

GAY OREGON INTERVIEW MINUTES

June 3, 2019

Interview meeting was called to order by Monica at 8:25pm

Monica requested that all questions be relevant questions, qualifying questions. Applies to them being able to do the job. Also, that if you ask a question of one candidate that you ask the same question to all 3 candidates.

Board to do a quick vote on list of current judges selected for the Oregon Pageant. The current list submitted is being declined. Board is requesting that Bar Owners be removed and add 2 new alternates. The vote for this will be done electronically once the BOD receives the new list.

Candidate #1 for the position of Mr. Gay Oregon – Daddy Robert Foxx

ID was given to Vivica for verification of residency; and he meets all requirements of residency

Question – Cheralyn Michaels – As an Oregon Titleholder, your realm is Portland, Salem and Eugene; who are the reigning Monarch’s of these realms? Answer – In Eugene we currently have Maliena Bitchcock and Hunter Downe – Knightly; Salem is without Monarch’s at this moment; however, they do have an Imperial Princess Nicole Stanza. Here in Portland we have Kimberly Michelle Westwood and Daniel Surreal Foxx.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Have you held any titles in the past and if so, what were your successes and what could you have worked on better? Answer – Last title that I held was Miss Gay Vancouver Pride #5. To date the 3 of us have had the most successful Prides they have ever had, we haven’t been beat. As far as doing anything better, as I look back on it, there was nothing we could have done better. We went everywhere we could possibly go and the 3 of us had a fantastic year. Monica did mention for those that had not seen his application – He has lifetime titles in Portland, Eugene and Vancouver. He resides in Portland

Question – Aliyah Nicole – If awarded Mr. Gay Oregon, what do you bring to the table and plan on improving what you feel has been lacking? Answer – For right now, I bring to the table my prior years of experience and I plan on building on what I started years ago. And I plan on improving that there is a Mr. Gay Oregon, I feel that it is very much needed.

Question – Don Hood – Do you serve on any other boards here in the City of Portland? And if so, would they be conflicts? Answer – I do not sit on any boards in any cities at this time, or in Portland specifically.

Question – Daniel Surreal Foxx – Can you state why these are volunteer positions and not paid positions? (Clarification – In this day of RuPaul’s Drag Race a lot of people are wanting to be paid. Daniel would like to hear the candidates explain why it is so important that these positions are volunteer) Answer – For roles such as these I feel that it is very important the they are volunteer, because we are out to do community service and to work for our communities and raise money for charities. That isn’t something we should be putting our hand out saying “pay me” to raise money for

charity. That's not what its about, you are supposed to be there for the community doing the work. And you don't get paid for that, that is done out of your heart with love.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Piggy backing on the last question, can you please explain to the room, your definition of expectations vs requirements? Answer – Requirements, I would say are what we have down in the bylaws and are what we have to do. Expectations are what I am going to set against myself for what I want to have for a year.

Question – Monica Boulevard – Assuming you win the position and we are sitting here in the same spot next year and you can consider yourself successful. How would that be measured, in what way, what qualifies as a successful year? Answer – For me knowing in my heart that I have done my best, will be a measure of success. Another measure of success would be that there would be at least 3 people vying for the title of Mr. Gay Oregon 47. *Side note from Monica – If there are at least 3 people running for Mr. Gay Oregon next year I will buy you a trophy myself.*

Question – Maria Peters Lake – Do you know what the requirements are for the Gay Oregon's? Answer – Can I quote them right now, NO; have I read through them, do I remember them through out the years, Yes for the most part. I know I have to attend some of the Pageants and Fundraising Shows, but as far as that, I would have to look them up.

