

- **0 abstentions**
- **Proxy votes: 1 in favor, 0 opposed.**

The Board requested that the staff develop a list of supportive actions that APMP can take without Board approval (such as a list of restaurants/bars, or sessions at BPC Dallas)

The Board decided to table a decision on official donation or supportive action to the next Regular Board Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:53am EDT (Bette Sturino)

Motions

Motion	Made	Second	Y-N-A	Attend
Due to recent actions of Governor Greg Abbott against transgender rights in Texas, that the APMP Board of Directors relocate the 2022 Bid and Proposal Conference away from Dallas, TX.	Coles	Coon	1-11-0	10 (2 proxy)

Key Decisions

- Table decision on donation and other supportive actions until the late March Regular Board Meeting.

Action Items

Item	Owner
Communications of decision on BPC Dallas	Coles/Harris
Include official supportive action on March Regular Board Meeting Agenda	Coles/Frank
Develop a list of safety and support actions that APMP can take without Board approval	Harris