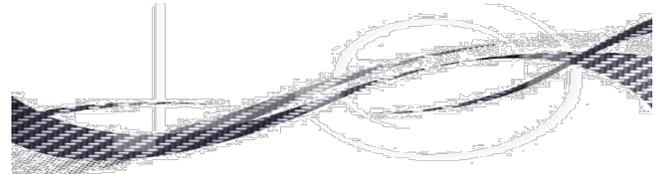


# **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES**

**FY 2013-2014: REV 10.2013**

**2000 K Street · Sacramento · CA · 95811 · [www.CGNIE.org](http://www.CGNIE.org)**

**COURT OF THE GREAT NORTHWEST IMPERIAL EMPIRE · A NON-PROFIT CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, FEDERAL ID# 942808829**



## Board Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2014

### 6:50 PM at Kennedy Gallery, 1931 L Street, Sacramento CA

**Board Members Present:** Emperor 13/37 Terry Sidie (President), Empress 40 Michael Kennedy (Vice President), Emperor 39 Clarmundo Sullivan (Secretary), Empress 38 Key Pears (La Kish Scholarship Fund Director), Emperor 41 Matthew Bunch, Empress 41 Do Me Moore, Emperor 40 Gerald Filice, Grand Duchess 35 Dime-u-neek

**Board Members Absent (Excused):** Jeff Davis (Treasurer), Laurie Bonifield (Rainbow Festival Director), Empress 41 Kristara Chastain, Robyn Learned (Fireworks Booth Director) Empress 39 Alejandro Munguia-Para, Grand Duke 35 Corey Hubert

**Board Members Absent (Unexcused):** Grand Duchess 25 Robert Collins

**Guests:** Ronnie Miranda, Grand Duchess Harmony

I. Meeting was called to order by President Terry Sidie

II. Roll Call was called by 6:50PM

III. **Remarks from the President:**

**A. CGNIE Sponsorship for Mother Jose Honors Scholarship Fund Status.** We already have \$54,000 of the \$100,000 goal. Boston's court gave something that may increase that total. Texas' court gave \$1,000. He attended Portland's Coronation but missed an opportunity to ask for their support. He said there will be a \$35,000 international scholarship given to a worthy recipient. The scholarship fund will award grants to individuals that are pursuing an advanced course of study beyond high school and may award grants for educational purposes to organizations with educational projects on LGBT issues. The individual scholarship is available to high school seniors or students in their final year of high school study at an accredited institution and/or persons who are enrolled an

accredited higher education programs at a 2 or 4 year institution in the US, Canada or Mexico. Only empires that financially support the scholarship may submit scholarship applications. Emperor Terry asked every empire to give a minimum of \$500, which would raise \$35,000 a year for the scholarship. Some of the empires informed him that they already have their own scholarship. Emperor Terry responded respectfully and informed them this scholarship is the only one in honor of Mother Jose. If any empire doesn't want to be a part of it, it is okay. He shared he is not aware of any empire that wouldn't want to support this scholarship. He has traveled to Columbus OH, Chicago Illinois, Buffalo New York, and Washington DC,

**B. Indianapolis, Indiana.** He had a great meeting. At the meeting Mother Nicole promised she would let the council approve the heir apparents when she steps down. She is going to appoint someone to reign with her. When she steps down in a year or two years the person reigning with her will step down too. She asked a couple of people to consider reigning with her. Emperor Terry and John respectfully declined the opportunity. The others who were nominated ran and the council voted for them. On December 31, Mother Nicole will announce her successors when she steps down. She still has a right to appoint someone King Father while she is in office. Parliament seems to be falling apart. Terry suggested that instead of doing one big parliament for the country to maybe do a parliament in each of the three time zones and Canada. Emperor Terry said CGNIE needs to speak with Redding, Chico, Stockton, Modesto, Fresno and Bakersfield and consider doing what Texas did with the United Courts of Texas. The ICS is going to reach its peak in October 2015 and it's hard to say what is going to happen. Emperor Terry said Mother Jose's vision created 50 years ago has been accomplished. He suggests maybe we could concentrate on LGBTIQ history. He said if the courts don't come up with something good by the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary one can anticipate seeing big changes. It's possible that the courts may decide to go back and be their own individual courts. He acknowledged Mother Nicole for bringing in the political focus to the ICC. He admires her for what she has accomplished including attempting to attend over 70 coronations annually and establishing Parliament. Emperor Terry will ask Mother Nicole for permission to convene a meeting with all of the territories to discuss things that are coming up. He wants Empress Misha to find the best time that everyone can attend considering the time zone differences. Empress Key said Mother Nicole was frustrated with people complaining about paying \$100 to keep Parliament going. Mother Nicole was proud of the Parliament members who wanted to stay active. The next Parliament session VIII will be November 7 in Colorado Springs, CO. Emperor Terry suggested there should be four small Parliament sessions a year and one large one a year. He was informed that after the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary some of people in San Francisco were considering stepping aside from ICS. Mother Nicole was not going to approve the \$10,000 Parliament raised for San Francisco for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He encouraged her to keep her commitment to give the full \$10,000. The event has to be fancy. All the heirs are nice.

