

# Board of Directors Candidates Meeting Agenda, November 6, 2014

## *Introductions*

For introductions, tell a little about your background and how you would like to influence or contribute to TPI. How do you want to see TPI grow and develop?

- Sharyn Fein
- Harriet Cohen
- Bret Camp (absent)
- Cora Giddens
- Pocahontas Duvall
- Terry Allen

## *Brief SWOT Overview*

### **Strengths and Opportunities**

- Strength: Lots of connections and relationships in Dallas and increasingly statewide
- Strength: Seem to have developed a reputation for being present; past problem with inconsistency among trans individuals and organizations
- Opportunity: timing—trans issues getting attention; possible funding opportunities
- What other strengths and opportunities do you see? What do you bring?

### **Weaknesses and Threats**

- Weakness: Lack of volunteers; next to no interest in filling officer positions
- Weakness: Lack of funding; lack of time to devote to developing funding
- Weakness: Lack of a community center or designated, permanent community space
- Weakness?: desire to avoid the “nonprofit industrial complex” (or at least some of its problems)
- Threat: Large “gay inc” organizations siphon money away from trans issues by claiming trans support but not being inclusive (most non-trans funders won't know the difference)
- What other weaknesses and threats do you see? How might you help overcome these?

## *Direction of our Work*

With the SWOT discussion in mind, would—and how would—you change this how we do our work?

- Description of how TPI currently takes on projects
- How do we each understand “empowerment” and our roles in empowering individuals?
- Discussion of how TPI should focus, grow, or otherwise change how we do our work

## *Issues to address*

- consensus decisions (using block, stand aside, support structure)—requires change in bylaws
- avoiding tokenism (is consensus structure enough?), and becoming more fully inclusive
- plan for board expansion: all at once or gradual
- convenient meeting dates and times?
- other things we need to consider in moving forward?