

Heart of North Georgia Pride

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 5, 2025

Time: [Not specified; presumed evening session]

Location: Dirty Unicorn Studio

Meeting Type: Regular Board Meeting

Called by: Baz (Brian) Morris, President

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President **Baz Morris**. Acknowledged a casual tone due to exhaustion from recent events and scheduling challenges.

II. Attendance

Present:

- **Baz (Brian) Morris**, President
- **Shelly (Sheldon) Banks**, Secretary / Member-at-Large
- **Shannon Gridley**, Member-at-Large
- **Stoney Morris**, Friend of the Board
- **Deanne (“Dee”) Graff**, Guest & Nominee for Fundraising Chair
- **Nicky Wood**, Vice President

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Members reviewed prior minutes for spelling and name corrections (notably “Corbin” and “Deanne”).
- Motion to approve previous meeting minutes **passed unanimously**

IV. New Board Appointment

Nomination: Deanne “Dee” Graff for **Fundraising Chair**

- Background: Experienced executive assistant and event planner.
 - Involved with **PFLAG Woodstock (founding member)** and **Cherokee County Democrats (fundraising committee)**.
 - Volunteer for **Atlanta Angels** organization.
 - Nomination presented and seconded.
 - **Vote:** Unanimous approval.
- **Motion Passed: Deanne “Dee” Graff appointed Fundraising Chair.**

V. Reports & Updates

A. Fundraising Overview

- Dee discussed realistic goals: focus on **1–2 medium-sized fundraisers annually**, supplemented with small community events.
- Compared with CCDC model (large picnic, masquerade).

- Baz confirmed prior **origami night fundraiser raised \$700**, noting strong community engagement.
- Current fundraising platform: **GiveButter** — used for donations and ticketed events.
- Potential collaboration with **Blue Ghost drag shows** to maintain donation presence.
- Merchandise (shirts) will provide future revenue; currently produced in-house with DTF transfer process.

B. Communications & Technology

- **Email Migration:** “Woodstock Pride” accounts being decommissioned after 1-month transition period.
- **Discord Adoption:** All communication moving to Discord; individual committee threads being created.
- **Website:** Donation tiers, bylaws, and final meeting minutes to be posted as documents. Draft minutes remain on Discord only.

C. Financial Report

- No change from previous month **except for shirt production costs.**
- Payments to be routed through **GiveButter** for tracking.
- **Pride @ Blue Ghost** event yielded zero donations due to incorrect QR code redirect; issue identified and corrected.
- Updated signage and new QR links to be printed for future events.

VI. Event Planning

A. Trans Day of Visibility 2026

- **Event Leads:** Shelly and Dee.
- Planning underway for **March 2026** celebration.
- Brainstorming includes venue scouting and partnership outreach.

B. Future Pride Event

- **Site Scouting** ongoing (no updates this session due to workload).

C. Winter Events

- **Movie Night:** Canceled due to cold weather; postponed to spring.
- **December 3rd, 2025:** Board holiday dinner & partial business meeting confirmed.
 - Time: 6:00 PM
 - Location: TBD (preference toward going out; tentative venue “Dive – Southern Coastal” in Crab Lake).

VII. Volunteer Recruitment

- Discussion on launching **committee volunteer applications:**
 - To mirror prior **board application form** using WUFO form on the website.
 - Will allow applicants to check boxes for committees and describe their skills.
 - **Goal:** Recruit 5–6 active volunteers to assist with recurring events.
- **Concerns Raised:**
 - Need to clarify expected time commitments for volunteers.
 - Consider future use of **Hands On Atlanta** or similar platforms for structured volunteer management once event complexity increases.

VIII. Press Release Review

- Final grammar and formatting corrections approved for **Mari memorial press release** (capitalization and LGBTQIA+ formatting).
- To be posted on website and shared via social media.

IX. Partnerships & Community Outreach

- Discussion regarding partnership with **KSU Pride Alliance** and **Ken's Pride Association** following recent tragedy.
- Recommendation to connect via **Rev. Kat Folk (First United Lutheran Church, Kennesaw)** — current host space for Pride Center.
 - Contact: *K.A.T. Folk* (F-U-L-C).
- Future collaborations encouraged for community rebuilding and visibility.

X. Miscellaneous Business

- Amy's suggestion for "community resources for government situations" unclear; deferred to next meeting.
- Discussion on **community food sharing** and CSA produce exchanges (informal, non-agenda discussion).

XI. Upcoming Meetings

- **Next Board Meeting:** December 3, 2025 — 6:00 PM
 - Format: Holiday social & planning session for 2026 events
 - Location: TBD (tentative "Dive – Southern Coastal," Crab Lake)
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XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made and seconded.

Meeting adjourned.