**C. Coronation Attendance.** Emperor Terry shared he attended several coronations. He reported Washington's coronation was busy, Indianapolis wasn't busy, and Portland was the best. Terry said CGNIE did a great job at the Portland Coronation water party. \$402 was raised.

**D. Status of Bayard Rustin Letters.** Emperor Terry shared he never heard back from everyone he gave tickets to. Emperor Matt shared he sold all of the tickets he were given and submitted the money to Jeff. Empress Key said she owes him money for the tickets. Grand Duchess Harmony owes money as well. Empress Jowana also owes money.

**E. Upcoming Coronations:** Emperor Terry shared that coronations are coming up in Modesto, Las Vegas, and Los Angeles. He asked that if anyone is going to go please turn in their protocol to Tony Southworth. Announcement will be made at the next court meeting.

#### IV. Secretary's Report

**A. Minutes Approval.** Emperor Clarmundo shared that he emailed the meeting minutes and had not been contacted regarding any errors or corrections. Emperor Gerald motioned to approve the minutes. Empress Key second. The motioned carried with 7 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention.

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**B. Status of Approved Financial Statements on Website.** Emperor Clarmundo shared that Emperor Terry has expressed his desire to have all board approved meeting minutes and financial statements posted on the CGNIE website. He shared that it's the highest level of nonprofit transparency. For the past three months Emperor Clarmundo has requested Jeff to email the financial statements to him. Unfortunately after several phone calls, emails and requests from board members, he still has not forwarded them to him. At the last board meeting he is recorded as saying he has sent those several times and felt it laughable that we kept asking him for them. Emperor Clarmundo clarified that Jeff has never received them. One way to get them was to scan each of the statements one by one but would take a considerable unnecessary amount of time. Emperor Clarmundo acknowledged that several board members have complained they too have had challenges reaching Jeff and obtaining what they needed from him. Jeff has repeatedly expressed how overwhelmed he was with the responsibilities he had at Faces so to take on the additional task of being our Treasurer has been even more challenging for him. Emperor Clarmundo proposed that the board consider hiring an independent CPA or bookkeeper who would be responsible for producing our financial statements, cutting checks, and making deposits in a timely fashion. This would relieve stress from Jeff and get what we have to have in a timely fashion. Emperor Terry shared that Jeff felt that we didn't appreciate what he was doing for CGNIE. Emperor Terry shared he noticed that Jeff really didn't want to be Treasurer. He didn't understand why Jeff didn't get the financial statements to Emperor Clarmundo or why he delayed making CGNIE deposits in a timely fashion. Empress Key suggested we give him another 30 days to improve his performance as Treasurer. Emperor Terry asked the board to accept Jeff's letter of resignation. He said he would train the proposed bookkeeper and/or Treasurer. Emperor Terry said we will hire someone who will accept all the books and do the things we need a treasurer to do. Emperor Clarmundo made a motion to accept Jeff's resignation and as soon as possible find and retain a qualified bookkeeper knowledgeable of nonprofit bookkeeping practices. Emperor Matt second. The motion carried with 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention. It was suggested to find a new bonded bookkeeper in a month that has no affiliation with CGNIE. The books will stay in the Faces office until Emperor Terry finds someone else. Jeff will finish the books. Empress Michael Kennedy wanted clarity on the process of identifying the proposed bookkeeper. Emperor Clarmundo said nonprofit basic practice is to secure at least three proposals from prospective bookkeepers with a clear scope of work. He strongly encouraged that anyone being considered needs to know nonprofit accounting practices. Emperor Clarmundo and Empress Michael shared that they had some people in mind. Emperor Terry shared that board members should submit the bids of prospective bonded bookkeepers to Clarmundo and him so they could talk to them before the next board meeting. Emperor Terry suggested that we put in our bylaws that we retain an independent bonded bookkeeper.

