memorandum to congressman jared polis

6/3/2015 12:42 PM

To: Congressman Jared Polis

Fr: Adam Blackwell, DCCC LGBT Equality Council (601) 870-7290 c

Dt: Monday, June 8, 2015

RE: DCCC LGBT Equality Council Planning Breakfast

**Event Date:** Monday, June 8, 2015

**Time:** 8:30 am – 10:00 am

**Event Location:** Evercore Partners

Washington, DC Conference Room

666 Fifth Avenue, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10103

**Staff:** Jackie Brot Weinberg (on-site) (917) 699-1462 c

Adam Blackwell, (601) 870-7290 c

**Attendees:** 13 *(as of Wednesday, June 3rd at 10:00 am)*

**Attire:** Business

**Elected Officials/VIPs:**

YOU

Mitch Draizin, *host*

Charles Myers, *host*

**Background:**

This is the third annual DCCC LGBT Equality Council planning breakfast and roundtable discussion in New York City. This is the LGBT Equality Council’s first event in New York this cycle.

Mitch Draizin has been instrumental in raising awareness and money for the DCCC LGBT Equality Council in both New York City and Washington, DC over the years. Mitch invited many of today’s guests. Charles Myers was approached by both the DCCC and Mitch to host today’s planning breakfast. In 2014, the LGBT Equality Council Planning Breakfast was held at the Office of Paul Watterson in New York with Congressman Cicilline and Congressman Pocan. In 2013, Charles hosted the LGBT Equality Council Planning Breakfast at his office with you and Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney.

The DCCC LGBT Equality Council’s annual New York reception is scheduled for October 5th, 2015 at the home of Tim Gunn. You and Leader Pelosi are confirmed to attend that event. The annual Washington, DC LGBT Equality Council reception is scheduled for July 23rd, 2015. We are awaiting final approval on Leader Pelosi’s schedule for that event.

On April 9th, 2015, the Equality Council hosted a conference call with you, DCCC Chairman Luján, Chiefs of Staff, and Mitch to discuss scheduling and plans to expand the Council. On that call, it was decided that the Council would host its annual Washington, DC and New York City event, as well as plan to host an event in Los Angeles later this year.

**Event Set-Up:**

You and guests will be seated at one long conference room table. There will be a buffet continental breakfast. There will be no photographer and no microphone for remarks. Charles Myers and Mitch Draizin will begin the speaking program then introduce you for remarks. You will give remarks, and following your remarks, Mitch will open it up for Q&A and planning discussion.

**Timeline:**

8:30 am You and guests arrive; mix and mingle

8:45 am You and guests are seated

8:50 am Speaking program begins; Charles Myers welcomes guests and introduces Mitch Draizin.

8:55 am Mitch thanks Charles for hosting, welcomes guests, and introduces You.

9:05 am You thank Mitch and Charles for their work with LGBT Equality Council and give brief remarks.

9:15 am Following your remarks, Mitch opens it up for discussion and Q&A.

10:00 am Event concludes and guests depart.

**Host Bios:**

**Mitch Draizin, *New York, NY***

Mitch is the principal of Longview Capital Advisors, which serves middle market NYC real estate developers as a financial advisor as well as mortgage and investment bankers. Mitch is active in a number of not-for-profit organizations in NYC. He also volunteer teaches a high school course on Economics and Entrepreneurism in two NYC schools. Mitch’s husband Fritz Brugere-Trelat is Executive VP and co-portfolio manager of the Mutual Global Discovery products at Franklin Templeton Investments. Fritz is a graduate of the University of Paris, France where he earned a master’s degree in law and political science. Mitch and Fritz were married in New York on November 13, 2011. On September 7, 2014, Fritz became a United States Citizen. In April 2015, Mitch and Fritz were awarded the Humanitarian Award from Live Out Loud, a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring and empowering LGBTQ youth by connecting them with successful LGBTQ professionals in their community. ***Fritz is unable to attend this event.*** ***In March 2015, Mitch met with Chairman Luján in New York. On September 15, 2014 Mitch co-hosted the NYC LGBT Equality Reception at the home of Tim Gunn. On July 22, 2014 Mitch attended the NYC fundraiser for Congresswoman Sinema with Leader Pelosi. On June 17, 2014 Mitch hosted a DCCC LGBT Equality Council Breakfast with Congressmen Pocan and Cicilline in NYC. Mitch and Fritz attended the DCCC LGBT Equality Council event at the home of Tim Gunn on June 24, 2013. Mitch co-hosted this event and was instrumental in raising for it. On April 8, 2013, Mitch organized the first LGBT Equality Council planning breakfast in NYC at Evercore Partners (Office of Charles Myers) with you and Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney.***

**Charles Myers, *New York, NY***

Charles is an Executive Committee member of Evercore and a member of Evercore’s Management Committee and Investment Policy Committee. He was the leader and founding partner of Evercore’s Institutional Equities business. Charles has over 24 years of experience in the global equities markets. ***In 2013, Charles co-hosted the LGBT Equality Council Planning Breakfast at his office in New York with Congressman Cicilline and Congressman Pocan. Charles co-hosted the 2012 LGBT Equality Council Luncheon and Reception with Mitch Draizin and Fritz-Brugere Trelat. You attended those events. In 2011, Charles co-hosted the DCCC LGBT Equality Council Luncheon at his office in New York, and he contributed $5,000 to the DCCC towards that event. You attended that event, as well.***

