



# Newsletter

## Third Quarter, 2021



**Gary Gwin, 1966—2021**  
*Requiescat in pace*



A Dignity/Seattle member of over 25 years, Gary Gwin passed away in his sleep at age 54. All of us will always remember Gary's smiling face and great big hugs, even when doing the dishes at Dignity/Seattle's Pride Breakfast, for which he volunteered for many years. Gary was a local truck driver by trade.

He is survived by his loving partner of many years, James Bordelon, as well his parents and siblings. A memorial service hosted by Mike & Ricardo in Lynnwood, officiated by Dignity/Seattle, and attended by Gary's family and loved ones, was held on Sunday, September 19, 2021. (Another photo of Gary is on p.3)

September 19, 2021

### President's Report for 2020-2021

Our roster is down to 17 active members. We have averaged around 18-20 members over the past several years.

We are now half way through our second year of the pandemic. Last year we tried electronic voting for our board. It worked well, and we were able to do electronic voting again this year. Our annual Christmas party in 2020 was held via zoom. It was nice to see everyone on the screen and feel some connection. One great thing about virtual gatherings is the range of people who can join who would not be able to in person. We were surprised when Mark and Mike, who are now in St. Paul, MN, join us. The board met via zoom and email, but for the most part our chapter was very quiet this past year. We had to cancel the Pride Breakfast again this year, but we were able to have our annual picnic. We had to move to Magnolia Park due to the homeless encampments in Woodland Park. It was a lovely spot and a beautiful day. Sixteen people came to catch up, enjoy each other's company, and enjoy some great dogs and burgers cooked by our BBQ chef extraordinaire, Tom S.

We were saddened in July when we learned that our good friend and member, Gary Gwin, passed away in his sleep. A memorial will be held for him in September.

As our area slowly reopens from the pandemic, we are interested in any activities you may be interested in our chapter pursuing, either live or virtually. If you have any ideas of activities or events to participate in, please contact us via email at [dignity.seattle@gmail.com](mailto:dignity.seattle@gmail.com).

DignityUSA held a virtual gathering Sept. 11-12 this year. It was very well attended and the speaker and workshop panels were great. Recorded copies will be available in the future if anyone is interested. Also, we will be having our 25<sup>th</sup> DignityUSA Conference in person, in San Diego on July 8-10, 2022. Great things are being planned, so

(Continued on page 2)



## Board Members & Contact Info

### Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Paula Lavallee	President
Paula Hills	Vice-President
Delia Vita	Treasurer, Social Comm.
Alan Scott	Secretary, Social Comm.
Laure Hauge	At-large

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We provide a safe environment for people to reconcile our God-given gifts of sexual orientation and our Catholic faith through gay-affirming liturgies. Being part of the Dignity/Seattle family means claiming ownership of our faith and living up to the responsibilities of that ownership.

*Ed. Note: Due to a COVID-19 hiatus, this is the first Newsletter since the 2020 4th Quarter Newsletter.*

### President's Report, continued from p.1

please plan on joining us. I am also looking for help for both the planning and while we are there. Please let me know if you are interested.

I would like to thank our board of directors - Delia, Alan, Laure and Paula H for their leadership and commitment. Thanks to Leo for continuing to be our newsletter editor and keeping us all aware of what is happening locally and nationally in our community. Thanks also to Alan for keeping our website ([www.dignityseattle.org](http://www.dignityseattle.org)) current, and thanks Delia for keeping our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/DignityofSeattle](https://www.facebook.com/DignityofSeattle)) up and current. And a very special thanks to Delia and Annah for opening their home for our meeting. They continue to give our chapter a place to be. Thank you!

I thank all our members, friends and supporters for your support. I look forward to a new year and new opportunities for Dignity/Seattle to grow and thrive. Hope to see all of you at our events during the year – either virtually or in person.

In Peace,  
Paula Lavallee  
President, Dignity/Seattle

## Dignity/Seattle Summer Picnic, August 22, 2021 (photo by Alan Scott)





## Dignity/Seattle Board Meeting Minutes July 15, 2021 (edited for publication)

A Zoom meeting was called to order at 5:12 p.m. Board members Paula Lavalley, Paula Hills, Delia Vita, Alan Scott, and Laure Hauge were present. The September 26, 2020 board meeting minutes were emailed. Minutes were reviewed and approved by all.

**President's report: (Paula Lavalley)**  
Received a number of unsolicited calls.

**Vice President's report (Paula Hills)**  
Nothing to report

**Secretary's report (Alan Scott)**  
Kept the website current. Contacted Logan Bear to fix an access problem with the website.

