



**United Court of the Sandias, Inc.**  
Albuquerque, New Mexico USA



BOD Meeting Minutes  
UNM LGBTQ Resource Center  
09-05-2018

**In Attendance:**

- Board Members Reign XXVI
  - President: Ray Sierra-Lopez
  - Vice-President: Eric Christopher Garcia
  - Treasurer: Jake Segura
  - Secretary: Tim Winn
  - Membership Coordinator: Robert Sierra-Lopez (Phone In)
  - Emperor XXVI: Estevan Zamora
  - Empress XXVI: Jose Ogaz Munoz
- Guests:
  - Elijah
  - Michael Karreman
  - Reyes
  - Tidus
  - Tommy
  - Lola
  - Dahlia
  - Rick
  - Ashleigh
  - Bunnie
  - Brandon
  - Topher
  - Frida

**Opening**

The regular meeting of the United Court of the Sandias was called to order at 7:07pm on 09-05-2018 at UNM LGBTQ Resource Center by President to Reign XXVI Ray Sierra-Lopez.

**Distribution of Agenda**

The agenda was distributed to all attendees.

## **Welcome Members**

At this time the floor was opened up to the members to address any concerns.

Bunnie thanked everyone that travelled to Indiana for the coronation and stated that NM was represented very well.

There were no other issues or concerns at this time.

## **Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of Board Minutes from previous meeting – Presented by Tim
  1. Motion: Jose
  2. Second: Jake
  3. Vote: 6 in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed
  4. Result: Motion Carries, Minutes Approved

## **Financials and Invoices**

- Approval of Financials – Presented by Jake
  - Motion to approve the financials was postponed due to Jose not approving due to financials not being accompanied by bank statement and this opened a discussion on current balance not being in sync with reported amounts on the financials
  - Financials need to be reviewed due to \$1000 discrepancy. There is currently more money in the account than what is showing on financials
  - Jake has not been able to reconcile June due to lack of communication from the previous Treasurer which means we are not sure where these monies should be. President states that if we cannot get that reconciliation then we will need to do a full audit. Last communication was that everything is all boxed up and that person is currently busy. Effort to schedule a date will be renewed.
  - Motion to postpone financial approval until we can reconcile June Financials from the transition. Item will be postponed until September 19th
    1. Motion: Rob
    2. Second: Tim
    3. Vote: 6 in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed
    4. Result: Motion Carries, Financials Postponed.
- State Functions/Operations
  - President Ray wanted to clarify that the charity for State Functions cannot be reallocated with the exception of Investitures as that is designated by the current Monarchs

- Motion to have all future events 80/20 split on proceeds of the events (after recouping event expenses) with exception of state functions that are already allocated in a specific way
  1. Motion: Tim
  2. Second: Estevan
  3. Vote: 5 in favor, 0 abstained, 1 opposed
  4. Result: Motion Carries

### **Emergency Fund**

- No requests came through so no updates to give for this item

### **Board**

- Financial reports with Bank Statements
  - This will be to make sure that we have all monies accounted for and to allow better transparency
  - Jose is requesting this so that way withdrawals and deposits can be reviewed easier by the Board. There were a few withdrawals done during Reign 26 that he does not recognize as well as a large deposit of monies in August 3<sup>rd</sup> of \$7,108. Ray mentioned that this was something brought to attention when it occurred that the bank had made a mistake of depositing monies into Seliah's account rather than the UCS account. Currently we are not aware of how long the monies were displaced but only that our totals matched once it was there
  - Jake got access to the bank accounts on July 30<sup>th</sup>. He went over the account totals and they did not match so he spoke to Ray. Together they were reconciling the financials and the account totals and that day the large deposit showed up. At this point is when Seliah notified Ray of what had transpired
  - Jose brought up another item that he noticed when going through the financials when it came to ticket sales for coronation. The financial report showed the amounts and he broke that down to get 66 tickets but there were a lot more people there. At this point Ray stated we will conduct an audit of Reign 25 to double check everything and asked if the current treasurer is confident to conduct this. Jake states that he would not feel confident to do this so Ray will conduct the audit with Seliah and possibly bring in an outside person to attend as well
  - Motion to have bank statements attached to the Financials going forward and for it to be reconciled
    1. Motion: Jose
    2. Second: Tim
    3. Vote: 5 in favor, 1 abstained, 0 opposed
    4. Result: Motion Carries
- Board Insurance
  - Will be \$53.66 monthly or can be done annually \$643.92. This would cover us up to \$500,000 for liability