**C. Electronic Version of Bylaws to Board Members.** Emperor Clarmundo apologized to the current board for not providing them with a copy of the bylaws. He hasn't provided bylaws because not only would it be expensive to provide each board member with a printed copy but he needed to be assured he had the most current and complete version before distributing them. He shared in the past Emperor Gerald and a few others worked hard to secure a current and complete version, which was put in electronic form. Emperor Clarmundo will obtain this version of the bylaws and email it to each board member. He shared that other court members wanted to obtain copies of our bylaws. He suggested that it would be very costly to provide everyone who has requested a printed copy of our bylaws. He shared it was his understanding that it wasn't mandatory for nonprofits to provide copies of our bylaws to those who requested them. He shared we should consider providing anyone considering a board set or title a copy of the bylaws. However, he shared it was appropriate to allow anyone who wanted to view our bylaws an opportunity to do so. Allowing our bylaws to be viewed would be cost effective and demonstrate our willingness to share our bylaws.

**D. Information Needed for E&E Sponsorships.** The E&E are excited about raising money during their reign and one way to accomplish this goal is to obtain grants or sponsorships. They need specific financial information of CGNIE. Emperor Matt shared he still needs last year's filed taxes. Emperor Terry asked Whitney Killick to provide us with the last two years of tax returns. Clarmundo Sullivan will ask Linda Killick of Killick Financial Services (916) 486-8985 for the documents. He requested to see if she can attend the next board meeting.

## V. Treasurer's Report

**A. Outstanding Check from Las Vegas.** Emperor Clarmundo shared that the Ducal House was expecting a check from the CGNIE Ducal Water Party hosted by the Court of Las Vegas. Grand Duke Enrique was supposed to obtain it. (See August 26, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes, V.B.1. for this discussion).

**B. Status of Coronation 40 invoice .** Emperor Gerald said that he received a June 2014 invoice from Classic Awards. The vendor didn't bill CGNIE until after the coronation. Emperor Terry said they billed us way too long after coronation and in the future CGNIE will not deal with delayed invoice submissions. Empress Michael shared that they didn't go over the awards line item. Emperor Terry said he would pay the invoice asked current and future E&Es to get invoices to him as soon as possible, not two months after an event. Emperor Terry asked if check disbursements were given during reign 40. Empress Misha said yes. He shared his concern about distributing monies to charities while having outstanding debts during a reign.

## VI. Report from the Court Imperial

**A. Closet Ball Review.** Emperor Matt shared that the event was three weeks ago. They named a new Closet Ball Queen. She was one of Justin Powel's good friends. There were only 10 people in the audience. Empress Key said a lot of people weren't aware it was taking place. Emperor Matt said he posted it repeatedly, distributed flyers and announced it at court meetings. Most of the funds raised were tips from the performers. Approximately \$200 was raised. There was a good out-of-town presence. He thanked people for donating raffle prizes.

**B. Portland Coronation, Water Party and Empress Award.** Emperor Matt gave a special thank you to Emperor Gerald, Emperor Clarmundo, Emperor Michael, Emperor Terry and Miguel for assisting with the Portland Water Party. They raised \$402 at the water party for two Portland court scholarships. Emperor Matt shared that Empress Misha received the "Empress to Empress" award and Tony got an award of appreciation. Emperor Matt recognized Empress Michael who is celebrating her double decade as Rose Empress of Portland. He was impressed Empress Misha walked with Sacramento Court.

**C. Mr. Bolt Contest.** Emperor Matt announced his term as Mr. Bolt is over. Emperor Terry said Kenny raised \$5,000 in his till from the Mr. Bolt 2014 event. Emperor Matt shared people come from all over to attend it. Emperor Terry said we should do our own leather event. He said we can use his bar.

### D. Upcoming Events:

1. Chicago Coronation: Emperor Matt said this weekend is Chicago's Coronation and he is attending. He shared Modesto coronation is coming up too. Emperor Terry acknowledged he brought Chicago into the ICS. Emperor Terry committed to donating a 100 year old of Grand Moniere to auction off. He also said maybe he will donate one of his pins he received from Mother Jose if they start a minimum bid of \$300. He said he wants CGNIE to be acknowledged for anything donated in Chicago. CGNIE is going to Modesto's Coronation.
2. Annual Holiday Dinner: Emperor Matt shared the E&Es are planning the Holiday dinner. It will take place on December 14 at Faces. They are asking board members to please bring side dishes. Emperor Terry committed to donating the turkeys.
3. Drag Queens on Ice Fundraiser. The E&E are selling tickets for the event and 100% of the funds raised from CGNIE ticket sells go to CGNIE. People can go online and purchase the tickets. Each benefitting organization pays \$50 to cover administrative costs. CGNIE will have a table there with raffle items. The E&Es have lots of wine donations by Empress Kristara. Tickets are available online. Emperor Terry shared that he raised \$7000 for Iceland and in return has access to the facility to do

fundraising. He suggested the E&Es host a fundraiser there once a month and possibly sell food. He believes he can get the facility for free. Iceland wouldn't have ice skates if it wasn't for money Emperor Terry donated from the door during Face's Anniversary. Emperor Terry requested that the flyer for the proposed Iceland event be put on all of his Faces monitors. You may send the ads for the proposed Iceland fundraiser to Emperor Bruce.