**Treasurer's report: (Delia Vita)**  
July 15, 2021 for period beginning September 27, 2020

### Checking Acct.

**Beginning Balance:** **\$3,026.11**

#### Deposits:

11/6/20 Dignity USA	50.00
1/11/21 Donation from members	600.00
2/21/21 Dignity USA	50.00
5/19/21 Savings to Chk	5.00
7/15/21 Donation from member for picnic	100.00

**Total Deposits:** **\$ 805.00**

**Sub-Total:** **\$3,831.11**

### Expenses:

#### General Expenses:

4/21/21 PO Box Rental	\$226.00
11/7/20 Membership	60.00

**Sub-Total General Expenses:** **\$286.00**

**Ending Balance:** **\$3,545.11**

### Savings Acct.

**Beginning Balance:** **\$1,622.80**

Interest income	0.24
Transferred to checking	(5.00)

**Ending Balance:** **\$1,618.04**

**M/M/S/C:** To accept the July 15, 2021 financial report.

### Committee Reports:

Social Committee: (Alan Scott and Delia Vita)

- Summer Picnic 2021: The picnic this year has been scheduled for 3pm on Sunday August 22nd at the Magnolia Park Shelter. More details to follow under New Business.

### Old Business:

- None to report.

### New Business:

- Summer Picnic 2021: This year's picnic has been scheduled for 3pm on Sunday August 22nd at the Magnolia Park Shelter. Dignity/Seattle received a \$100 donation to offset the cost of this summer's picnic. Burgers and hot dogs together with condiments will be provided by Dignity/Seattle. Should a

ban on open fires restrict cooking of burgers and hot dogs, Dignity/Seattle will provide an alternative prepared main course. Paula L. will send the invitation through the Dignity/Seattle gmail account and members will be asked to reply directly to the sender with their attendee count.

- Student Backpack Program: The board had decided to once again support the Student Backpack Program for the homeless at Mary's Place. The board previously authorized by email the purchase of 100 (8GB) USB flash drives that were expected to total \$275. Paula L. placed the order and had the drives shipped to the Church of Scientology representative handling the Student Backpack Program. There will be no packing of backpacks this year.
- Elections: Delia, Alan and Paula L. have expiring terms so there are three open positions. Paula L. will announce the open nominations by email to members or through an announcement in the newsletter. The board decided to again use Survey Monkey for members to vote electronically. Voting will begin August 25 and finish September 16. in time for this year's September 19 membership meeting.
- Annual Membership Meeting: The membership meeting/potluck is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 19 at Delia Vita's house. The potluck will precede the meeting.

The next board meeting will follow sometime after the September 19 Membership Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Alan Scott, Dignity/Seattle Secretary

*Ed. Note: The September 19 Membership Meeting was moved up to 1:00 p.m. without a potluck, so that attendees can carpool to Gary Gwin's memorial service at Mike & Ricardo's home in Lynnwood at 3:30 p.m.*



*Another photo of Gary: He loved animals, too!*

**Dignity Seattle  
Treasurer's Report  
9/16/20-9/19/21**

	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2020-2021</u>
<b>Checking Account</b>		
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$ 3,582.89	\$ 3,522.90
<b>Deposits</b>		
Donation from members & friends	600.00	815.00
Transfer from savings account per bank regulation		5.00
Donation - Tent City	170.00	-
PW Hall Rental Refund	100.00	-
Total Deposit	<u>870.00</u>	<u>820.00</u>
Subtotal	<u>4,452.89</u>	<u>4,342.90</u>
<b>Operations Expenses</b>		
PO Box Rental	190.00	226.00
Membership fee scholarhiip	50.00	60.00
Summer Picnic/Christmas Dinner	55.00	69.27
Summer Picnic Site Permit	105.00	
Subtotal Operations Expenses	<u>400.00</u>	<u>355.27</u>
<b>Special Events Expenses</b>		
Donation to Tents & Socks	171.90	-
Donation to Mary's Place-USB	241.62	519.22
Donation to Food Lifeline	-	250.00
Subtotal Special Events Expenses	<u>413.52</u>	<u>769.22</u>
<b>PW Breakfast Expenses</b>		
PW Breakfast Supplies/mailling/solicitation letters	16.47	-
PW Breakfast-Hall Rent	100.00	-
Subtotal PWBreakfast Expenses	<u>116.47</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>929.99</u>	<u>1,124.49</u>
<b>Ending balance</b>	<u>\$ 3,522.90</u>	<u>\$ 3,218.41</u>
<b>Savings Account</b>		
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$ 1,622.55	\$ 1,622.76
Transferred to checking per bank regulation		(5.00)
Interest income	0.21	0.32
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<u>\$ 1,622.76</u>	<u>\$ 1,618.08</u>

Submitted by Delia C. Vita

Date: 9/19/21