

Lori Martin - Pride Update

From: Rita Davies
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Subject: Pride Update
CC: Earle, Ward; Martin, Lori; Ramkhalawansingh, Ceta; Williams, Michael H.

This afternoon Mike Williams, myself, Lori Martin (Culture) and Ceta Ramkhalawansingh met with Pride Co Chairs Jim Cullen and Genevieve D'Ioria and Executive Director Tracey Sandlilands. The conversation focussed on how Pride can meet the City's Anti Discrimination Policy. As a result of our discussion, Pride will send a written brief tomorrow which articulates their intended actions which we have asked for in order to have before City Council's meeting. Below is a synopsis of what they said at the meeting:

1. While the "Ethics" Committee is not being implemented, the Parade Committee will vet all applications. (Question of the criteria to be used was not fully answered, but will focus on the Terms and Conditions - attached.) They did say there will be a more rigorous screening than in the past.
2. Emphasis on compliance (see "Consequences" below) will be on the consequences detailed in the Terms and Conditions. This is new and Pride feels it will give them the ability to remove participants who are in violation of the Terms and Conditions (and/or who's activity is not consistent with their application description). Monitoring will take place during marshalling and throughout the Parade.
3. Training of volunteers will be strengthened and very strong volunteers will be assigned to the two or three "problem" groups.
4. A review will be made as to whether they can ban a group on the basis of being called "Queers Against Israeli Apartheid." If that is the registered name of the group this would prove difficult. If not, it is "messaging" and can be covered under the need to abide by the City's anti-discrimination policies.
 - 1) **Consequences**
The Applicant understands and agrees that any breach of contract may result in one or more of the following consequences:
 - a) Refusal of permission to participate in the Parade
 - b) Removal from participation during the Parade
 - c) Legal action with respect to Breach of Contract and / or Trespassing
 - d) Exclusion from participation in future Parades
 - e) Application of criminal charges
 - f) Legal action to recover monetary costs related to actions by the participants, including damage to property, court fines and fees resulting from lawsuits or charges against Pride

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