Question – Alycia Day – What do you consider a Rose Court Function outside of the other 2 courts? What is a Rose Court Function to you? (Clarification from Monica – sometimes people say “I’m not going to that event because it’s not a Rose Court Function and I don’t have to; what do you consider a Rose Court Function?) Answer – Well as far as a Rose Court Function, I would try and attend everything that I could, example when I was First Lady to Josef Foxx, I went to every single in town function and I traveled to Eugene, Salem, Vancouver. I went up and down the I-5 corridor because I wanted to go to everything and its not limited to just Rose Court functions being a Gay Oregon Titleholder. You've got to through out the state and represent.

Question – Hellin Heels – Other than Drag Shows, do you have any other ideas for Fundraising Events? Answer – Yes and if I am selected and win this title, I will let you know.

Monica – Robert I have your application here and you have signed and checked all these things on your application, do you understand everything that you have read and signed? Yes, I do

Do you have any questions? My only question is what number will this title hold since there was someone in the position last year that resigned. **Answer – 46**

Robert was thanked and excused, all Monarch's and Board vote. **Yes votes = 18; No votes = 0**

Candidate #1 for the position of Miss Gay Oregon – Devlin Lynn Phoenixx

ID was given to Vivica for verification of residency; and she meets all requirements of residency

Question – Cheralyn Michaels – As an Oregon Titleholder, your realm is Portland, Salem and Eugene; who are the reigning Monarchs of these realms? Answer – Great question, in Eugene we have Hunter Downe-Knightly, Emperor and Maliena Bitchcock, Empress Reign 45; In Salem, they currently do not

have reigning Monarchs, but do have a Princess, Nicole Stanza; and of course here in Portland, we have Daniel Surreal Foxx, Emperor 42 and Kimberly Michelle Westwood, Empress 60.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Have you held any titles in the past and if so, what were your successes and what could you have worked on better? Answer – Miss Gay Portland 46; what was successful to me was my drive and my visibility. I worked my ass off to be present and pick up some slack that may have been present in our team. But I pulled it off successfully, oh she knows that it is no shade, she knows it. What I could have done better was maybe worked on encouraging the team better, trying to get more out of us together instead of just running away with it.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Can you please explain to the room, your definition of expectations vs requirements? Answer – Lets start with expectations – what I see expectations are what other people would like you to do and things that they would see you doing and want to see from you. Requirements are defined, outlined things that you do have to do, I really strive to meet people’s expectations, because I want to present the best foot forward and make everyone happy. I am very much a people pleaser.

Question – Alycia Day – What do you consider a Rose Court Function outside of the other 2 courts? What is a Rose Court Function to you? (Clarification from Monica – sometimes people say “I’m not going to that event because it’s not a Rose Court Function and I don’t have to; what do you consider a Rose Court Function?) Answer – Anything that has been presented here at a board meeting, anything that people have brought here to the Rose Court that they want or would like us to attend, they would like to see our shining faces at, those are Rose Court Functions.

Question – Hellin Heels – Other than Drag Shows, do you have any other ideas for Fundraising Events? Answer – Not currently, but I do really appreciate Mr. Gay Portland Ryan, his BBQ cook out idea, I thought about doing that during my year but never had the time to completely flush it out. But, I’m willing to give it another try.

Question – Daniel Surreal Foxx – Can you state why these are volunteer positions and not paid positions? (Clarification – In this day of RuPaul’s Drag Race a lot of people are wanting to be paid. Daniel would like to hear the candidates explain why it is so important that these positions are volunteer) Answer – Frankly for these things we are not going to be paid for and there should not be an expectation that we’re going to get paid. Because this is not a paid position, this is a volunteer position, we are a volunteer organization, we need to be present and be happy to be there without worrying about what kind of monetary exchange there’s going to be.

Question – Don Hood – Do you serve on any other boards here in the City of Portland? And if so, would they be conflicts? Answer – I do not.

Question – Maria Peters Lake – Do you know what the requirements are for the Gay Oregon’s? Answer – Oh yeah, I’ve been studying those requirements. There is actually a new one that I learned that I don’t think has been enforced a lot. In the bylaws it says that the Gay Oregon’s must help with the White Knight/Debutante Pageant, so I would love to do that if you guys would like and I am lucky enough to get this position.