4. Toy, Coat and Blanket Drive: On November 15 the E&Es will be conducting a toy, coat and blanket drive at Faces November 15. They are intending on given them to local homeless people.
5. Jackie's AIDS Benefit Show in Reno. Jackie will be hosting her last AIDS benefit on November 22, 2014. Several of CGNIE's monarchs have been asked to perform including Empress Racine, Empress Sondra, and Empress Misha.
6. Los Angeles/Hollywood Coronation is November 30
7. 3M Pageant/Holiday Show. Emperor Gerald will share planning update.

## **VII. Report from the Ducal House**

- A. Grand Duchess shared Corey couldn't be present due to his work schedule. Grand Duke Corey had their Ducal report but unfortunately she experienced a challenge obtaining it for tonight's meeting.
- B. Grand Duchess Dimuneek shared she and Corey planned a fundraiser but it was cancelled due to changes happening at Sidetracks and Hamburger Mary's. Emperor Matt shared Hamburger Mary's is moving into the old Hot Rods and the calendar at Sidetrax will be changed.
- C. She shared that she attended the Fresno Ducal event. Fresno wasn't a great turnout. People showed up at the last minute. CGNIE had a good presence with Truffles, Ronnie, Grand Duke Cory and Grand Duchess Dimuneek and Empress Jowana showed.
- D. Emperor Terry suggested the Ducal House do a fundraiser in a barn between here and Stockton. Bruce might allow us to borrow the house once its renovated. Maybe the Portland dancers could attend.

**VIII. Rainbow Festival Director Report – No Report.** Lori was not able to attend tonight's meeting but provided a full report last month. Faces handed out \$30,000 as a result of Rainbow Festival. Emperor Terry shared she was a hard worker. Emperor Gerald shared she is very helpful.

## **IX. 3Ms Report**

A. Emperor Gerald shared that none of the 3M were able to be in attendance tonight but as their advisor, would present information on their behalf. Empress Michael asked why they weren't in attendance. Emperor Michael shared Justin is dealing with a serious health issue. Matt is watching the last of the World Series.

### **B. Upcoming Events**

1. Holiday Show/3M Pageants: Emperor Gerald shared there was a 3M Pageant planning meeting with he, Matt, Empress Misha and Apryl. From that meeting Emperor Gerald and Matt composed a detailed plan for the pageant. He is hoping for further feedback from Justin and Apryl. Emperor Matt is organizing the pot luck that evening. Raffles will be coordinated by Empress Michael and Apryl. Décor will be taken care of by Justin. Empress Michael shared that traditionally this is an E&E event where they give the 3M s a part of the event to do their pagent kickoff

2. Halloween Fundraiser: Matt is hosting a Halloween fundraiser at Faces for Wind Youth Center on October 30. There is no cover charge. There will be a costume contest, a raffle, and jello shots sold. Empress Michael will take the funds raised to the Faces office. He asked Empress Misha for a raffle. Emperor Terry asked to ensure that no one under 21 is allowed in Faces.