**Attendees:**

**Roscoe Boyd, *New York, NY***

Roscoe is a sales associate at Brooks Brothers in New York City. Previously, Roscoe served as a teacher in the Teach for America Program. He holds a Masters in Early Childhood Education and the Science of Teaching from Fordham University and a Bachelor’s degree from Morehouse College. ***Roscoe is attending this event as a guest of Mitch Draizin. This is his first DCCC event.***

**Jon Del Giorno, *New York, NY***

Jon is a lobbyist and founding member of Pitta Bishop Del Giorno & Giblin. He manages the firm’s New York City consulting and government relations practice. Previously, Jon has served as executive assistant and community liaison to a number of New York City Council Members, legislative administrator for New York City Council Services, and director of public affairs/communications for the New York City Board of Elections. He has chaired numerous fundraising events for community organizations and political fundraising events throughout New York State. ***Jon is attending this event as a guest of Mitch Draizin. This is his first DCCC event.***

**Yetta Kurland, *New York, NY***Yetta is a civil rights attorney, educator, radio host, small business owner, and community activist who has been active in the New York City LGBT community for over two and a half decades. In 2001, she started a Civil Rights law firm focusing on the needs of New York’s LGBT community. She is also a founding Board Member of Marriage Equality New York PAC. Yetta holds a juris doctorate from Brooklyn Law School. ***Yetta has a large raise capacity for the DCCC. She attended the 2013 LGBT Equality Council Luncheon in New York with Congressman Pocan.***

**Lisa Linsky, *New York, NY***

Lisa is a partner at the law firm McDermott Will & Emergy LLP. Lisa was McDermott’s first Partner-in-Charge of firm-wide Diversity, and Partner-in-Charge of LGBT Diversity and Inclusion. She created and chaired the LBT Diversity Committee at the firm. Lisa has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the New York City LGBT Community Center, and she served on the Board of Directors of Lambda Legal. Currently, Lisa is a member of Lambda Legal’s National Leadership Council. Lisa created a blog for *The Huffington Post* called, “Out and About: LGBT Legal.” In 2011, Lisa was voted a New York City Top 50 Power Gay by the *New York Observer.* ***Lisa has never contributed to the DCCC. This is her first DCCC event. Lisa has high capacity to raise from her personal network.***

**Dr. Sharon Melnick, *New York, NY***

Dr. Melnick is a business psychologist, internationally renowned speaker, and trainer. She has delivered speeches and corporate trainings on resilience and stress management to dozens of organizations including Procter and Gamble, GE, Moodys, and Coldwell Banker. Dr. Melnick serves as a Global Ambassador for the UN Women and International Broadband Commission sponsored by SmartWoman Project. ***Dr. Melnick attended both the 2013 and 2012 DCCC LGBT Equality Council Receptions in New York. Dr. Melnick has high capacity to raise from her personal network.***

**Gray Newman, *New York, NY***

Gray is the former Managing Director and Chief Economist for Latin America at Morgan Stanley. Gray retired from Morgan Stanley in May 2014. Previously, Gray served as Senior Latin America Economist at Merrill Lynch and HSBC. For many year, Gray was ranked #1 Latin American Economist. He holds degrees in law and economics from the University of Virginia and the College of William and Mary. ***Gray attended the 2013 and 2012 DCCC LGBT Equality Council Receptions in New York.***

**Mark Riddle, *New York, NY***

Mark is the managing partner of Aristides, a full service branding and communications firm specializing in marketing, advertising, crisis management, and strategy. Mark also serves as Executive Director of New Leaders Council, the nation’s premier progressive leadership training organization for young political and business entrepreneurs. Throughout his career, Mark has directed and produced award-winning television and radio ads in some of America’s most competitive campaigns. Previously, Mark served as the Executive Director of the Kentucky Democratic Party. ***Mark is attending this event as a guest of Mitch Draizin.***

**Babs Siperstein**

Babs was elected as the first transgender member of the executive committee of the Democratic National Committee in September 2012. She has also served as the deputy vice chair of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee. In addition to being the president of the New Jersey Stonewall Democrats, she’s a published author, small business owner, veteran, and grandparent. ***Babs and her partner Dorothy Crouch attended the 2013 DCCC LGBT Equality Council Reception in New York. This was her first DCCC contribution and DCCC event to attend.***

**NOTE: Babs emailed DCCC staff and you that she was upset Tim Gunn would be hosting the LGBT Equality Reception in October because of his “refusal to walk back his transphobic statements.”**

**Melissa Sklarz, *New York, NY***

Melissa was recently elected as co-chair of the Empire State Pride Agenda Foundation’s Board of Directors. She is a longtime advocate for transgender issues in the city and state. Melissa served as President of the Stonewall Democratic Club in New York from 2012 to 2014. In 2008, she was co-chair of Obama Pride NYC. She was also the first transgender delegate from New York to the Democratic National Convention in 2004. In 1999, Melissa was the first transgender person to be elected to office in the New York Democratic Party. ***Melissa has a high raise capacity for the DCCC LGBT Equality Council. Melissa attended the 2014 New York City LGBT Equality Council Reception hosted by Tim Gunn and the 2014 NYC Planning Breakfast. Melissa also attended the 2012 New York City LGBT Equality Council reception.***

**Rod Townsend, *New York, NY***

Rod is a small business owner and sits of the board of directors of New York Stonewall Democrats and the Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club of Queens. ***Rod is attending this event as a guest of Mitch Draizin. He has a high raise capacity for the DCCC LGBT Equality Council.***