Monica – Devlin, I have your application here and you have signed and checked all these things on your application, do you understand everything that you have read and signed? I do

Do you have any questions? No, I don't

Devlin was thanked and excused, all Monarch's and Board vote. **Yes votes** = 18; **No votes** = 0

Candidate #2 for the position of Miss Gay Oregon – Flawless Shade

ID was given to Vivica for verification of residency; and she meets all requirements of residency

Question – Cheralyn Michaels – As an Oregon Titleholder, your realm is Portland, Salem and Eugene; who are the reigning Monarchs of these realms? Answer – Eugene reigning Monarchs are Emperor Hunter Knight and Empress Malania Buttcock, and in Salem it is Reign 42, and in Portland it is Kimberly Michelle Westwood as our Empress 60 and Daniel Surreal Foxx as our Emperor 42. Thank you for your question.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Have you held any titles in the past and if so, what were your successes and what could you have worked on better? Answer – Miss Sweetheart 29; I feel I did a really successful job bring more awareness and a lot more events to the Sweetheart title. I held at least one event a month, obviously as we know it all goes to charity, which is that title. A lot of the events that I do and that I host I have to have a charity and an organization that we are raising money for and I felt that I did a good job coming up behind Bolivia Carmichaels and bringing up the Sweetheart Legacy. What I felt that I could have improved on from my year was probably communication with my Mister. I think we both had different opinions and ideas of how we wanted our year to go. And I think if we would have talked earlier rather than later, during board meeting and have private communications before we started doing a lot of our things we would have had a more successful year. Thank you for your question, Empress.

Question – Kimberly Michelle Westwood – Can you please explain to the room, your definition of expectations vs requirements? Answer – For me a requirement is something that is written down on paper. If someone above you, lets say your manager, I use to work for Michael Kohrs, my manager required me to do something, for me I was required to come in here with a State ID that shows that I have lived in Portland for at least a year, for me that is a requirement. An expectation is something that people expect you to do, people expect me to hold myself at a show in a very entertaining and maybe a political way because we are gay and queer, so I'm allowed to speak my mind. So yeah, I think expectations vs anything other than that are more opinionated and bias as to factual. Thank you for your question, Empress.

Question – Alycia Day – What do you consider a Rose Court Function outside of the other 2 courts? What is a Rose Court Function to you? (Clarification from Monica – sometimes people say "I'm not going to that event because it's not a Rose Court Function and I don't have to; what do you consider a Rose Court Function?) Answer – I consider a Rose Court function being something that is any one of our pageants that we have, whether it be our White Knight/Debutante Ball, whether it be Turnabout, anything that the ISRC are doing for fundraisers is a function that I would be at every single one of those. Any Pageants or functions that fall under the ISRC category of Ball's and Pageant's and fundraisers that a Gay Oregon title would need to go and attend, that function. Thank you for your question.

Question – Hellin Heels – Other than Drag Shows, do you have any other ideas for Fundraising Events?

Answer – I do have a lot of ideas that I am very excited about talking about to and communicating with the future Mr. Gay Oregon. One of the things while I am interviewing for candidacy is more community involvement and I believe we have such strong community, this is a strong community, but I would love for it to be all into one, like Peacock in the Park is a very grand fundraiser that the entire community goes to . I would like to book something like that where I could book local entertainers where they could be paid, appreciated and bring all aspects of the community together. I would like to see us all together instead of the likes we put on Facebook. Thank you for your question.

Question – Daniel Surreal Foxx – Can you state why these are volunteer positions and not paid positions? (Clarification – In this day of RuPaul’s Drag Race a lot of people are wanting to be paid.