3. 3M Pageant: Emperor Gerald said the second portion of the 3M Pageant will be held at Faces on January 3. The theme is “Adventures in Walhalla.” There is a biker theme. He suggested the 3Ms access their \$200 event allocation and request a bank. There will be one award given. He proposed having food to be sold at the event. Rob Surreal has expressed interest in being a judge. Emperor Terry suggested Empress Vanessa of Portland be a judge too. Emperor Gerald proposed a suggested cover of \$10. He is suggesting the 3Ms perform a collective opening number that isn’t judged. There may be a check distribution. The event must be over by 9PM because Teddy has a show. Emperor Gerald secured one candidate for Ms. Gay (Cheyenne). April shared she has a candidate for Ms. Gay. Gary Silvey may have his boyfriend run for one of the titles. Emperor Terry requested an ad placed in Outword to promote the event. Empress Misha asked why the event is starting so late. He is concerned this may be inconvenient for our out of town guests. It was suggested the event should start earlier. The emcees will introduce the reigning monarchs and other title holders. Emperor Terry suggested we obtain two trumpet players to play when title holders are announced. He said he was willing to pay for it. We need at least three more candidates. Emperor Clarmundo inquired about the status of the application. Emperor Gerald said the application hasn’t been updated. The goal is to have it ready by the next court meeting. The 3M contracts also need to be revisited. Emperor Clarmundo said he may have both documents. He requested that Emperor Gerald send him an email and he will look for both documents. In the past, Emperor Clarmundo has made small changes to the application. Any major changes would need board approval. There was discussion about the application fee. There is no board of review process for candidates. Emperor Terry shared several courts are experiencing difficulty getting candidates due to the \$50 fee. He suggested that we can lower the application fee to encourage more candidates. Empress Michael made a motion to lower the application fee this year to \$25. If we have enough candidates, we can turn a profit from candidate ticket sales, raffles and the door. Emperor Matt second the motion. Emperor Matt asked what we crown the winners with. Emperor Gerald said there is a badge and a medallion given. There is no cost to the court for pins since Emperor Gerald and Empress Michael are donating them. Emperor Matt suggested we waive the application fee. Empress Michael amended her motion to now waive the 3M application fee this year. Emperor Matt second. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

C. **Status of 3M Fundraising:** Emperor Gerald shared that Matt has put on a BBQ fundraiser in March which raised \$750. His second fundraiser will be the Halloween fundraiser this month. Apryl has hosted one fundraiser and Justin has not hosted any. It was shared that Justin has been very supportive of not only the other 3M fundraiser but all activities of CGNIE.

**X. La Kish Hayworth Memorial Scholarship Fund:** Empress Key thanked Emperor Terry for his support with her mother’s celebration of life fundraiser. Enough money was raised to allow her to make it to her mother’s funeral service. She was impressed with the level of support she experienced from the Faces staff. Emperor Terry shared that we have to take care of each other. He said the reason why the court has survived for 50 years is because we love and support each other. Emperor Clarmundo wished Emperor Terry a belated happy birthday. Empress Key shared that Turnabout in January 17, which is also Empress Do Me Moore’s birthday. Turnabout is where one dresses in the gender of the opposite sex. Emperor Terry wants to do La Cage Awful. The goal is to get leaders in Sacramento to dress in drag and look awful.

## **XI. Fairy Godfather’s Fund**

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A. **Proposed New Director.** Empress Michael encouraged board members to consider taking the Director seat . She said that director needed to have an understanding of HIPPA laws and local HIV programs to avoid client double dipping. Grand Duke Enrique, Emperor Michael and Emperor Clarmundo are the only ones qualified to submit a letter of intent for the director's seat.. Empress Michael said he has repeatedly asked Grand Duke Enrique to apply but he has responded. Emperor Terry wants to return the fund back to its original purpose which was to provide funds for cremations for people with AIDS. Emperor Terry said he doesn't want the process of applying for Fairy Godfather's fund too complicated. Emperor Clarmundo shared that the process should be anyone applying for the fund should provide us with a letter from their primary care provider affirming they have exhausted local HIV/AIDS services. Emperor Terry shared that the Fairy Godfather was given to him by the queens from The Western and doorman at the Merc . Empress Michael shared we should consider participating of the NorCal AIDS Cycle and the monies raised could go to the Fairy Godfather's fund. Emperor Terry said if he is interested, he should propose it at the court meeting. Emperor Terry asked everyone to make sure if anyone does anything positive for CGNIE to get it to Fred at Outword

## **XII. College of Monarchs**

A. **Creating List of All 3Ms, Lifetime Title Holders, Closet Balls Kings/Queens and Proclamations.** Emperor Gerald said we have regalia problems. The replacement septor and earrings have been paid for but haven't been able to obtain them. We may have PayPal recourse to replace them. Emperor Terry suggested we contact Nova. Empress Misha shared that every bit of contract she had for Nova was passed to the board last year. He said that he did receive a few pieces of jewelry and a crown and a medallion. Unfortunately stones were falling out of these items. Emperor Gerald said the specific replacement items in which she was paid \$400 never came. Emperor Michael said Jeff and Empress Jowana has Nova's contact information. Emperor Terry asked that the College of Monarch's handle this. Emperor Clarmundo shared that she will be happy to explain the status of this order. He believes she is waiting to hear from us. Emperor Terry said he will call Nova.

**A motion was made and second to end the meeting at 8:32PM.**