- Motion to get Board Insurance and have it paid monthly for the next 12 months
  1. Motion: Eric
  2. Second: Jake
  3. Vote: 6 in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed
  4. Result: Motion carries
- 501C3 Status
  - IRS shows that we are not current with 501C3 and that taxes have not been filed since 2011. Jose is concerned that we mention we are a 501C3 and that could get us in trouble since we are not. This does hamper plans to make a 501C3 sponsorship package. Jose urges the board to find out what needs to be done to get this corrected
  - Ray states that there is a plan in motion since Reign 23 to get our good standing back. Beginning Reign 24 our non-profit from the State of New Mexico was reinitiated but we would need 2 years of good standing and 2 years of filing taxes before we can apply to have revocation status removed
  - Filing taxes on Reign 25 would be the last time before UCS can submit a 1023 form and once approved the 501c3 status could be made retroactive. Currently UCS is a Non-Profit just not a 501c3. October should be the date that we can take further action provided that taxes are done on time
  - The information given to everyone at the time of this being put in action was that we did have our non-profit back and somehow the 501c3 portion got mixed in with that. Until now this was not clear to anyone, so Ray encouraged everyone to make sure they are clear on this when talking to potential sponsors. To get any tax breaks for donations they would have to delay claiming that on their tax forms until this is made retroactive. All of our partners that we work with will be notified of this so there is clear transparency on this topic

### **Coronation**

- Hotel
  - Number 1 choice is the Hyatt Downtown. They will be waiving ballroom charge if we purchase \$5000 in food/beverages.
  - Would need to book 30 rooms but prices have not secured as of yet
  - No free Hospitality Suites
  - Parking will be included for free
  - Tri-fold/Flyer will be provided for guests
- Review and Planning
  - Ray is currently revising the spreadsheet from previous years and removing items that are not needed. Once this is ready it will be passed out, so we can start getting these done earlier rather than right before coronation

### **Events**

- SPOY
  - Crown and Scepter are in, still waiting on the sash. Someone will need to reach out to see when it will be arrived
  - Packets have been picked up and packet turn in will be
  - Set list is done and Commands and Judges are confirmed

- Monarch Itinerary
  - Armani San Fran Ducal September 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Kiki PR Ball Colorado Springs September 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Board Chat**

There were no chat items at this time

### **Board Reports**

- Rob – Indiana was successful, and a few people will be coming to ABQ since we had 7 representatives. He also has gotten some complaints about feeling neglected by current reign. The membership newsletter is almost ready to be distributed. Membership Tags are almost ready to be purchased, these were designed by Estevan. Jose has added a link on the UCS page for membership signup online so we can make a push to start getting members.
- Eric – None
- Tim – Asked about doing State Fair burritos similar to how we did last year. Just wanted to get this on the radar since it is this upcoming weekend
- Jake – None
- Jose – None
- Estevan – None
- Ray - Good Evening

First off, I would like to start by congratulating reign 26 on a very amazing 1st quarter. To date collectively you all have raised a total of 12,540.33 which is about double the amount of that the past 2 reigns have raised by this same. It shows the hard work and dedication made by all in the reign. And the support we have of our community.

Our State Functions first we had Investitures which saw an amazing turn out with distinguished guest from courts around the country some of those include Texas, Oklahoma, California, and our grandmother court Denver. Bringing in a total of 775.11 and even more building lifelong connections with those around the circuit. And Second our Fire and Ice Ball Where we celebrate our KF and QM of the reign which brought in a total of 338.00 For a Light in the Night a non-profit that benefits the homeless community here in Albuquerque.

The Reigns first charity RAICES saw a total raised of 2,563.00 for families that have been separated by 45's administration. In the words of QM Bunnie "Fuck trump". Followed by a very successful back to school drive which served 15 children to get them the things they need to have a successful school year. By providing these necessities we are helping them grow as an individual and who knows maybe someday they will become president and create positive change in our nation. But with the good comes some trials and I say the word trials because these are things that we can still work on. We still have yet to plan and set a venue for coronation 27 which is what I would like to have done by the next board meeting no exceptions. I have heard many complaints from around our community that they do not feel as supported as they have in the past. Especially with some events that are held at our home bar. This is something we as an organization can and must do better. Remember

we Represent UCS no matter the issues you may have with one another we must put that aside and make sure we are out supporting for UCS the brand. Because regardless even though we reign year to year we want to see the organization be prosperous for many years to come.

In conclusion I am proud of the work we have done but realize that we still have a lot of work to accomplish. With entering this next quarter I'm going in with high hopes as this is where we begin our holiday functions including our thanksgiving baskets, and our holiday drive. Two of the biggest drives that we put on as an organization. It is going to get tough, but we can do it as long as we work hard TOGETHER. Please urge your friends, family, and neighbors to come out and participate in our 19th annual softball tournament as this is one of the biggest fundraisers for our holiday events. It is being held on October 20th at Westgate Little League on the corner of Tower and 86th street.

### **Parking Lot**

- None

### **Next Meeting**

- The next Board meeting will be October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at the UNM LGBTQ Resource Center

### **Adjournment of the meeting**

1. Motion: Tim
2. Second: Rob
3. Vote: 6 in favor, 0 abstained, 0 opposed
4. Result: Motion Carries, Meeting was adjourned at 08:40pm by President Ray Sierra Lopez.