Daniel would like to hear the candidates explain why it is so important that these positions are volunteer) Answer – I think that, I have been doing drag for 4 years and so for me, I do drag as my source of income, and I would say that not a lot of people get that experience of it. But I have paid my dues to get my pay, and I would love to pay more, and I feel I have paid some dues to get me to be a potential candidate here. So, just like with the Sweetheart Organization I gave up a whole year while still facilitating my lifestyle and what its like to be a drag queen. To do all that, I would still continue to give back to the community and help out whatever organizations that I could whether it be in attendance or helping out. Or anything I could do; I do know that drag is about more than just being paid its about showing you care and showing the community by helping out and educating. So, I am not looking to be paid but I will be paid before this so I can help further my potential legacy with the Gay Oregon’s and helping out the ISRC. Thank you for your question Emperor.

Question – Don Hood – Do you serve on any other boards here in the City of Portland? And if so, would they be conflicts? Answer – I do not, I host a lot of the shows at the venues where I work at, that want me to host shows at. Thank you for your question.

Question – Maria Peters Lake – Do you know what the requirements are for the Gay Oregon’s?

Answer – I did read the requirements and feel that I can uphold every single one of them as much as I can to the ability of my knowledge. Thank you for your question.

Monica – Flawless, I have your application here and you have signed and checked all these things on your application, do you understand everything that you have read and signed? Yes, I do

Do you have any questions? I don’t have any questions.

Discussion – Question from Daniel - still confused on whether she understands that this is a volunteer position and not paid. **Answer from Monica** – She will still be working as a paid Drag Queen to fulfill her life and pay her bills. But she is stepping aside from that to work voluntarily for the year as part of earning her dues in the community. She’s going to do both. **Comment from Jenuwine** – there’s one thing that I thought might need some more clarification for her is that she mentioned that she wants to do a fundraiser and have the performers paid, that isn’t something we would do. **Answer from Monica** – she would need to present that, and it would never be approved. I will clarify with all 3 of them that at no time will they or anyone else be paid for a court event.

Flawless was thanked and excused, all Monarch’s and Board vote. **Yes votes = 17; No votes = 1**

Monica – before we bring them back in, we have had a request from the Empress, in the past, in the Oregon Pageant, we say that they can go onto Facebook and say that they encourage people to attend the Gay Oregon Pageant, but can not say that they have been approved to be a candidate. She would like to get more involvement and thinks it would be beneficial to the reign and the court if they were allowed to say that they are approved candidates and get their friends to come. Someone mentioned that it states in the bylaws that they can't, Monica replied that it does not state in the bylaws that we can't it states in the rules of operation which we have the right to amend as needed, it is not a bylaw exception. **Time to Vote; Yes vote = 11; No votes = 5 PASSED.**

Daniel – I just want it noted that this wasn't a policy and procedure protocol we are changing.

Monica – We are not changing the rule we are making an exception. To change the rule, we would have to follow the protocol. **People asked** - what is the difference? **Answer** – Exception means we did it this time while we wait for an appending change. If we wanted to wait until next year we would have to vote again if we don't have an official change.

Question – Will the candidates be sequestered? **Answer** – The night of the pageant? I don't think we normally do that, No. Aliyah noted that she was sequestered her year and Monica stated that she thinks that they just naturally sequester themselves because they are busy getting ready for each category. It's not a requirement.

Ryan was asked to bring all 3 candidates back in.

Monica started by clarifying due to some questions asked after interviews - that at no time does a court function get paid or pay any of its people. You all have the right to work and earn your money outside of court functions which is completely understandable but during court shows nobody ever gets paid. Monica then informs them that they all 3 have passed and congratulations, for the Miss candidates, Summer has numbers for them to draw who will be candidate #1 and who will be candidate #2. Devlin draws the #1 so she is candidate #1 and Flawless draws the #2 so she will be candidate #2. Monica then informs them that they can announce that they are approved candidates for Gay Oregon and use the power of their name to get people to come to the Pageant. Summer will send each candidate tonight the criteria of what they can and can not say on social media.

Nikki takes all applications to keep with the minutes.

Motion was made by Monica to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm; 2nd by Daniel

